

The Constitution of the Parents Association of Scoil Mhuire

Knockraha 2020

The Purpose of the Parents Assosiation

Is to provide a structure through which the parents or guardians of children attending Scoile Mhuire Knockraha National School can work together for the best possible education for their children.

All parents or guardians of children attending Scoil Mhuire National School, Knockraha Co. Cork will be deemed to be members of the Parent Association. The Parent Assosiation will work together with the Principal staff and Board of Management to build effective partnership between home and school .

The Aim of the Parents Assosiation

The aim of the P/Assosiation is to enable parents to play their part in ensuring the best possible education for their children and that this is achieved through the Assosiation's programmer of activities.

The Parent Assosiation will promote the interests of the students in co-operation with the Board of Management, Principal, teachers and students, in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act,1998.

The committee of the Parent Association

The members of the Parent Association will elect a committee each year at the AGM. The Committee are made up of four Officers, The Chairperson , the Treasurer and two secretaries.

Two parent representatives from the BOM will also form part of the Committee.

There will be eight Parents representing each class from Junior Infants right up to Sixth class these will be known as the Class Reps. The Class Reps have an important role ensuring inclusivity amongst all the parents in the school. It is of utmost importance each parent is listened too and that all parent voices suggestions and opinions are heard and communicated back and forth between the Class Reps and the P/A Committee. The Class Reps will report back to the executive committees each month and will also feedback to the parents of each class. This committee will have responsibility for representing the parents of Scoil Mhuire National School, Knockraha, Co. Cork and managing the activities of the Parent Association. There are 14 parents in all on this Committee.

The Parents Committee shall meet once a month as a group from September to June and on such other occasions as it is deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.

The Parents Committee meetings are a closed meeting for the Parents Committee only. There are 14 members on the P/A Committee. In the absence of members where a decision needs to be made the NPC guidance is half of the members plus one therefore there must be eight members present to pass a decision .

The general Parents Assosiation meetings shall be open to all parents to attend, within the school year, on such occasions as it is deemed necessary by the Executive Committee.

Subcommittees

Subcommittees can be set up for specific tasks. The subcommittees may also co-opt people to assist in their work. The subcommittees may not make decisions; they remain at all times accountable to the main committee.

The Election of the Parent Association committee

The members of the committee will be elected each year at the AGM of the Parent Association.

Each member will be elected for one year. At the AGM all committee members step down, but they can be re-elected as long as they continue to be eligible to serve, that is as long as they continue to be a parent or guardian of a child in the school.

The committee would like to encourage new members each year and will ensure a number of places are available for all parents willing. everyone can have a chance at sitting on the Committee .

No member of the committee will hold the same officer position for more than three consecutive years.

The Work of the committee of the Parent Association

The Parent Association committee will be responsible for ensuring that all parents are consulted on issues which are pertinent to the entire parent body. The Parent Association committee may advise the Principal and Board of Management on any matters relating to the school in accordance with the Education Act, 1998, 26.- (2)(a).

The committee is the team that will manage the tasks of the association on behalf of the parent body (the members).

The committee will draw up a plan for the activities of the association, in consultation with parents and in accordance with their wishes.

The committee will be responsible for seeing that activities are run in an efficient and effective way.

The committee will consult with the school Principal and Board of Management when planning the programme of activities for any particular year.

The committee will arrange with the Principal and Board of Management a system for ongoing communication.

The Parents Association will conform the Board of Management policies and procedures, notably those in relation to GDPR and confidentiality.

At the annual general meeting (AGM) the committee will report to the parent body (the members) about its work.

The committee will manage and account for any funds collected or expended by the Parent Association.

The Association in discharging its functions recognise that the examination and resolution of problems relating to individual pupils or parents will be for determination between the individual pupil and / or his parents and the school authorities. All issues must be communicated between parent ,child and the Principal .The Parents Assosiation is not a place for complaints.

The Association also recognises that matters concerning the school curriculum and its implementation are the function of the school authorities.

Communication

Aladdin ,school e mail and What's App seem to be the most efficient form of Communication between the closed P/A Committee and the members/ Parents of the school.

Due to GDPR it is necessary to have written consent from parents wishing to be included in wats app or e mails going forward .

Finance

The Parent Association committee will finance the activities of the Parent Association through fundraising.

A Treasurer will be appointed from among the committee members and will be responsible for keeping account of the income and expenditure of the Parent Association finances. The Treasurer will give a statement of income and expenditure at each committee meeting.

A written statement of income and expenditure will be given at the AGM and a copy will be forwarded to the Board of Management for their information.

The Parent Association will keep a bank account in its name. Each cheque issued requires two signatures. The Treasurer and at least one other assigned member of the committee must sign all cheques drawn on the account.

Fundraising for the School

Fundraising for the school by the Parent Association will be done with the prior agreement of the Board of Management. The Parent Association committee will agree with the Board of Management as to the specific purposes for which funds are to be raised by the Parent Association.

Membership of the National Parents Council .

Scoile Mhuire Knockraha is a member of the National Parents Council each year we will renew this membership by annual subscription .

The Committee can avail of support and training from the NPC .

All parents are supported by the NPC they operate a helpline and support for all parents .

NPC phone no. 01 8874477

Or e mail : helpline@npc.ie

Changing the Constitution

Changes to the constitution can be made at the AGM or, if for an urgent reason, an EGM can be called for that specific purpose.

Proposals to change the constitution must be submitted in writing to the Parent Association committee. The Parent Association committee will then circulate these proposals to all parents before the AGM/EGM. All parents of children in the school at the meeting are eligible to vote on the proposals.