



**Iar Bhunscoil
Mhá Nuad**
**Maynooth
Post Primary School**

21st January 2026

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are currently planning for the 2026–2027 school year and are proposing a change to our timetable structure, moving from 60-minute classes to 58-minute classes.

This proposal has been discussed with students at an assembly today and with staff. We are now seeking feedback from all stakeholders—students, staff, and parents/guardians—on the potential impact of this change.

Rationale for the Move to 58-Minute Classes

The proposed change would allow for the following:

1. Additional teacher allocation, as all teachers could be scheduled for an extra class per week. This would help us meet the growing needs of the school.
2. A broader and more balanced curriculum for our students.
3. Ensuring continued and enhanced support for students with additional educational needs.
4. Support for changes to the Transition Year (TY) programme, where work experience will move to Fridays. This change requires TY students to be in school all day on Wednesdays, placing additional pressure on the timetable.
5. Retention of staff within their subject areas.

Proposed Changes to the Structure of the School Day

As a result, the structure of the school day would need to change. We are proposing three possible options:

- **Option 1:** School starts at 8.48am and finishes at 3.48pm, Monday to Thursday (Friday finish at 1.22pm)
- **Option 2:** School starts at 8.28am and finishes at 3.28pm, Monday to Thursday (Friday finish at 1.02pm)
- **Option 3:** I have no preference



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Points for Consideration

Potential Positives:

- The vast majority of students are already on site by 8.30am.
- An earlier finish (based on the 8.28am start) may promote student and staff wellbeing.
- Increased opportunities for extra-curricular activities while there is still daylight (approximately 3.30pm–4.30pm).
- Students may get home earlier, allowing time for homework, meals, and evening activities.
- Earlier start times may assist families who need to drop children to school before work.
- Potential reduction in traffic congestion on the Moyglare Road before and after school.

Other Factors to Consider:

- This represents a significant change to the current school day.
- Possible difficulties with lifts or walking siblings to other schools.
- Students may need time to adjust to an earlier start.
- Challenges with early mornings, particularly during darker months (November–January).
- Slightly later finish on Fridays (1.02pm or 1.22pm).

We ask that you consider all of the above before completing the attached survey. Every voice matters, and once all feedback has been gathered, a decision will be made regarding whether to change the structure of the school day from September 2026.

Survey Closing Date: Friday, 23 January 2026 at 12.30pm.

[Parent Survey – Fill in form](#)



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If anyone would like to add an opinion or suggestion, please email principal@mpps.ie directly.

Thank you for your time and continued support.

Kind regards,
Senior Management Team