



*Information for parents/carers of incoming Junior
Infants.*

School Motto: Watch Me Grow

Address: Church Road, Crosshaven, Co. Cork P43 X242.

Telephone: 021 4831646

Email: secretary@scoilbhridecrosshaven.ie

Website: www.scoilbhridecrosshaven.ie

This Booklet belongs to:





A message from the principal

“Fáilte romhaibh go dtí Scoil Bhríde.”

Dear Parents,

Thank you for choosing Scoil Bhríde for your child. We hope that, while your daughter is with us; she will develop into a mature, happy, responsible girl, who will leave us full of confidence and ready to take the next step in her learning.

We view education as the development of the whole child – attention is placed not just on the intellectual development but also on the pupil’s physical, social, moral and spiritual development.

Every child will engage with the curriculum, as our dedicated teachers and staff work together with parents/guardians to ensure each child is afforded the opportunity to learn and grow. During her eight years in Scoil Bhríde, your child will also experience a broad range of sport, music, drama and art. We encourage creativity and celebrate success in all areas of learning.

We hope you find our booklet informative and useful. Should you need any additional information regarding our school, please do not hesitate to contact me at Scoil Bhríde.

Le meas,
Ms. Katie Ryan,
Principal,
Scoil Bhríde.

Mission Statement



At Scoil Bhríde, each individual is respected and valued for their unique qualities and abilities. Our aim at Scoil Bhríde is to develop the academic, spiritual, creative, moral, personal and social skills of the child so that she may be better able to realise her potential as an individual and as an active member of society.

Primary School is a big step for both you and your child. It is a time when parents and teachers take special care to make sure the transition from preschool to “Big” school goes as smoothly as possible.

We strive to create an inclusive and respectful environment that promotes tolerance and acceptance of all students and staff at all times. It is very important that your child’s first experience of school is one of happy involvement so that we can lay a good foundation for the rest of her education.





T

Take homework folders out of bags on Mondays and complete and return homework by Friday. Homework instructions for the following week are uploaded to **Aladdin** every **Friday**.

O

On time. Please make sure your child is in school for **8:50 am** each morning so no valuable learning time is lost!

P

Praise the **positive** and ensure that it is specific to what has been achieved. E.G. "Well done Suzie, you put on your own coat, that is brilliant!"

T

Try to encourage going to bed on time so that the student is ready for learning every morning.

I

Interest in your child's learning is key. You can keep up to date with messages and photos on Aladdin and the school website.

P

Please keep your contact details up to date including address, e-mail and phone numbers. We also need a consent form filled for photos and local trips to the area.

S

Sickness can occur. Please try to ensure your child is in school unless she is very unwell. If she has a medicine or a long term illness please fill out a medical care form so that everyone in the school is aware and vigilant.

Uniform



Junior Infants pupils must wear their school tracksuit at all times.
A school coat is not compulsory.

Uniform can be purchased from '**4ORM**' in Carrigaline
Carrigaline Industrial Estate, Unit 7, Crosshaven Road, Carrigaline, Co. Cork, P43 AE65

Please order your uniform in one of the 3 following ways

- 1: **Free delivery to School:** Order your uniform online before June 15th (select 'Click & Collect' for delivery) and your order will be delivered to the school for collection in the third week of June before term finishes.
- 2: **Appointment:** If you need to try on garments before purchase, please make an appointment to do so. Appointments for Sc Bhríde are available up to the end of June.
- 3: **Shop & Online Shop:** If you don't require trying on garments, call to the shop during July and August, but please make an allowance for queuing delays. Alternatively shop online and opt for either home delivery or click & collect.



[4ORM – Sc Bhríde GNS – online shop](#)

Please label all of your child's clothes, especially jumpers, tracksuit tops and coats. In very cold weather, please make sure your child has extra clothes under their uniforms i.e. a t-shirt or vest.

Labels are available from 4ORM in our online shop.

Please get your child shoes with Velcro straps. Young children cannot manage laces. Please also send in a spare pair of labelled underwear, socks and trousers/shorts to keep in case in case they are needed.

Uniform from 1st class

- Sc Bhride Jumper - brown
- Pinafore – brown, or skirt, or Trousers - navy
- Tie - pink
- Shirt - white
- Shoes - black



Tracksuit

- Sc Bhride Hoodie - pink
- Sc Bhride Polo Shirt - white
- Sc Bhride Trackpants, or Leggings – navy
- Sc Bhride Shorts - navy
- Runners (with Velcro for juniors)

Getting your child started

Before your child begins her journey in Scoil Bhríde, here are some things that you can do together to get her ready for Junior Infants.

- Talk about school in a positive way. You could look at some photos on the school website to show her the types of things that she can look forward to.
- Practice self-care: buttoning and zipping, putting coats on, taking jumpers and shoes on and off, washing hands after using the toilet, flushing the toilet and cleaning up spills.
- Talk about how to keep others safe by coughing into our elbow and using a tissue if needed.
- Reading books/ talking about sharing and being kind to others.
- Learning how to open and close the school bag and lunch box and how to tidy and pack away our things.
- Using words to express feelings.
- Read books that discuss change and feelings and talk about how the characters are feeling and how they know etc.

The Big Day



- Arrive on time and drop your daughter at the school gate.
- Have a homework folder A4 size labelled, pencil case, water bottle, lunch box and spare clothes in your child's bag.
- Children to be dressed in school uniform on first day.
- Please collect your child on time. If you cannot collect your child on a particular day, tell her who you have organised to collect her. It is important to also give the name of the person who will be collecting your daughter and to the teacher at drop off in the morning or send a message on Aladdin.
- Contact the school secretary-Deirdre on (021 – 4831646) if there is an emergency or you need to speak urgently to the teacher.
- Keep an eye out for any photo updates on the school website <https://www.scoilbhridecrosshaven.ie/>
- Ensure to check Aladdin for notices from the school and the teacher. You can download the app once you receive the login details from the school office.
- Google form sent <https://forms.gle/Y1i9tASAS9vXGaXt6>
- Booklist stationary items (Will be sent via e-mail)



Lunches

Health

- We encourage healthy eating habits in school. Some ideas that you could include in your child's packed lunch are: cheese, crackers, fruit, yogurts, bagel, wraps etc.
- We do not allow sugary snacks/drinks in school. Children are allowed to bring in one small treat on a Friday to eat during their lunch.
- Children should have a lunchbox that is easily opened and closed.
- Please provide a re-fillable water bottle.
- Hot lunches will be provided under the Government's 'Hot School Meals Programme' every day at 12.30pm. Menus will be sent via e-mail each term.

- If your child has any medical need/ is currently being assessed or has any allergies please inform the class teacher.
- Please note that Scoil Bhríde is a **nut free** school.

Handling the upset child

- Patience works wonders!
- Trust the teacher
- Don't show that you are upset
- Encourage the child
- Give a quick hug and kiss and leave as quickly as possible.



Expressing Feelings












We always encourage our students to show respect for our fellow pupils.

The girls are encouraged from a young age to promote respectful relationships across the school community. We learn to speak about our feelings and address them directly with one another instead of asking for the help of an adult first.

We learn to build empathy, respect and resilience in pupils by speaking our feelings and by learning ways to regulate themselves when they are feeling upset, not ready to learn etc. These strategies could include methods such as doing some breathing exercises, meditation, taking a short movement break etc.

Bullying is always unacceptable in Scoil Bhríde. We strive to educate our students on how to treat everyone fairly and kindly. We work through possible scenarios in SPHE lessons and daily problem solving regarding friendships, sharing and group work.

BLUE ZONE	GREEN ZONE	YELLOW ZONE	RED ZONE
 sad  tired	 happy  calm	 frustrated  worried	 angry  terrified
 sick  bored	 feeling ok  ready to learn	 silly  excited	 yelling  hitting
I can try...  stretch	I can try...  drink water	I can try...  deep breaths	I can try...  take a break

The Zones of Regulation can be used to help students to recognise and regulate their feelings

Getting ready for learning



Children are natural learners. They are curious about everything. They want to know more about everything – about themselves, others and the world around them. They learn fast, but only when they are ready and their interest is aroused.

Children learn in different ways and at different speeds. Our first year in school includes settling in, relating to others, making friends, feeling happy and getting used to the routine of school.

On the learning side, the emphasis is on getting children ready for the learning by:

- Learning through play – this is the most enjoyable and effective way.
- Developing their oral language and expression.
- Sharpening their senses, especially seeing, hearing and touching.
- Developing physical coordination, including hands and fingers.
- Extending their concentration and getting them to listen well.
- Cooperating with teachers and other children.
- Performing tasks by themselves.
- Working and sharing with others.

Help your child to learn at home



Speaking and Listening

- Speak with your child at every opportunity: at home, at the shops, on the street, in the park.
- Make time to listen when they want to tell you something that is important to them.
- Answer questions with patience and in an age-appropriate way.
- Recite nursery rhymes and sing songs together. Rhyming is an important step in learning to read.
Give your child lots of time to use her imagination i.e. dressing up and pretend play.
- Help your child explore feelings and ideas through play. Play with them!!

Reading

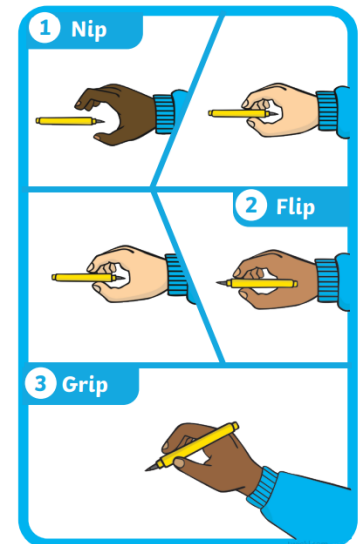
- Join the local library
<https://www.corkcoco.ie/en/resident/libraries/joining-the-library>
- Read different types of books, fiction and non-fiction.
- Try to read at a certain time every day.
- Look at the pictures with your child. You can tell a wonderful story from pictures.
- Point at the words as you read them. Your child will learn that we read from left to right.
- Teach your child how to turn a page.
- Ask questions about what is happening in the story.
- Ask them to re-tell the story to you in their own words.



Writing

Making letters on paper is not easy for a small child. They must learn to hold the pencil correctly and make regular shapes. Their finger muscles are only developing at this stage. You can help them to prepare for writing by encouraging the use of:

- Jigsaws, lego, threading beads etc.
- Playdoh to make their own shapes.
- A colouring book and thick crayons.
- Sheets of paper to cut up with safety scissors.
- 'Finger gym' videos on youtube.
- Using tweezers to pick up different objects.
- Pegging up clothes
- Closing buttons and zips
- Using puppets to tell stories.



Maths

We will be learning about how to write the numbers 1-5, what comes before and after, what sets look like, patterns and shapes this year. You can help by encouraging mathematical thinking at home. Here are some ideas:

- Counting food in the kitchen, people in the room, birds in the sky etc.
- Ask questions like 'If one flew away, how many birds would be left?'
- Go on a shape hunt wherever you are find circles, squares, rectangles and triangles in nature, in the home or in a book.
- Use different 3D blocks to make structures and talk about how they were made.
- Playing counting games like 'What time is it Mr Wolf' or Hopscotch.
- Helping with reading scales and measuring liquids and ingredients when cooking/baking.