

Grange Post-Primary School

Íarbhunscoil na Gráinsí

windows of opportunity

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Principal's Foreword



At Grange Post Primary School, we are deeply aware that choosing a post-primary school is one of the most important decisions for any family. While subjects and syllabi may be similar across schools, it is the culture, values, and atmosphere that truly shape a student's experience. Here in Grange, we pride ourselves on offering a holistic education founded on respect, justice, and self-esteem. Every student is supported and encouraged to achieve their potential, both academically and personally.

We have a strong tradition of academic success, with consistently high results across all subject areas and excellent progression to third-level study, apprenticeships, and further training. This success is underpinned by our highly qualified and committed staff, who employ innovative, student-focused approaches to teaching and learning. We place a strong emphasis on higher-level attainment and provide the guidance, encouragement, and resources necessary for our students to excel.

Education at Grange PPS is about more than examinations. We are proud to provide a broad and balanced curriculum alongside a wide range of extra-curricular and cultural activities. From sport, music, and drama to enterprise, coding, and creative arts, our students are given opportunities to discover their talents, explore new interests, and develop the confidence and skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

Wellbeing and care are central to our ethos. Through our pastoral structures, guidance counselling, and anti-bullying initiatives, we ensure that each student feels safe, valued, and supported. We are an inclusive school community that celebrates diversity and provides tailored support for students with additional needs, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive.

Our facilities—including specialist classrooms, modern IT resources, a gym, astro turf pitch, and athletics track—create an excellent environment for learning and development. Combined with the dedication of our staff and the active involvement of parents, this allows us to prepare our students for a challenging and ever-changing world.

I invite you to explore this prospectus and see for yourself the opportunities that await at Grange Post Primary School. I am confident that your child will flourish here, growing into a confident, respectful, and capable individual, ready to make a positive contribution to society.

Yours sincerely,

John Maddock
Principal



MISSION STATEMENT

Grange Post Primary is a partnership of Staff, Students and Parents enabling each student to achieve his/ her full potential.

We aim to inspire a Love of Learning in all our students, irrespective of ability and through personable and enthusiastic encouragement lead all on to develop as Caring, Respectful Individuals in a challenging world.



Why Choose Grange Post-Primary School?

A school where learning, participation and opportunity go together.







What Grange offers

Co-educational school
A mixed-gender school where students learn and take part together.

Specialist facilities
Science, Engineering, Wood Technology, Art, Music, Home Economics and DCG.

Sport and active life
Basketball, football and athletics, with a gym, astro-turf pitch and athletics track.

Qualified teaching staff
Experienced teachers offering encouragement and varied approaches to learning.

Subject choice
A broad range of academic, practical and creative subjects.

Academic achievement
Strong academic outcomes, alongside a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities.

Digital learning
Computer and DCG rooms, interactive teaching, and Microsoft 365 with student email.

Music and culture
Arts, music and choir, including first place in a Sligo school choir competition.

Highest Progression to Third Level in County Sligo

The Irish Times Tolder school figures, 2026

What our students say

Feedback from students highlights the qualities they value most.

Supportive staff
Approachable teachers who are dedicated to helping students succeed.

A sense of community
A welcoming, friendly atmosphere where students build friendships and feel included.

Personal attention
Smaller classes allow more individual support, academically and socially.

Junior Cycle Curriculum (1st, 2nd & 3rd Years)

Since its introduction in 2015, Grange Post Primary has actively engaged with all aspects of Junior Cycle reform. The changes brought about by the new Junior Cycle are now well established in our school, and students are benefiting from teachers who are fully up to date with professional development in line with the new framework. Our short programme delivery is also at an advanced stage, with Coding in particular running for 10 years now.

We are proud that members of our teaching staff have contributed on a national scale, supporting teachers across Ireland in implementing Junior Cycle changes. This ensures that our students benefit not only from the reforms themselves but also from the expertise of staff directly involved in shaping best practice.
Junior Cycle Curriculum (1st, 2nd & 3rd Years):

We are pleased to be able to offer a broad range of subjects within the following programme choices:

Core Subjects	Wellbeing Programme subjects and Short Courses	Choice Subjects (Students choose four)	
English	**Social, Personal & Health Education (SPHE)**	**Visual Art**	**Home Economics**
Irish	**Civic, Social & Political Education (CSPE)**	**Music**	**Graphics**
Mathematics	**Physical Education (PE)**	**Wood Technology**	**Business Studies**
Science	**Guidance**	**Geography**	**French**
History	**Coding (Short Course)**	**Engineering**	**Spanish**






Transition Year Programme (4th Year Optional):

TRANSITION YEAR

Core exam:

- English
- Irish
- Music
- Geography
- Computer Coding
- Film Studies Maths
- Engineering
- Creative Development (Art)
- Food Studies
- Work experience
- GAA Future Leaders Programme
- ICT
- 3D Printing
- Creative Writing Programme
- Business Enterprise
- Construction Studies
- Physical Education
- Maths
- French
- Design Communication Graphics
- Science by Inquiry
- History
- Spanish
- Careers

Competition:

- AIB Build a Bank Competition
- NIFTY Competition/Young Enterprise Competition
- Formula 1 Competition
- Scratch Coding Competition
- Young Social Innovators (YSI)

Humanities Module: (varies)

- Photography Workshop
- First Aid Module
- Driving Module
- Educational Speakers
- Workshops e.g. drama & theatre
- RSE/Lifeskills

Note: All transition years follow all the components above to provide a broad curriculum and enhance a wide range of skills and competencies. All modules are continually assessed for certification purposes. Workshops, educational outings and speakers vary in line with the interests of the particular group. One educational outing per term and a foreign tour at Easter are components of our transition year programme.

A school show or performance e.g. Lip Sync is organised by TY students each year.





Senior Cycle Curriculum (5th & 6th Years):

At Grange Post Primary, we are equally committed to the ongoing redevelopment of the Senior Cycle. Several of our teachers are participating in development groups with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA), which are made up of a small number of educators from across the country. Their involvement allows us to embed new approaches at an early stage and to prepare students for upcoming changes.

By the time incoming first years reach Senior Cycle, all subjects are expected to be revised. This means every Leaving Certificate subject will include an additional assessment component worth at least 40% of the overall grade, ensuring a broader and more balanced approach to student achievement.
Senior Cycle Curriculum (5th & 6th Years):

We offer a broad range of subjects across our programmes. Subject option bands for the Leaving Certificate are determined by student demand. Students are provided with Career Guidance, and consultation with parents is encouraged before final subject choices are made.

Core Subjects	Core (non-exam)	Choice Subjects (Students choose four)	
English	Physical Education (PE)	French	Home Economics
Irish	Career Guidance	Spanish	Design Communication Graphics (DCG)
Mathematics	Information Technology (IT)	Music	Biology
Leaving Certificate Life, Community and Work	Social, Personal And Health Education (SPHE)	Business Studies	Agricultural Science
		Engineering	Chemistry
		Geography	Physics
		Art, Craft and Design	Physics/Chemistry Combined
		Construction Studies	



EDUCATIONAL / CULTURAL TRIPS, TOURS AND GUEST SPEAKERS

Educational trips, cultural tours and guest speakers are a vital component of education in today's world. For learning to be relevant it must be linked directly to the "real world" and "real life" and enhance knowledge of the world around us. Studies have shown that experiencing learning, through seeing a process occur in a factory or hearing first-hand a description of an event, greatly enhance understanding of and retention of learning.

Additionally, trips out of school partaking in fun activities provides an ideal medium for group bonding to aid the induction of students new to the school and enhance relationships within established school groups.

In planning for trips and tours every effort is made to keep the cost to a minimum for parents.

Some of our speakers have included"anti-racism" group,"bully4u", St Vincent de Paul, Crumlin Children's hospital, AIB build a bank, "Amazing Brains Study Skills Workshop".

School trips have included an Art Exhibition, Donegal Outdoor Adventure centre, local and national business e.g. Google, Butler's Chocolate Factory and Sailing in Mullaghmore.





CAREER GUIDANCE:

Grange Post Primary School offers a variety of guidance services to all students so that they can make informed choices about their future in relation to employment, education and training. The guidance services are divided into three areas:

- Personal and Social Guidance and Counselling.
- Educational Guidance and Counselling.
- Careers Guidance and Counselling.

The guidance services are provided via:

- One-to-one guidance to motivate students to engage in and take an active role in their personal, educational and career development.
- One-to-one guidance relating to personal issues as necessary.
- Identifying individual needs using a variety of techniques including guidance interviews, psychometric assessment, computer-aided guidance packages and other evaluative instruments.
- Using information technology for a wide range of administrative and informational tasks.
- Specific guidance classes for senior cycle students.
- Guidance related modules as part of the Junior Cycle Wellbeing Programme.

WELLBEING:

All Junior Cycle students undertake an area of learning called Wellbeing. Wellbeing crosses the three years of Junior Cycle and builds on substantial work already taking place in our schools to support students' Wellbeing.

We envisage that the school's commitment to this area of learning will increasingly have a positive impact on the Wellbeing of the students. It will include learning opportunities to further enhance the physical, mental, emotional and social Wellbeing of students.

In addition to programmes of study in PE, SPHE and CSPE students study additional modules under their Wellbeing programme. These modules are based on the identified needs of the students and include topics such as resilience training, mindfulness, meditation, guidance related learning, bonding trips, school based workshops etc.

Student Support Team

The Student Support Team works with Year Heads, Class Tutors, SPHE teachers, the Guidance Counsellor and school management to identify and respond to students' needs. Its focus is on ensuring that students feel safe, respected, included and supported in school. This includes helping students settle into school, promoting positive relationships, addressing bullying or welfare concerns, and supporting students who experience personal difficulties. The school works with students and families to identify concerns early and agree appropriate next steps.

Our Student Council

The Student Council gives students a voice in school life, representing different year groups and bringing student perspectives to key decisions. It supports a range of initiatives and events throughout the year and helps to strengthen the school community through leadership, teamwork and active student involvement.

Leadership Team



Esther McDonnell
PRESIDENT
6th Year



Cormac Dillon
VICE PRESIDENT
6th Year



Sean McSweeney
TREASURER
6th Year



LilyAnne Watters
SECRETARY
5th Year

Council Members



Emma McAndrew
PRO
Transition Year



Charlie Barron
PRO
Transition Year



Michaela Keaney Gallagher
PRO
3rd Year



Daniel McLoughlin
MEMBER
3rd Year



Leslie Mae Toher
MEMBER
2nd Year



Darragh Moran
MEMBER
2nd Year



Eoghan Waters
MEMBER
1st Year



Annie McGuire
MEMBER
1st Year

MUSIC & PERFORMANCE

Choir, live performance, creativity and confidence



Cast of Get Your Act Together, 2026

2026 SCHOOL SHOW

Grange Post Primary School: Get Your Act Together

Hawk's Well Theatre, Sligo

20 October 2026

Music, song and dance

THE SCHOOL CHOIR

The Grange Post-Primary School Choir brings together students from 1st to 6th year. Members rehearse weekly after school and take part in workshops throughout the year.

The choir has performed at the Hawk's Well Theatre, the Model in Sligo and Lissadell Church with the Celtic Tenors. Members also support school and charity events.

SHOWS & CREATIVE ARTS

Our school productions have included talent shows, variety performances and musicals. Students take part both on stage and behind the scenes, building confidence, teamwork and organisation skills.

Transition Year students develop bands and creative projects, while a traditional music group welcomes students at lunchtime.

OPEN MIC THURSDAYS

Once a month, students showcase their talents in the school foyer. Open Mic gives students the chance to perform, build confidence and share their creativity with the school community.

Organised by Ms Purcell, Music Teacher.











Scenes from Get Your Act Together at the Hawk's Well Theatre, 2026

Grange Post-Primary School
Tarbhunscoil na Gráinsi
Centres of opportunity

School Management

How the school is led and how families are represented in school life.



Management structure

Grange Post-Primary School is part of Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim Education and Training Board (MSLETB). The day-to-day leadership of the school is led by the Principal and Deputy Principal, supported by assistant principals, year heads, teachers, SNAs and the wider school staff team. This collaborative structure supports teaching and learning, student wellbeing and the effective day-to-day running of the school.

Board of Management

The Board of Management plays a central role in the governance of the school. Working within the framework of MSLETB and Department of Education requirements, the Board supports school planning, policy development, finance, health and safety and the ongoing development of the school. Its work helps ensure that students' best interests remain at the heart of decision-making.

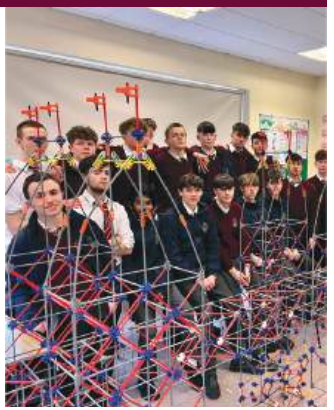
Parents' Association

The Parents' Association is an important link between home and school. It supports positive communication and partnership, helps strengthen the wider school community and provides parents with an opportunity to contribute to school life. We value the role parents play in supporting students' learning, wellbeing and overall school experience.







GOVERNMENT-FREE SCHOOL BOOKS SCHEME:

The Irish Government's Free School Books Scheme, introduced in 2023, is designed to support families by providing all primary and post-primary school students with access to essential schoolbooks, workbooks, and copybooks at no cost. This initiative aims to ease the financial burden on parents, ensuring that every student can fully engage with their education regardless of family income.

For post-primary students, the scheme is implemented through schools, which receive funding to purchase necessary learning materials on behalf of their students. This means families no longer need to worry about sourcing or purchasing books each year. The school retains ownership of these materials, encouraging students to care for their books and return them at the end of the school year.

Additional Educational Needs

Grange Post-Primary School is committed to supporting students with additional educational needs through a coordinated, whole-school approach that promotes inclusion, participation and progress. The Special Educational Needs (SEN) Coordinator oversees the provision of support, working closely with students, parents and guardians, subject teachers and the Student Support Team. To ensure continuity and effective communication, the school has six designated SEN anchors, one for each year group from First Year to Sixth Year.

Each anchor works alongside the SEN Coordinator and Year Head, providing a consistent point of contact, communicating agreed support strategies to teachers and monitoring student progress. Support is tailored to each student's individual strengths and needs. This may include differentiated classroom teaching, individual or small-group instruction, and assistance from Special Education Teachers or Special Needs Assistants, where appropriate. Provision is regularly reviewed in consultation with students and their parents or guardians and adjusted as needs evolve. Information from previous schools and relevant professional reports may help inform planning;

PE School Uniform

Playr-Fit package includes

- Quarter Zip Top
- Training Tee Shirt
- Tracksuit Bottoms/Leggings
- Shorts
- Socks



UNIFORM

Grange Post Primary has a strict uniform policy that must be adhered to by all students.

Our uniforms are stocked by Mullaney Bros, O'Connell Street, Sligo and Moffitts, O'Connell Street, Sligo.
However, we have negotiated a deal to purchase jackets directly from the company at a significantly reduced price. Fittings and ordering will be carried out in early September and we recommend parents take this route.

Girls- Maroon jumper with school crest, white collared blouse, school tie, school grey trousers/ school skirt, black leather school shoes (unbranded) and school jacket.
Boys- Maroon jumper with school crest, white collared shirt, school tie, school grey trousers, black leather school shoes (unbranded) and school jacket.
Unbranded refers to no stitching of brand names such as Lonsdale/Nike etc. being present



SCHOOL TIMETABLE:

Monday to Thursday		Friday
Start	9.00am	Start time: 9.00am
Break:	15mins	Break: 15mins
Lunch:	35mins	Finish time: 1.00pm
Finish Time:	3.55pm	
Classes:	9 by 40mins	Classes: 5 by 40mins & Humanities (20mins)

Junior classes must remain on –site all day and can only be permitted to leave if collected by a parent. Senior students may go up town at lunchtime provided they are in full uniform and adhere to the school Code of Behaviour at all times, otherwise the privilege is withdrawn.

SCHOOL POLICIES:

Grange Post Primary School has a variety of policies central to the running of our school, they may be viewed by visiting our website www.grangepps.ie and following the link at the top called “School Policies”. Alternatively, a request can be made to the school for a paper copy of any of the policies listed. Note: all parents will receive a copy of the Code of Behaviour on enrolment night as agreement with this is necessary to complete the enrolment process.

Our Website



SCHOOL LUNCHES:

At Grange PPS we have linked in with the Food Village, where we serve up fresh, hot, tasty, and affordable meals everyday. We offer over 200+ full meals, snacks, treats, and drinks for both students and teaching staff. Our pre-paid ordering system allows you to set menus for a single day, an entire week, or even repeat orders for as long as you need. Our meals are prepared using local produce by our team of talented chefs, ensuring that every bite is fresh and nutritious.



EXTRA - CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Sports

Sport plays a central role in Grange Post Primary's culture, with opportunities for boys and girls in Soccer, Gaelic Football, Basketball, Athletics, Girls Active and Table Tennis.

Our teams compete successfully at county, regional and national levels, supported by expert coaching and strong student commitment. A highlight in recent years was when our girls reached the Connacht Semi-Final and our boys won the Connacht Cup at U-17 and U-19 level.

Clubs & Activities

Lunchtime at Grange Post-Primary offers students a range of enjoyable activities. Students can take part in pool, darts, table tennis, chess and board games. These activities encourage friendships, teamwork and friendly competition.

Open Mic Thursdays provide opportunities for students to showcase their musical talents.

A Quiet Room and Reading Space is also available for students seeking a peaceful break.



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