



Our Lady's Grove Information Meeting for New Parents 2026–27



Your Child, Our Child:
Working together for the Wellbeing and Education of
every child

Fáilte- Welcome to OLG

- A big step for your child—and for you!
- We're here to support your child's learning and wellbeing every day.



Mission and Ethos

- Foster a happy, safe, and nurturing environment
- Encouraging cooperation and collaboration
- Culture of tolerance, and respect
- Supporting each child's growth to reach full potential
- Catholic ethos school welcoming children of all faiths and no faith (Grow in Love)



A Day in Junior Infants

- Start time: 8:50 AM | Finish time: 1:30 PM
- Drop-off and collection from Junior Yard
- Two breaks for eating and yard. 10:30 (15 min play) 12:30 (30 min)
- Comfortable clothes and appropriate footwear
- Tracksuit may be worn on PE days/not compulsory
- Label ALL belongings
- School bag needs to fit lunch box and A4 folder
- No toys or stationery please!





Starting School- the first few weeks

- **Thursday 27 August:** Arrive in the hall at 10.00am.
- Parents enjoy tea and coffee after children leave hall with their teacher
- **28 August- Friday 4 September:** 8:50-12:00 pm
- **Monday 7 September:** 8.50am – 1.30pm (full day)

Remember!

- Separation anxiety is normal
- Short, positive goodbyes help
- Each child settles at their own pace



Lunches & Healthy Eating

- Healthy Eating Policy (available on website):
No crisps, chocolate, cakes, cookies or sugary drinks
- Nut-free school – no peanuts , Nutella or pesto
- Healthy lunch suggestions: fruit, veg, sandwich, yogurt, water (make it small and manageable)

When your child is sick or unwell

- **Allergies:** Inform the school of any severe allergies or medical conditions
- We cannot administer routine medication
- If your child is feeling unwell the night before or in the morning, it's recommended to keep him/her at home
- Notify the Class Teacher that your child is absent and give the reason via Aladdin
- If we observe that your child is unwell, we will contact you
- Allianz 24/7 Pupil Accident Insurance is recommended. This product will be available on Aladdin





How Children Learn

- Learning through structured play
- Early literacy and numeracy through songs, games, stories
- Focus on social, emotional, and physical development
- Developing gross and fine motor skills



Supporting at Home

- Talk and read together daily
- Playing games and turn taking
- Encourage independence: coats, shoes, lunch
- Practice using the bathroom/washing hands
- Establish consistent routines



Communication

- Aladdin Connect for updates and messages
- Parent-teacher meetings in Term 1 (November)
- For queries or to arrange a phone call or meeting email office:
admin@olgps.ie
- Class WhatsApp group- organised by PA, best way to get contact details for peers
- For a change in collection or a playdate arrangement send note via Aladdin
- No birthday invitations or treats distributed in school



Safety on Campus

- Pedestrian entrance and lollipop person
- Walk bikes and scooters on campus, no dogs, no yard play before/after school, use Set-Down zones (Apcoa in operation)
- Children from JI-3rd Class collected by parent/guardian/minder (over 18) -Notify us of changes in collection arrangements



Dear Parent/Guardian,

We know that your child is starting school in September. To celebrate this, and to help them navigate this new experience, the Minister for Children has asked us to put together a gift of a bag of books just for them.

The stories in the books are about starting school, being happy in yourself, and making friends, and they're waiting for them in a very special place: your local library.

A library card and a special Little Library card wallet is also included with every bag, and we hope that your little one will make use of it. To help them join the library, parents will be asked to sign a consent form and to show valid ID.

Library membership is free for everyone. You may wish to renew a library card for yourself or other children in your family, or join for the first time. Your ID will also be necessary in this case.

We hope that this small gift will lead your child to a lifelong love of books and reading, a love you will get to share with them.

We look forward to meeting you, and we hope you all enjoy the books,

Your local library



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



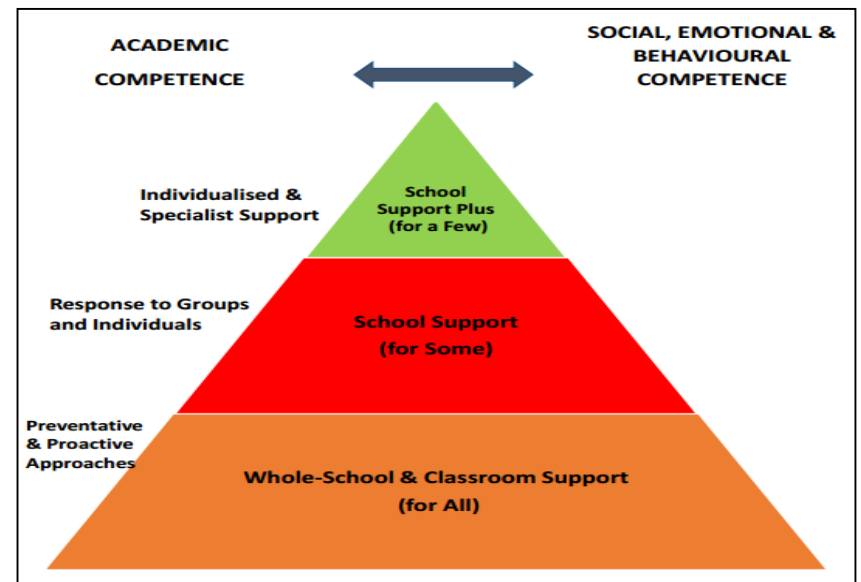
Right to Read
at your library



Rialtas Áitiúil Éireann
Local Government Ireland

Special Education Needs (SEN) Team in OLG

- The team: 7 Special Education Teachers (SETs) and 8 Special Needs Assistants (SNAs)
- Support for all children using continuum of support (3 Levels)
- Early Intervention – Literacy, Numeracy, Social Skills, Emotional Development
- Team approach-school, home, outside agencies
- In class and withdrawal





Our Purpose:

- The Parent Association work in partnership with the Principal, staff and Board of Management to build an effective partnership between home and school.
- The Parent Association support and empower parents/guardians to be active in the best interests of their children's educational lives.
- The Parents Association represent the views of parents and promotes contact and communication between the school, parents, pupils and community.

Who we are:

- Volunteer group of approx. 20 parents/guardians of children attending Our Lady's Grove Primary School.
- One representative from each class across the school.
- The PA meet on a monthly basis.
- A sub-group meet with Ms McDowell and the BOM rep.
- Three year term when you join the association.
- Great way to meet other parents in the school, become more involved in what is going on in the school and bring new ideas.
- Always looking for new members to join or anyone to volunteer when and where possible!

PARENT
COORDINATED
SPECIAL EVENTS



PARENT
COORDINATED
SUPERVISED
ACTIVITIES





**WE NEED
YOU**



Preparing for School – your homework!

- Contact the school to discuss any special educational needs or early interventions
- Inform us of any serious allergies or medical conditions
- Ensure we have up-to-date contact details (include emergency contact if parents are away)
- All school payments are made through the **Aladdin** system
- Junior Infant books and stationery are ordered by the school
- **Class fees** must be paid by **30th September**

Smartphone Free Childhood

- Smartphone Free Childhood Agreement is a OLGPS PA managed voluntary agreement among the parents and guardians of OLGPS to withhold giving their child a smartphone and follow the digital age of consent guidelines while they are in Primary School



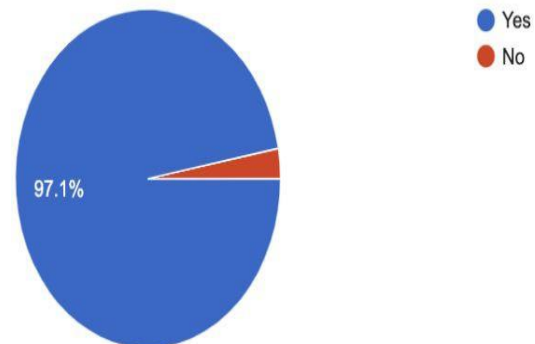
An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

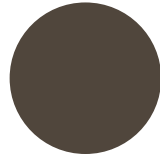
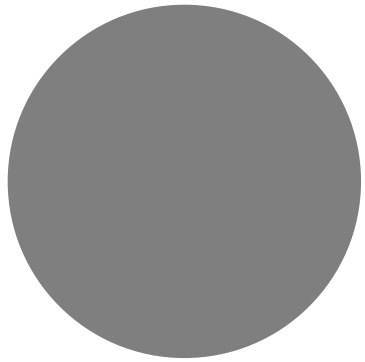
Keeping Childhood Smartphone Free

A Guide for Parents and Parents Associations who wish to engage with their school community regarding internet safety and access to smartphones for primary school children

m+ Inside the town that **BANISHED** smartphones for children under 12: Greystones became a global sensation after school pupils stopped obsessing about influencers... and discovered a new way of life

Are you in favour of a Smartphone Free Childhood initiative?





Any Questions?