

Grange Post-Primary School

Íarbhunscoil na Gráinsí

windows of opportunity

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www.grangepps.ie

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.

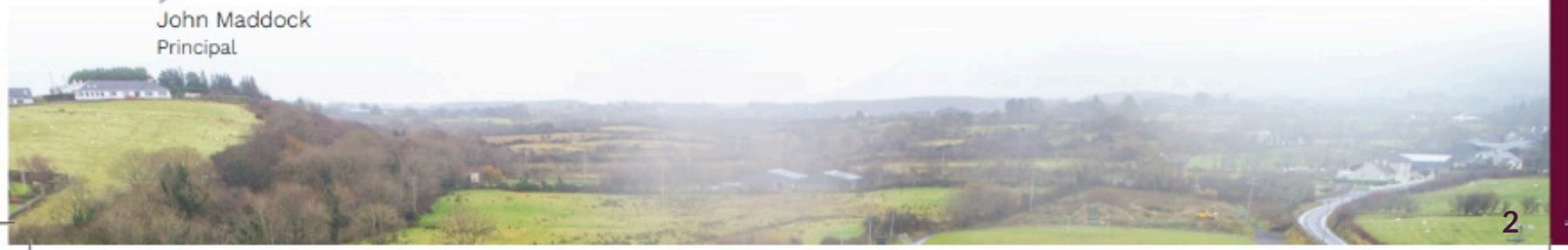
Wellbeing and care are central to our ethos. Through our pastoral structures, guidance counselling, and anti-bullying initiatives, we ensure that each student feels safe, valued, and supported. We are an inclusive school community that celebrates diversity and provides tailored support for students with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

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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

- English
- Irish
- Mathematics
- Science
- History

Wellbeing Programme Subjects and Short Courses

- Social, Personal & Health Education (SPHE)
- Civic, Social & Political Education (CSPE)
- Physical Education (PE)
- Guidance
- Coding (Short Course)

Choice Subjects (Students choose four)

- Visual Art
- Music
- Wood Technology
- Geography
- Engineering
- Home Economics
- Graphics
- Business Studies
- French
- Spanish



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Transition Year Programme

4th Year | Optional

Transition Year offers students the opportunity to explore subjects, develop practical skills and gain experience beyond the classroom through a varied programme of learning and activities.

Curriculum & opportunities

Core programme

- English
- Irish
- Music
- Geography
- Computer Coding
- Film Studies
- Mathematics
- Engineering
- Creative Development (Art)
- Food Studies
- Work Experience
- GAA Future Leaders Programme

TY modules

- ICT
- 3D Printing
- Creative Writing Programme
- Business Enterprise
- Construction Studies
- Physical Education
- Mathematics
- French
- Design & Communication Graphics
- Science by Inquiry
- History
- Spanish
- Careers

Competitions & enrichment

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

Humanities module (varies)

- Photography Workshop
- First Aid
- Driving Module
- Educational Speakers
- Drama & Theatre Workshops
- RSE / Lifeskills

Programme in practice

All Transition Year students follow the full programme, developing a broad range of skills and competencies. Modules are continually assessed for certification. Workshops, educational outings and visiting speakers vary according to the group. The programme also includes one educational outing each term and a foreign tour at Easter. TY students organise an annual school show or performance, such as Lip Sync.

Transition Year in action



Transition Year Class, 2025-26



GAA Future Leaders - new jerseys awarded

GAA Future Leaders Programme

Following completion of the programme, TY students were awarded a new set of jerseys. Participation helps students develop leadership, communication, teamwork and organisational skills through Gaelic games.

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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.

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.

Subjects and programme options

Core subjects

English

Irish

Mathematics

LCW

Leaving Certificate Life, Community and Work

Core (non-exam)

Physical Education (PE)

Career Guidance

Information Technology (IT)

Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE)

Choice subjects · choose four

French

Spanish

Music

Business Studies

Engineering

Geography

History

Art, Craft and Design

Construction Studies

Home Economics

Design Communication Graphics (DCG)

Biology

Agricultural Science

Chemistry

Chemical and Physical Science

(formerly Physics and Chemistry)



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.



Foreign Tours are scheduled each year and have included Italy, Paris and Barcelona of late.



Career Guidance, Wellbeing & Student Support

Guidance, wellbeing and practical support throughout school life.



Student life at Grange Post-Primary School

Career Guidance

Grange Post-Primary School provides guidance and counselling to help students make informed decisions about their education, personal development and future opportunities. Our guidance provision has three main strands:

Personal & social
Individual guidance, a listening ear and support with personal or social concerns.

Educational
Subject choices, learning needs, study skills and the move between school stages.

Career pathways
Further education, apprenticeships, third-level courses and employment options.

Students can access one-to-one appointments and appropriate guidance resources, including interviews, assessments and digital tools. Guidance-related learning also forms part of the Junior Cycle Wellbeing Programme, with dedicated guidance support in Senior Cycle.

Wellbeing

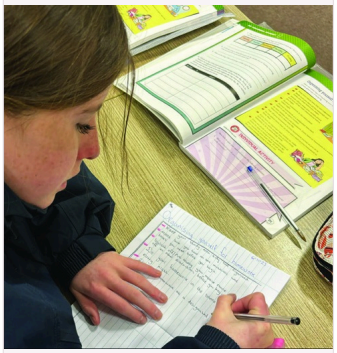
Wellbeing is developed throughout the three years of Junior Cycle. Alongside Physical Education (PE), Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE) and Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE), students take part in learning and activities that support physical, emotional and social wellbeing.

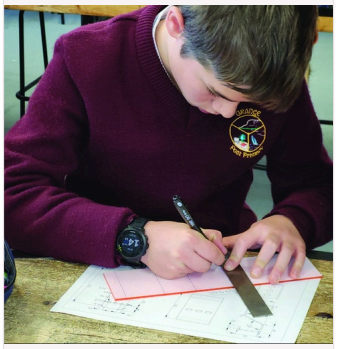
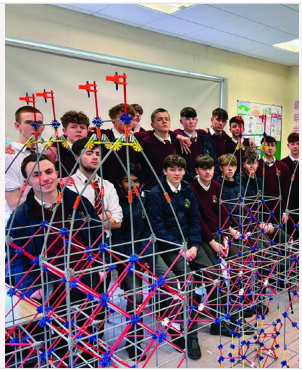
These may include resilience-building, guidance-related learning, mindfulness, school-based workshops and activities that encourage positive relationships and a sense of belonging.

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.



Government Free Schoolbooks Scheme

The Government Free Schoolbooks Scheme helps reduce costs for families by providing schoolbooks and core classroom resources through the school, including materials used in Junior Cycle and Senior Cycle. The scheme covers prescribed books and relevant workbooks, copybooks and journals.

The school organises and distributes these materials. Books remain school property and students are asked to look after them and return them when required. Families will be advised of any items not covered by the scheme.

Additional Educational Needs

Grange Post-Primary School supports students with additional educational needs through a coordinated, school-wide approach. The Special Educational Needs (SEN) Coordinator oversees provision and works closely with students, families, subject teachers and the Student Support Team.

> The school has six designated SEN anchors, one for each year group from First Year to Sixth Year. Each anchor acts as a regular point of contact, works with the SEN Coordinator and Year Head, helps communicate agreed strategies to teachers and follows up on students' progress. This arrangement gives students and families continuity as they move through the school.

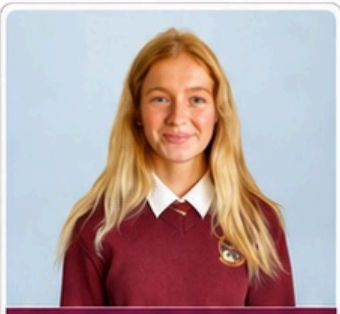
Support is tailored to each student's strengths and needs. This may include adapted classroom teaching, additional individual or small-group teaching, and assistance from Special Education Teachers or Special Needs Assistants where appropriate.

Support is reviewed with students and parents or guardians and adjusted as needs change. Information from previous schools or professional reports can inform decisions, but students can be supported without waiting for a formal diagnosis.

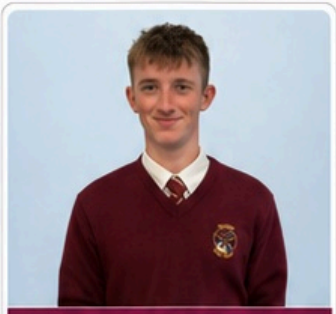
Our Student Council

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.

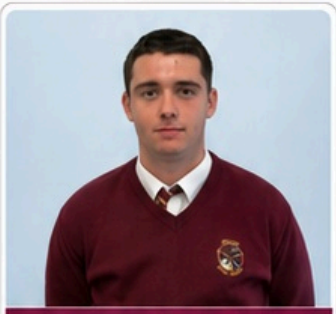
Leadership Team



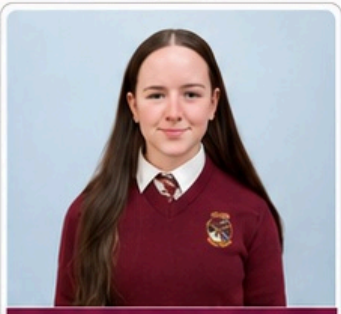
Esther McDonnell
PRESIDENT
6th Year



Cormac Dillon
VICE PRESIDENT
6th Year



Sean McSweeney
TREASURER
6th Year



LilyAnne Watters
SECRETARY
5th Year

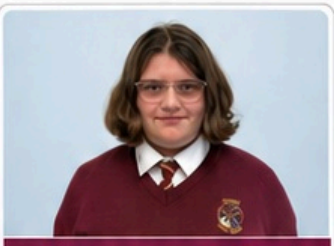
Council Members



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

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Sports & Competition



Sport plays a central role in life at Grange Post-Primary School, helping students develop confidence, teamwork, resilience and school pride. Students participate and compete in a broad range of activities, supported by dedicated staff, strong student commitment and excellent facilities, including our athletics track.



BOYS' SOCCER

Boys' soccer is a thriving part of school sport, with teams competing from junior to senior level and regularly representing the school with commitment, teamwork and skill.



GIRLS' SOCCER

Girls' soccer is a strong and growing part of school life, with teams that compete enthusiastically while building confidence, camaraderie and sporting ability.



GAELIC FOOTBALL

Grange has both boys' and girls' Gaelic football teams. Gaelic football is a cornerstone of school life, combining pride, passion, teamwork and a strong sense of community.



ATHLETICS

Athletics has a long and proud tradition in the school, with students training and competing successfully at county, Connacht and, where appropriate, All-Ireland level, supported by high-quality facilities.



BASKETBALL

Basketball is a popular and competitive sport at Grange, with both girls' and boys' teams known for energy, teamwork and sportsmanship.



Grange Post-Primary School

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Lunchtime Activities



Lunchtime activities give students opportunities to relax, socialise, build friendships and enjoy healthy, friendly competition beyond the classroom.



POOL

The pool table has become a lively social hub at lunchtime where students enjoy friendly games, develop skill, and spend time together in a relaxed atmosphere.

TABLE TENNIS

Table tennis is fast-paced and energetic and has become a firm lunchtime favourite. Regular games and mini-tournaments bring students together and create a fun, competitive atmosphere.





DARTS

Darts has grown into a popular and competitive lunchtime activity, giving students the chance to challenge each other in short matches while developing focus and accuracy.

CHESS

Chess is a popular strategic pursuit, with friendly competitions helping students develop concentration, patience, decision-making and tactical thinking.



These lunchtime activities contribute to a positive school atmosphere and provide students with enjoyable opportunities to get involved, unwind and connect with others.

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.

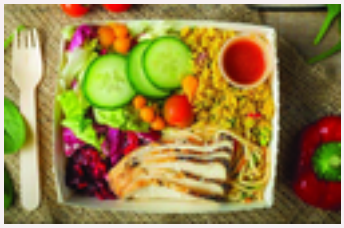
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School Lunches

Grange PPS uses **Food Village** for optional cashless school lunch ordering. Families can order through the app; students may also bring their own lunch.

GETTING STARTED

1. Download the **Food Village app**.
2. Select **Education**.
3. Choose **I am Student**.
4. Enter the school code **GPPS**.



School lunch options

KEY INFORMATION

- Collect orders using a Food Village keytag.
- First Year students receive keytags during their first week.
- Parents can add credit and set daily spending limits.

foodvillage.ie/gpps/ 015 253 3412 info@foodvillage.ie

School Policies

School policies are available on **www.grangepps.ie** under School Policies. Paper copies may also be requested from the school office. Parents and guardians receive the Code of Behaviour during enrolment, and agreement to it forms part of the enrolment process.

School Transport

The school transport scheme is operated and administered by Bus Éireann. For information on eligibility, applications, routes and transport arrangements, parents and guardians should contact Bus Éireann directly at **www.buseireann.ie**.

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.