



Cairde is the school's Parent's Association that aims to enhance and enrich your child's and the school's community experience by organising fun activities and fundraising for school projects and resources. A Parent Association works with the principal, staff and the board of management to build effective partnerships between home and school. In Gaelscoil Chnoc na Ré, Cairde generally performs the following functions:

1. Advises the Principal and Board of Management on policy reviews e.g. enrolment, safety, homework, uniform, bullying, behaviour, etc.
2. Fundraise with approval of the Board of Management
3. Organise social activities for parents and families

All parents are automatically members of Cairde, and therefore are invited to attend each of the meetings. There is no obligation to attend all meetings, intermittent attendance is better than none! Meetings are held two to three times a term in the evening and last no longer than one hour.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 lockdowns, the work of Cairde came to a virtual standstill, and there is now a need to reinvigorate the association. We are hoping to engage a new group of parents, who previously may not have been involved in Cairde.

We appreciate that life is busy, but also hope that you recognise that the collaboration of parents with the school, can only have a positive outcome which can enhance the experience of children, teachers and families. Educational research on the involvement of parents in schools shows that children achieve higher levels when parents and teachers work together<sup>i</sup>.

Participation in Cairde will give you the opportunity to roll out new and exciting extra curricula activities and fund-raisers for the school. Examples of activities organised in the past include:

- **Fundraising:** School cookbook, tea-towel with student pictures, Boston Tea party, Halloween disco, raffles, etc.
- **Examples of initiatives funded by Cairde Fund-raising:** library books, sports equipment, computers, tablets and chromebooks, 6<sup>th</sup> class transition to Secondary school seminars, etc.
- **Hospitality:** Hosting tea/coffees at open days and after Christmas show; hosting communion class in Gilhooly Hall after ceremony.
- **Fun:** Walks in Glencar, Benbulbin, Strandhill, etc.

**Ní neart go cur le chéile!**

Cairde enables you to work together with other parents and play an active and positive role in developing and nurturing the overall school community. Do play your part and together our school community can thrive!

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<sup>i</sup> [Role of a Parents' Association | National Parents Council \(npc.ie\)](https://www.npc.ie/)



Is é Cairde Cumann na dTuismitheoirí na scoile a bhfuil sé mar aidhm aige eispéireas do linbh agus pobail na scoile a fheabhsú agus a shaibhriú trí ghníomhaíochtaí spraiúla a eagrú agus airgead a thiomsú do thionscadail agus acmhainní na scoile. Oibríonn Cumann Tuismitheoirí leis an bPríomhoide, leis an bhfoireann agus leis an mbord bainistíochta chun comhpháirtíocht éifeachtach a thógáil idir an baile agus an scoil. I nGaelscoil Chnoc na Ré, comhlíonann Cairde na feidhmeanna seo a leanas de ghnáth:

1. Comhairle a chur ar an bPríomhoide agus ar an mBord Bainistíochta maidir le hathbhreithnithe polasaí e.g. rollú, sábháilteacht, obair bhaile, éide scoile, bulaíocht, iompar, srl.
2. Airgead a thiomsú le ceadú an Bhoird Bainistíochta
3. Gníomhaíochtaí sóisialta a eagrú do thuismitheoirí agus teaghlaigh

Tá na tuismitheoirí go léir ina mbaill de Chairde go huathoibríoch, agus mar sin tugtar cuireadh dóibh freastal ar gach cruinniú. Níl aon dualgas freastal ar na cruinnithe go léir, is fearr tinreamh eatramhach ná ceann ar bith! Tionóltar cruinnithe dhá nó trí huaire sa téarma tráthnóna agus ní mhaireann siad níos faide ná uair an chloig.

Ar an drochuair, mar gheall ar Covid-19, tháinig stad fíorúil ar obair Cairde, agus tá gá anois leis an gcumann a athbheochan. Táimid ag súil le grúpa nua tuismitheoirí a earcú, ach go háirithe iad siúd nach raibh baint acu le Cairde roimhe seo.

Tuigimid go bhfuil an saol gnóthach, ach tá súil againn freisin go n-aithníonn tú nach féidir ach toradh dearfach a bheith ag comhoibriú na dtuismitheoirí leis an scoil a chuireann le taithí na bpáistí, na múinteoirí agus na dteaghlach. Léiríonn taighde oideachais ar rannpháirtíocht tuismitheoirí i scoileanna go mbaineann leanaí leibhéil níos airde amach nuair a oibríonn tuismitheoirí agus múinteoirí le chéile.

Tabharfaidh rannpháirtíocht Cairde deis duit gníomhaíochtaí seach-churaclaim nua agus spreagúla agus tiomsaithe airgid a chur ar fáil don scoil. I measc samplaí de ghníomhaíochtaí a eagraíodh san am a chuaigh thart tá:

- Tiomsú Airgid: Leabhar cócaireachta scoile, tuáille tae le pictiúir na bpáistí, Cóisir Boston, dioscó Oíche Shamhna, raifil, etc.
- Samplaí de thionscnaimh atá maoinithe ag Cairde airgid a thiomsú: leabhair leabharlaine, trealamh spóirt, ríomhairí, táibléad agus crómleabhair, seimineáir rang a 6 ar aistriú don Mheánscoil, srl.
- Fáilteachas: Tae/caife a óstáil ag laethanta oscailte agus tar éis seó na Nollag; rang comaoineach a óstáil i Halla Gilhooly tar éis an tsearmanais.
- Spraoi: Siúlóidí i Glencar, Benbulbin, An Leathros, srl.

**Ní neart go cur le chéile!**

Cuireann Cairde ar do chumas oibriú le chéile le tuismitheoirí eile agus ról gníomhach agus dearfach a ghlacadh i bhforbairt agus i gcothú phobal na scoile i gcoitinne. Déan do pháirt agus beidh rath ar ár bpobal scoile le chéile!