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*Home School Community Liaison Scheme "Promoting Links in Our Community"*

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The Home School Community Liaison Scheme is one of many programmes operating in our school, to enhance participation and learning outcomes for our students. The scheme works co-operatively with other programmes in school and in the community to ensure the best possible outcomes for students and families in our school community.

**Aims:**

1. Promoting partnership between Homes and School for the betterment of education of pupils.
2. Encouraging parents to continually be an active participant in their child's Secondary Education.
3. Develop ways to involve parents in the school & wider community.
4. Bring information & support families to enable them to better support their own children in school.
5. Work closely with other branches of TUSLA, EWO & SCP.
6. Liaise and support other agencies & clubs that work with our students.
7. Develop & maintain relationships with our feeder schools.





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### **Achieving Aims:**

- Establish & provide a Parents Room to welcome parents into our school.
- Home Visits to support & Share information with the families.
- Regular and positive communication between school & parents, via coffee mornings, newsletters, calls & texts, information days etc.
- Consultation with parents on issues relating to their child's education.
- Ensure meetings with parents are a positive experience for them and school.
- Organise courses and classes for parents in the school.
- Network with other agencies and schemes that work with our students.
- Encourage parents to be involved in school life; parents council, BOM, Graduations, Awards etc.
- Meet regularly with EWO, SCP & Care Team to help promote good attendance and inclusion in school.
- Communication with Teachers & Staff to encourage relevant information is shared to best support our students & support each other's work.
- Regular meetings with other local HSCL's to evaluate needs in the community and for incoming students.
- Support Principal & Deputy Principal in understanding family backgrounds of our "at risk" students & to adopt a measured approach to managing these needs.

### **Who is involved:**

- The whole school community.

### **Resources Required:**

- DEIS funding.
- Parents Room.
- Community Agencies.
- Support of Staff & Principals.
- Relevant Training programmes.





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### *Home School Community Liaison Scheme*

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**Established in 1990 with Co-ordinators appointed to designated schools.**

**Drumnagh Castle became a part of it in 2017.**

**John Lawlor is the Home School Community Liaison Co-ordinator for our school**

#### **Role of Co-ordinator:**

- Support parents in supporting their children through school via Home Visits, information sharing & any other support needed.
- Encourage parents to stay involved in their children's education while in secondary school by encouraging them to get involved in school life.
- Manage parent's room where parents are encouraged to visit & seek support from co-ordinator and other parents, and to take part in courses, classes & excursions organised for them through HSCL.
- Liaise with school personnel to share information that will help them best support students.
- Network with voluntary and statutory agencies in the community to better support the families we all work with.
- Work co-operatively with SCP & EWO to ensure best possible outcomes for students and families in our school community.
- Work with parents, school personnel, community agencies to identify and address issues that impinge on student learning by meeting regularly in Local D12 meetings.
- Work to create a Partnership between home and school/community, by listening to and consulting with the educational partners in matters that involve them





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### *Parents Room*

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The Parents' Room's overall purpose is to welcome parents into the school in order to increase parental involvement in their child's education and to enhance parental support for their child's school.

*The Parents' Room is a place for **all parents**; it helps parents in many ways.*

- It gives parents an opportunity to relax without the distraction of children after a busy morning getting children to school on time.
- Parents make friends and get support in the Parents' Room.
- Parents get an opportunity to discuss education issues with the co-ordinator of the scheme and other parents.
- Information related to schools and agencies that work with and support our families in the community, is shared.
- Parents attend courses and classes in the Parents' Room.

Parents are given charge of the room and all using it are expected to be responsible for its upkeep and day to day cleanliness. Tea/Coffee is provided.

The Parents' Room is a non-smoking area.

The Parents' Room is regarded as a place of "good practice". This means that we behave in a way that is respectful to all and that is good example to our children.

*People using the room are encouraged;*

- To listen and support one another.
- To avoid discussing individual children, parents and teachers.
- To be patient with others.
- To avoid using bad language.
- To respect differences.

The sale of tickets and other products, not related to the schools, is **NOT** allowed in the Parents' Room. Posters from our schools, community agencies and clubs, which work with our parents and children can be displayed in the Parents' Room only.





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This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on \_\_\_\_\_.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Principal

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of next review: \_\_\_\_\_





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