

Vision 2026

(September 2023 draft version)

St. Anne's N.S. strives to achieve a happy and supportive environment that celebrates our Catholic values. We aim to nurture the whole self and develop deep connections and a sense of belonging to our school, our wider community and our planet. We endeavour to continue to provide excellence in education for every child through the use of innovative methodologies and inclusive practices delivered by a passionate and caring staff. We can attain this vision through a spirit of partnership with children, parents, staff, community and parish.

Values

(ethical values that underpin our work)

Respect:	Trust:	Care:	Integrity:
upholding human dignity; promoting equality; demonstrating respect for spiritual & cultural values, diversity, social justice, freedom, democracy and the environment	all our relationships are based on trust – trust will embody fairness, openness and honesty	our practice is motivated by the best interests of our students; we show this through positive influence, professional judgement and empathy in practice	honesty, reliability and moral action are embodied in integrity; we exercise integrity through our professional commitment, our responsibilities and our actions

Cross-Cutting Strategic Themes

Achieving Excellence in Teaching and Learning	Promoting our Catholic Ethos	Developing a Green Agenda	Embedding Wellbeing
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Strategic Areas		
Strategic Area 1: Teaching and Learning	Strategic Area 2: School & Community	Strategic Area 3: The Environment
Strategic Area 1: Teaching and Learning		Lead Person
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wellbeing (SSE) • Numeracy • STEM • English • Gaeilge • Digital Literacy • Creative Arts • Pupil Leadership 		Caroline D'Arcy Mary Dawson Mary Dawson Paula Kelly & Deirdre Travers Catherina Woods Christina Aivalikli / Kevin Hackett Michelle McQuiston Deirdre Travers
Strategic Area 2: School and Community		Lead Person
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Ethos • Community 		Mairead Maguire Christina Aivalikli / Kevin Hackett
Strategic Area 3: The Environment		Lead Person
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment 		Catherina Woods

Strategic Area: Teaching and Learning Wellbeing (SSE)		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>A school-wide Wellbeing theme per month will be agreed and implemented.</p> <p>All pupils will have their own personalised "Wellbeing Journal" in which they will record their thoughts / feelings around the monthly wellbeing theme (differentiated according to each class level).</p> <p>A Wellbeing Day in Term 2 for staff and pupils will be piloted.</p>	<p>Implementation of a Wellbeing Programme throughout the school.</p> <p>Embedding the use of our "Wellbeing Journal".</p> <p>Wellbeing Day will be embedded as an annual event.</p>	<p>Develop a quiet space within the school for mindfulness/meditation and decorate it so that it is an inviting and relaxing place for classes to visit.</p>
Strategic Area: Teaching and Learning Numeracy		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>Improve problem-solving skills throughout the school by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learn and apply the different problem-solving strategies (logical reasoning; working systematically; trial and improvement; working backwards; visualise; simplify; act it out; build a model; draw a picture; find a pattern). Complete an agreed problem-solving activity per month, encompassing the strategies mentioned above. Assign Mathematics Homework nightly. 	<p>Ensure Maths Week is an opportunity to highlight maths all around us and put the problem-solving skills learnt previously into action.</p> <p>Focus on children knowing what strategy they are using when problem-solving.</p> <p>Use the resource boxes and materials in the school more often to further develop problem-solving and use the learned strategies.</p>	<p>Develop and use maths' trails based in our school and local environment.</p>

Strategic Area: Teaching and Learning STE(M)		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
Develop a termly STEM Project per class group and showcase both the processes and products at a termly school-wide STEM event.	<p>Each class level will do 1 STEM project per term and showcase their work across the school at organised events (the emphasis this year, will be improving one area of STEM from last year's STEM project e.g. in the planning, design or presenting phases.</p> <p>Science and Engineers week will be targeted as opportunities to showcase and develop STEM skills.</p>	<p>Embed the STEM work from 2023-2024 & 2024-2025.</p> <p>Science and Engineers week will be a bigger event, showcasing class skills and language development in relation to STEM and problem solving.</p> <p>A yearly child-led STEM project will be undertaken at each class level.</p> <p>5th class will enter SCIENCE BLAST.</p>
Strategic Area: Teaching and Learning English		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>Review Class Spelling Results and identify areas for improvements (1st - 6th).</p> <p>Review programmes of spellings to support pupils with SEN.</p> <p>Devise a list of commonly misspelled words at each class level – teach and assign these words for spelling.</p>	<p>Review the implementation of focused classroom teaching on spelling rules and identify further room for improvement.</p> <p>Build on progress with revised language curriculum planning to link with Gaeilge, and strengthen links with spellings in Gaeilge.</p> <p>Investigate the possibility of introducing a new spelling programme.</p>	<p>Ongoing review of spellings, writing genres.</p> <p>Review reading schemes through the school, and evaluate the use of graded readers</p>

Strategic Area: Teaching and Learning Gaeilge		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>An agreed approach at each level across the school to Gaeilge Neamhfhoirmiúl, verbs, phrases and vocabulary.</p> <p>The learning above will be recorded in new hardback books (from 1st to 6th Class).</p> <p>Irish phonic sounds to be introduced at the end of Senior Infants.</p> <p>Organise fun events for Seachtain na Gaeilge and at other times throughout the year.</p> <p>Enhance a culture within the school where Irish is spoken with greater frequency across various subjects and around the school.</p>	<p>Build on the agreed approach at each level to Gaeilge Neamhfhoirmiúl, verbs, phrases and vocabulary.</p> <p>Introduce 'Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine' and have more designated Irish speaking days across the school.</p> <p>Establish an Irish Working Group where we get representatives from each class to come together so they can help to promote Irish speaking in each class and across the school.</p> <p>Bilingual signs to be introduced around the school.</p> <p>Continue and develop fun events in Irish such as Seachtain na Gaeilge; Tráth na gceist.</p> <p>Further develop the assessment methods.</p> <p>Look at our reading schemes and review trial of 'Caint is Comhrá'</p>	<p>Continue to review and develop initiatives as set out in 2023-2024 & 2024-2025.</p> <p>Begin to use CLIL as a method of teaching Irish. P.E. and Art.</p> <p>Encourage the whole school community to continue to use their 'cúpla focail' when they can; so, to include everyone from different nationalities, the school will add the phonetic pronunciation of key words in Irish.</p> <p>Decide on the assessment methods that work best for each class level.</p> <p>Continue to review reading schemes and oral language schemes such as Bua na Cainte so that there is continuity throughout the school.</p>

Strategic Area: Teaching and Learning Digital Literacy		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>Devise a list of ICT / Digital Skills per class level to be taught and acquired by the children.</p> <p>Pre-teach Digital Literacy Skills to 4th Class prior to beginning Chromebooks. Lessons to be made available in ICT folder on Shared Drive.</p> <p>Creation of a Chromebook timetable for school for year to ensure Long Term Classroom Plans can be integrated.</p> <p>Increase IPAD Apps and gain increased feedback for Staff/Student Needs through collaboration.</p> <p>Add Apps to IPADS and create a bank of Ideas/ activities on Shared Drive for both Mainstream and Special Education use.</p>	<p>Develop ICT for 1st and 2nd Classes to reduce the focus on IPADS for games. The use of Book Creator APP / integrating with Writing Genres and Write a Book Planning.</p> <p>Increase coding exposure to all class levels through links with Microsoft Hour of Code, Team Teaching, I.T. Committee.</p> <p>Integrate STEM projects and ICT by recording STEAM Projects using IPADS for sharing on school social media and website.</p>	<p>Expand Chromebook use to 3rd Classes and incorporate Internet Safety and Digital Literacy Skills.</p> <p>Create and manage an area to display student code / projects on School Website.</p>

Strategic Area: Teaching and Learning Creative Arts		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>Music</p> <p>Agree and teach two lessons per month from the Dabbledoo Music programme per class group.</p> <p>Increase the use of instruments in Music and other subjects in classrooms.</p> <p>The entire school will learn the following three songs to be sung together as a school at special events: Walk in the light, Trasna na dtionnta & Silent Night.</p>	<p>Drama</p> <p>Complete at least one improvisation lesson per month from a bank of ideas from our shared drive.</p>	<p>Art</p> <p>Complete at least one specific lesson per term on: Clay, Print and Fabric and Fibre; and share processes and products with colleagues and other children in other classes.</p> <p>Class teachers will display the artwork on the Painters Pathway Corridor.</p>
Strategic Area: Teaching and Learning Pupil Leadership		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>Representatives from the various pupil-led committees will speak at an allocated assembly regarding updates from their particular area e.g. Student Council; Media Team & Green Schools.</p> <p>Devise a list of persuasive language to be taught at each class level. This language will be modeled and used in the classroom and in the playground.</p>	<p>'All about me' questionnaire conducted so children have their voices further listened to and acted upon.</p> <p>Debates at class level and inter-class debates (termly).</p>	<p>Inter-school debates with neighboring schools (annual).</p>

Strategic Area: School and Community Community		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>Organise community / school clean at all class levels and further liaise with Shankill Tidy Towns (S.C).</p> <p>Reach out to services to arrange information talks (Garda, Fire, Medical).</p> <p>Reach out to S.A.G.E and work on an area(s) of mutual interest and concern.</p> <p>Reach out to local organisations e.g. Centre for the Elderly; St. Josephs; Parish Centre and organise appropriate events e.g. coffee mornings; singing; making cards for special occasions.</p> <p>Develop the use of allotment patches within our school, encouraging children to grow their own flowers, fruits and vegetables (starting with a small number of classes) – link to Environment</p>	<p>Expand service talks to now include Disability Charities; Irish Therapy Reading Dogs application and visit from Guide Dogs Association.</p> <p>Expand outreach activities into the community by reaching out to other local organisations and charities.</p> <p>Expand allotment areas and involve more classes – link to Environment.</p>	<p>Liaise with Student Council and local services in the funding and further development of a sensory / reflection garden.</p> <p>Include all classes in the school allotment programme – link to Environment. Make connections to the Shankill Community Allotment Scheme.</p>

Strategic Area: School and Community Catholic Ethos		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>Re-establish a standing working group to monitor and develop the actions within this strategic plan relating to Catholic Ethos.</p> <p>Children in both 6th class to undertake an eco-spiritual project (as part of their preparation for Confirmation).</p> <p>Organise an annual Inter-faith Christmas carol service with the three schools in the local community.</p> <p>Devise a list of both formal and personal prayer at each class level.</p> <p>Prayer in assembly lead by individual classes e.g. lighting the school's candle and saying the prayer the children have written.</p>	<p>Meditation: the school will engage in 5-10 minutes of meditation at a specified time every week, as part of the children's spiritual development (in conjunction with the 'Grow in Love' programme).</p> <p>Children in both 5th and 6th classes to undertake eco-spiritual projects (as part of their preparation for Confirmation).</p> <p>Each child / class will create a prayer for Grandparents as part of Catholic Schools Week.</p>	<p>Serving others in our community: in each term of the school year, classes will serve others in our community by participating in activities e.g. singing at the day-care Christmas party, etc.</p> <p>Kindness Day during Catholic Schools Week where each class does something kind for another class.</p>

Strategic Area: The Environment Environment		
2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026
<p>Embed the work undertaken, by the Green School Working Group, on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter & Waste; • Energy; • Water Conservation. <p>(linking with various curriculum subjects)</p> <p>Introduce a biodiversity target centered around growing (link to Community)</p> <p>Introduce a Global Citizenship target (Year 1/2) centered around plastic and/or fair trade</p> <p>Children in both 6th class to undertake an eco-spiritual project (as part of their preparation for Confirmation).</p> <p>Clear and de-clutter the corridors, where relevant.</p> <p>Examine ways to develop Caitriona's Corner for a quiet area.</p> <p>Weed and cut back the area to the front of the school outside the front windows.</p> <p>Look at ways to establish a Sensory Garden outside the staffroom.</p>	<p>Embed the work undertaken, by the Green School Working Group, on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter & Waste; • Energy; • Water Conservation; • Biodiversity. <p>(linking with various curriculum subjects)</p> <p>Introduce a Global Citizenship target (Year 2/2)</p> <p>Children in both 5th and 6th classes to undertake eco-spiritual projects (as part of their preparation for Confirmation).</p> <p>Clear out storage areas, for more effective use.</p> <p>Examine ways to open the pond safely.</p> <p>Look at the prefabs and see how we can develop them.</p> <p>Develop Caitriona's Corner and the Sensory Garden.</p>	<p>Embed the work undertaken, by the Green School Working Group, on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Litter & Waste; • Energy; • Water Conservation; • Biodiversity; • Global Citizenship. <p>(linking with various curriculum subjects)</p> <p>Divide out the allotments between classes and ensure each class has a plan on how they are going to use their space.</p> <p>Develop the front of the school so it looks more attractive. Lots of weeding, planting and tidying up needs to be done.</p>

