

# Scoil Náisiúnta Béal Átha Gabhann

**Information for Parents of Pupils  
Starting Silvermines School**



**Chairman - Board of Management – Kevin Walsh  
Principal – James Hayden  
Phone No - 067 25444**

## **Introduction**

The aim of Silvermines N.S. is to provide a Christian, caring learning environment, which facilitates the nurturing of each pupil's full educational potential. Teachers and parents are partners in the children's education with co-operation and communication between home and school being vital ingredients in the educational process.

These information sheets have been produced with the express purpose of sharing information with parents concerning school policies, rules and routines. They include a brief summary of many of the various policies being used in Silvermines N.S. A complete copy of all School Policies are on file in the school office and may be viewed by making an appointment with the Principal.

## **Information about the school**

Tel            067 25444  
Email        [silverminesns@gmail.com](mailto:silverminesns@gmail.com)  
Website     [www.silvermines.ie](http://www.silvermines.ie)  
Twitter      @SilverminesNS

We also have our own Lettertec School app which can be downloaded to all smartphones and this is used to convey messages and notices to parents.

## **Teaching Staff**

- There are three permanent class teachers
- There is a full time S.E.T (Special Education Teacher) shared with St. Mary's Primary, Nenagh.

## **Class Combinations**

The combination of classes in each classroom will be determined by the enrolment for each year.

## **Enrolment**

- Parents who wish to enrol their children will be required to complete an enrolment application form and return same by the end of February
- Junior Infants will start school on the first day of the new term.

- Infant teachers use 'Aistear' as a method of teaching through play. For more information go to [NCCA.ie](http://NCCA.ie)

### **School Hours:**

- Classes start at **9:00** – Punctuality is very important as all classes (including resource and learning support) start at 9 sharp
- Break: **10:50 to 11:00**
- Lunch: **12:15 to 12:45**
- Classes conclude at: (a) Junior & Senior Infants - **1:40**  
(b) All other classes - **2:40**
- **Children who are in the school yard prior to classes starting (09:00) or after classes conclude (1:40 & 2:40 respectively) are not the responsibility of the staff or Board of Management.**

### **Dress code:**

- The highest standard of personal appearance and hygiene is expected at all times
- Pupils must wear the school uniform i.e.
  - Navy Trousers/Skirt/Pinafore
  - White Shirt
  - Blue Jumper with School Crest
  - School Tie

\*\*School Jumper & School Tie are available to purchase in Slattery's in Nenagh
- The wearing of jewellery – body piercing etc. is not allowed

### **Healthy Eating Policy**

- The school operates a healthy eating policy where no fizzy drinks, crisps, sweets, bars, junk food etc. are allowed. One treat only is allowed on Fridays. Also our Green Schools Policy advises parents to keep packaging of lunches to a minimum
- We request parents to ensure that the children bring their lunches with them as constant deliveries of lunches can cause disruption
- Chewing gum is not allowed

### **Notes from Parents are required:**

- Following each individual absence
- Incomplete homework
- Leaving school before normal dismissal time

**N.B. If sending money into school for any reason, please place the exact amount in an envelope with the child's name written clearly**

### **Attendance Policy:**

Under school attendance act:

- Parents are obliged by law to ensure that their children attend school regularly
- Schools are obliged by law to furnish the Department with attendance records per term including explanations given for any absences
- The National Education Welfare Board will contact parents personally if they are concerned about a child's attendance

### **Homework Policy**

- It is school policy to give homework each night from Monday to Thursday unless in exceptional circumstances
- Extra homework may be given during the week or at weekends if work has been unsatisfactory during the week
- Parents are requested to ensure that all homework is completed satisfactorily every night
- Completed exercise and diary must be signed by parent nightly

### **School Books**

- The school presently operates a Book Rental scheme for pupils from 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> classes. The continuation of the Scheme will be reviewed annually

## **Promote Irish Language & Culture**

- It is school policy to promote Irish Language & Culture at every class level, treoracha trí Gaeilge etc. Parental Encouragement is appreciated
- Labhair Gaeilge chomh minic agus is feidir

## **Health and Safety**

- Children who are ill should not be asked to go to school
- Teachers should be made aware of any physical disability, allergy etc. that a child may have
- Parents are asked to check hair regularly for outbreaks of head lice and contact class teacher on noticing same. Parents of all pupils in that class will then be notified
- If you are aware that your child is suffering from any contagious illnesses, skin condition etc. please notify the class teacher. These pupils should remain at home until conditions have cleared

## **Collecting Pupils from School**

In the interest of child safety please ensure that:

- The teacher is made aware of the persons who will be collecting your child from school
- In the event that this person changes during the year please inform the teachers

## **Administration of Medicines**

- Teachers are not insured to administer medication to children. If vital medication is necessary during the school day, the Principal must be notified in writing so that administration arrangements can be arranged

## **Accident Procedures**

- Minor accidents are treated at school

- In the event of more serious accidents or a child becoming ill, every effort will be made to contact pupil's parents or persons delegated to take responsibility for pupil. Failing to make contact, a member of the school staff, if they deem necessary will escort the pupil to the nearest A&E (unless parents have previously expressed otherwise)

### **Religious formation**

- The pupils receive Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in second class
- They receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in sixth class
- During the year the children may participate in prayer services or class masses
- The school choir and servers participate at local funerals. If you do not want your child to participate please inform the Principal

### **Home/School Communications**

Frequent communication and co-operation between home and school is of vital importance and is encouraged by the school through:

- Written notes
- Individual consultation with class teacher or Principal
- Organised parent/teacher meetings annually
- Parents wishing to meet with class teacher, Learning Support teacher/Resource or Principal should make an appointment in order to avoid disruption of class

### **Parental Involvement**

The school recognises the vital role played by parents and encourages parental involvement in the life of the school through:

- Individual parents offering their expertise e.g. sport, drama, singing & transport to various events
- Fundraising
- Involvement in preparation for the sacraments

We very much appreciate and value the continued participation of parents in the running of the school.

We would be delighted to hear from any parent who feels that they have some expertise to offer which may be of benefit to the school.