

Parents Association Constitution

The Constitution of the Parent Association of Gaelscoil Riada, Athenry

The Purpose of the Parent Association

The purpose of the parent association is to provide a structure through which the parents/guardians of children attending Gaelscoil Riada can work together for the best possible education for their children. The parent association will work with the principal, staff and the board of management to build effective partnership of home and school.

The Aim of the Parent Association

The aim of the parent association is to enable parents to play their part in ensuring the best possible education for their children, through the association's programme of activities.

The parents association will promote the interests of the students in co-operation with the board, principal, teachers and students, in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act, 1998.

The Work of the Parent Association

The parent association will undertake a programme of activities which will promote the involvement of parents and which will support pupils, parents, and school staff. In planning its activities, the parent association will consult with the school principal.

The parent association may advise the principal and board on any matters, relating to the school in accordance with the Education Act, 1998, 26 (2) (a).

The Membership of the Parent Association

All parents or guardians of children attending Gaelscoil Riada will be deemed to be members of the parents association.

The Committee of the Parent Association

The members of the parents association will elect a number of members who will have the responsibility for managing the activities of the parent association.

Teachers will be notified of all parent's council meetings and are very welcome to attend if they wish to do so.

The Work of the Committee of the Parent Association

The committee is the team that will manage the tasks of the association on behalf of the parent body (the members).

The committee will draw up a plan for the activities of the association, in consultation with parents in accordance with their wishes.

The committee will consult with the school principal when planning the programme of activities for a particular year.

The committee will arrange with the principal and the board a system of ongoing communication.

At the AGM the committee will report to the parent body (the members) about its work.

The committee may manage and account for any funds collected by the parent association.

Membership of the Committee

The members of the committee are elected each year at the AGM of the parent association.

The number of the committee will be a maximum of 12 and a minimum of 6.

Each member will be elected for one year. Members may go forward for election for a further year, providing they have a child in the school.

Members should spend no more than two consecutive years on the committee unless there is no other volunteer from their class group.

Any member holding an officer/vice officer role on the committee who misses more than three consecutive meetings should resign from the position, and the role re-allocated to another member of the committee.
(EGM held to elect new position).

There should be at least two parent representatives from each class (preferably Male & Female).

Parent representatives elected to the board of management are automatically members of the committee, but will not hold an officer post.

Co-options and Subcommittees

The committee may co-opt people onto the committee to assist in their work. Subcommittees can be set up for particular tasks. The subcommittees may also co-opt people to assist in their work. The subcommittees may not make decisions. They are accountable to the main committee.

Fundraising for the School

Fundraising for the school by the parent association will be done with the prior agreement of the board. The parent association committee will agree with the board as to the specific school projects for which the funds are to be raised by the parent association.

The parent association is entitled to raise funds for the administration and activities of the association. Full accounts must be maintained and presented at the parent association Annual General Meeting, in accordance with the rules of the association.

All expenditure relating to the activities and administration of the association should be approved at committee meetings.

All expenditure should be authorised by the Chairperson of the Association in consultation with the School Principal.

As per NPC guidelines, a balance of approx. €350 should be held in the committee account. All other monies should be transferred to the school account.

Membership of the National Parents Council Primary

The parent association will affiliate to National Parents Council Primary annually.

Changing the Constitution

Changes to the constitution can be made at the AGM. Proposals/motions to change the constitution must be submitted in writing to the parent association committee. The parent association committee will then circulate these motions to all the parents before the AGM. All parents of children in the school at the meeting are eligible to vote on the proposals.