

# Passage East National School

## School Policy 1: Mission Statement



### **Mission Statement**

Passage East National School is a co-educational, Catholic, primary school which strives to provide a well-ordered, caring, happy and secure atmosphere where the intellectual, spiritual, physical, moral and cultural needs of the pupils are identified and addressed.

While Passage East NS is a school with a Catholic ethos, it also has due recognition for all other religions.

Passage East NS will strive to promote, both individually and collectively, the professional and personal development of teachers through staff development programmes.

We will encourage the involvement of parents through home/school contacts and through their involvement in the Passage East Parents Association.

Passage East NS will endeavour to enhance the self-esteem of everyone in the school community, to imbue in the pupils respect for people and property and to encourage in them the idea of being responsible.

We will promote gender equity amongst the teachers and pupils.

Déanfaimid iarracht Gaeilge a labhairt.

### **Aims and Objectives of Passage East NS**

1. Our school aims to provide each child with a balanced education to enable each child to develop his/her skills to live a full life as a child.
2. This is provided in a caring and kind environment where each child learns to treat each other with charity, justice, truth, patience and love.
3. The school provides a Catholic and Christian education for each child while it recognises and respects other faiths and religions.
4. Our school recognises the importance of our Irish Culture and incorporates music, language, sport, dancing and customs into each child's education.

### **The Overall Objectives of our school are;**

1. To provide each child with the best possible education in their formative years.
2. To inculcate in them;
  - a. a spirit of co-operation.
  - b. a respect for each other and their teachers
  - c. a willing attitude to their work
3. As they grow through our school teach them spiritual and moral values, which they will remain with them to maturity.
4. The school values the contribution of parents, guardians, and the outside community in the development of the school and values the input of outside agencies such as psychologists, social workers, gardaí, doctors and nurses etc in caring for all children.
5. The school values the knowledge of history, geography (local, national and international), music, singing, art, design and craft making.
6. The school places emphasis on the development of skills in our national games of Hurling and Football as well as a wide range of other sports including swimming, rugby, athletics and soccer.

### **Background Information**

Passage East NS is a four teacher school situated on the outskirts of a small fishing village in East Waterford. It is in a natural catchment zone, bordered by Waterford Harbour to the East and open countryside/farmland to the North, West and South.

Passage East NS enjoys a good reputation in the community. The first National School was established in the village in 1833. The present building was erected in 1969 and consists of four classrooms with attached cloakrooms and washrooms. There is also a well-equipped staffroom/office. The building is constantly being refurbished and after over forty years is still in good condition.

The school is well provided for in terms of equipment and resources so that a modern curriculum can be implemented to a high standard.

No school bus service is used and yet due to the significant increase in house building, school numbers continue to rise.

There are ninety five children on roll and in September we anticipate that the number will be roughly similar which is very good considering that we will lose 12 as sixth class depart.

A modular classroom was built a number of years ago to accommodate our Special Education Needs teacher full time, we also have the services of 2 Special Needs Assistants and a part time Special Needs Assistants (see Appendix 1).

The teaching team comprises the Principal, Deputy Principal and 2 Assistant Teacher, Learning Support Teacher (clustered with another school) and part time resource.

Continuous Professional Development is of great importance and staff has attended all the in-service days provided by the Department of Education and Skills. Summer and night courses are also availed of on a voluntary basis.

At Passage East NS standardised tests (Micra-T, Sigma-T and Mist) are used to assess standards in Language and Mathematics and to help with early intervention.

Extra Curricular activities include Hurling, Camogie, Football, Quizzes, Percussion/Drumming lessons, Violin lessons, attendance at drama events, Swimming Lessons and a range of art/essay/poetry and project competitions throughout the year.

The school is managed by an eight person Board of Management (see Appendix 1). There is also a very hardworking and cooperative Parent's Association who provide much needed backup for extra curricular activities.

The annual Parent/Teacher meetings are held in November each year. Sports day is held in June of each year as well as the annual school tours.

All the extra curricular activities are of course voluntary and can vary from year to year.

## Appendix 1

### Passage East NS - School Staff

Name	Position	Class	Class Size
Assumpta O'Neill	Principal	Resource/Learning Support	
Sinead O'Brien	Deputy Principal	Infants	22
Anne O'Sullivan	Acting Deputy Principal	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	19
Annie Glavey		3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup>	26
Katie McNamara		5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>	28
Amanda Hawkins		Resource	
Siobhain Geraghty		Resource	
Mary Ray	SNA		
Ann Power	SNA		

### Board of Management Passage East NS

Representatives	Name	Position
<b>School</b>	Assumpta O'Neill	Secretary
	Ann O'Sullivan	Recording Secretary
<b>Patron</b>	Michael Baldwin	Chairperson
	Peter Carroll	
<b>Parent</b>	Clifford Elliott	
	Claire Corcoran	Treasurer
<b>Community</b>	Margaret Farrell Padraig Creedon	