



Scoil Bhríde
Statement of Strategy
for
School Attendance

Name of school	Scoil Bhríde Eglantine
Address	Douglas Road, Cork
Roll number	18563U
The school's vision and values in relation to attendance	<p>In Scoil Bhríde, we are committed to nurturing the full potential of all who work and learn in our school community in a positive, inclusive, safe and happy environment.</p> <p>In Scoil Bhríde we believe that children can only learn effectively if they attend school regularly. It is important that children should not be in school if they are unwell.</p> <p>Scoil Bhríde is a happy school. Children learn best when they are happy and relaxed. All school personnel are expected to show appropriate concern for each child's welfare and well-being.</p> <p>Relationship to the characteristic spirit of the school: <i>'Our aim at Scoil Bhríde is to develop the academic, spiritual, creative, persona and social skills of the child so that she may be better able to realize to the full, her potential as an individual and as an active member of society.'</i></p>
Aim of this Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To raise awareness of the importance of regular school attendance. • To promote and to foster positive attitudes to learning • To ensure compliance with the requirements of relevant legislation.
The school's high expectations around attendance	<p>As attendance is crucial to effective learning and the continuity of learning experiences the school places great emphasis on regular attendance in communications with parents and pupils. The Board of Management wishes to promote and encourage regular attendance as an essential factor in our pupils' learning.</p> <p>We expect children to have full attendance at school unless they are ill, incapacitated or have</p>

	<p>medical appointments. We understand that there may also be urgent family reasons why a child cannot attend school, especially in the case of bereavements, significant milestones, family celebrations e.g. confirmation of sibling.</p>
<p>How attendance will be monitored</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each Class teacher records attendance daily on Aladdin by 9.50am and attendance is monitored centrally on Aladdin. • The Principal and Deputy Principal regularly review attendance matters. • Quarterly and annual statistical returns are forwarded to Tusla every year by Deputy Principal (Tusla – Child and Family Agency, 2015). Principal reports at each BOM meeting.
<p>Summary of the school’s main approach to attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target Setting and targets • The whole-school approach • Promoting good attendance • Responding to poor attendance + Punctuality 	<p>Targets:</p> <p>Our annual attendance in the school year 2024-2025 was 94.2%. We would like to maintain our attendance at least at this high level.</p> <p>In the 2024-2025 school year, 19 pupils missed 20 days or more. We would like to reduce this figure by 10%.</p> <p>We would like to raise awareness among all members of the school community about school days lost due to holidaying during term time through newsletters to all and by informing new parents of the school’s expectations around attendance.</p> <p>Promoting Good Attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first assembly in September will focus on attendance and punctuality. • Regular reminders through newsletters to parents reminding them of the importance of good school attendance and punctuality. <p>Responding to poor attendance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Deputy Principal will keep in regular contact with parents where there is a concern regarding attendance. • Parents will receive a letter from the school, detailing absences from school,

	<p>once a child has missed 20 days. First letter at 15 days.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents may be invited to a meeting with the class teacher / Deputy Principal to discuss concerns regarding attendance. • If deemed necessary, contact will be made with the Education Welfare Officer in accordance with the Education Welfare Act.
<p>School roles in relation to attendance</p>	<p>Each Class Teacher</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourages and commends good attendance + punctuality. • Implements any whole school plan to promote good attendance. E.g. Morning meetings, Bí Cinealta, SPHE & wellbeing. • Provides a stimulating classroom where children feel valued. • 9.50 am Roll call electronically on a daily basis, using the Aladdin data system. Records late arrivals also on Aladdin • Checks that reason for absenteeism is being submitted through Aladdin. Collects any notes/ medical certs regarding absence. • Records individual patterns of attendance /punctuality. • Consults with parents where there are concerns around attendance or where parents have not provided explanations regarding absences. • Makes Deputy Principal aware of concerns with regard to the attendance /punctuality of individual children, specifically when a pupil's absences approaches or exceeds 20 days. A letter is sent to parents at 15 days and again at 20 days. <p>The Principal/Deputy Principal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes good attendance at school through assemblies, meetings with parents and regular communication with class teachers regarding attendance. • Updates the BOM about attendance in the school • Keeps in regular contact with parents where attendance is a concern. • Follows up on any issues regarding attendance. • Makes the quarterly and annual statistic return to Tusla (DP)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Makes referrals to Tusla when deemed necessary. • Advises parents of the importance of regular school attendance by means of reminders in newsletters and information meetings etc. <p>Board of Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the responsibility of the Principal and staff to implement this strategy under the guidance and authority of the school's Board of Management. • The Board works to provide and support a positive, welcoming environment by maintaining and resourcing the school to a high standard, which in turn promotes good attendance. <p>Late arrivals/ early collections recorded at office. Teacher to note pattern and inform DP where concerns arise. Teacher to raise issue with parents in first instance and from a perspective of understanding and support. Where movement is not evident DP will contact parents to discuss how to resolve the issue.</p>
Partnership arrangements (parents, students, other schools, youth and community groups)	<p>Parents/ Guardians</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the responsibility of the parent. Guardian to ensure that children are in school every day, as far as possible and on time. Open from 8.30am. encourages to arrive between 8.30 and 8.50 to enjoy free/ social time with peers. • It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure the children are on time for school • When children are absent from school/late for school parents should provide a note to the school with an explanation for that absence/lateness for the school records. <p>Parents should be proactive in informing teacher/ school of home circumstances which may impact attendance/ punctuality.</p>

	<p>Parents/guardians can promote good school attendance by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring regular and punctual school attendance. • Notifying the school if their child cannot attend for any reason. • Making sure that the children understand the parents/guardians support good school attendance. • Discussing planned absences with the school. • Refraining, it at all possible, from taking holidays during school time. • Showing an interest in their children’s school day and their children’s homework • Encouraging their children to participate in school activities. • Praising and encouraging their children’s achievements. • Instilling in their children a positive self-concept and a positive sense of self-worth. • Informing the school in writing of the reasons for absence from school. • Attending where possible parent talks arranged by the school, these talks support parents and offer opportunity to learn and develop positive practices. • Ensuring, insofar as is possible, that their children’s appointments (with dentists etc.), are arranged for times outside of school hours. • Contacting the school immediately if they have concerns about absences or other school-related matters. • Notifying the school in writing, if their children are to be collected by someone not known to the teacher. This applies particularly to children in junior classes. • Working with the school and education welfare services to resolve any attendance issues.
<p>How the Statement of Strategy will be monitored</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular review of attendance records and patterns • Review of attendance targets • Success in implementation of attendance strategies • Communication with class teacher • Communication with parents.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication with BOM. • Communication with pupils.
Review period and date of review	Strategy to be reviewed by Staff and Board of management annually.
Date the statement of strategy was reviewed and ratified by the Board of Management	March 24 th 2026
Date the Statement of Strategy submitted to Tusla	13/04/2026
Signature of BOM Chairperson	<i>Sheelagh O'Leary</i>
Signature of Principal	<i>Jeraldine O'Boyle</i>
Date	24/03/2026