



# LEIXLIP

Educate Together National School

## Frequently Asked Questions – Leixlip ETNS

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### Where is Leixlip ETNS located?

Leixlip ETNS is based on the campus of Coláiste Chiaráin Community School:

**Celbridge Road, Leixlip, Co. Kildare, W23 YN2C**

Please enter via the **Coláiste Chiaráin pedestrian gate** on the left-hand side.

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### Who are the staff for 2024/2025?

#### School Leadership

- **Mary McDowell** – Principal
- **Noreen Cronin** – Deputy Principal & SENCO

#### Class Teachers

- **Junior Infants** – Niamh Haughton
- **Senior Infants** – Caitríona O'Connor
- **1st Class** – Jean Donnelly
- **2nd Class** – Pooja Puri
- **3rd Class** – Sinéad Smyth
- **4th Class** – Barry Egan
- **5th Class** – Kate O'Connor

#### Additional Educational Support

- **Special Education Teachers** – Noreen Cronin, Olive Clancy, Anna Doran

- **EAL Teacher** – Jenny Connolly
- **Part-time EAL/SET** – Éilish Egan

### **Additional Needs Assistants**

Gráinne Moore, Noreen MacInerney, Julie Herron, Karen O’Flaherty, Sarah Brennan, Renu Kushwaha

### **School Administrator**

Lisa Freeman

At Leixlip ETNS, in line with all Educate Together schools, we use first names with all staff, children and parents.

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## **School Times**

- **Infants (Junior & Senior):** 8:30 am – 1:20 pm
- **1st – 5th Class:** 8:30 am – 2:20 pm

The school gate closes at **8:50 am**. Pupils arriving after this time will be marked late.

At home time, teachers will escort children to the yard for collection. Children in **3rd–5th Class** may walk home unaccompanied, unless you inform the school otherwise.

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## **Is there parking at the school?**

No parking is available on the grounds of Leixlip ETNS or Coláiste Chiaráin. Parents are not permitted to drive onto either campus. Please park legally and respectfully in surrounding areas and avoid blocking driveways or double parking.

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## **What does my child need for the first day of school?**

- **Infants:** A small school bag for lunch and drinks.
- **Older classes:** A larger school bag to carry lunch and homework materials.

All **books, copybooks and stationery** are provided under the Department of Education’s free schoolbooks scheme.

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## What will my child learn?

Leixlip ETNS follows the **National Primary School Curriculum**.

We also teach the **Learn Together** ethical education programme, in place of religious instruction.

Learn more about the curriculum [here](#) and about Educate Together's ethical programme [here](#).

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## Lunch Guidelines

- **Morning break:** 10:15 am – light snack and 15 mins play
- **Lunch break:** 12:10 pm – lunch followed by 25 mins play

We follow a **Healthy Lunch Policy**. Please do **not** send:

- ✗ Crisps, popcorn, sweets, chocolate, chewing gum, fizzy or sugary drinks
- ✗ **Nuts or nut products**, including chocolate spreads (due to severe allergies)

✓ Suggested items: sandwiches, wraps, pasta, fruit, crackers, reusable water bottles

Please notify us of any **food allergies, intolerances, or dietary needs**.

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## What is the Plastic-Free Lunch Policy?

Aligned with our ethical focus on the environment, we encourage:

- Reusable containers and bottles
- Avoiding single-use plastics and processed, individually wrapped items

This promotes sustainability and healthy eating habits.

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## Is there a school uniform?

No. Pupils should wear comfortable clothing suitable for active learning.

- PE is held **twice a week** – wear tracksuits and runners
  - Infants should wear clothes they can manage easily in case of accidents
  - **Long hair** (all children) should be tied back to reduce the spread of head lice
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## Can my child wear jewellery?

For safety reasons, only the following are permitted:

- Small stud earrings
  - Watches (no smart watches or devices with cameras)
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## Are phones or devices allowed?

No electronic devices are allowed during the school day.

If your child requires a phone for travel safety, please contact the office.

Leixlip ETNS supports the **Voluntary Smartphone Agreement** for primary schools in Leixlip.

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## Can children bring toys or cards to school?

No. These items can cause upset if lost or damaged and are not permitted.

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## How can I contact the school with a concern?

- Use the **Aladdin app** to message your child's teacher
- For confidential matters, email **Mary** at [principal@leixlipetns.ie](mailto:principal@leixlipetns.ie)

**Please do not approach teachers at the door or yard at drop-off/collection.**

To speak to a teacher, request a meeting via Aladdin or through the office.

In emergencies, contact Lisa or Debbie in the office.

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## Can I give a message to the ANAs?

No – our ANAs are busy supporting children and cannot reliably pass on messages. Please use Aladdin or email the school.

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## What should I do if my child is sick?

- Keep your child at home and monitor symptoms

- If your child has a **temperature, cough, vomiting or diarrhoea**, keep them home for **48 hours** after symptoms end
- Inform the school of illnesses such as **head lice, chickenpox**, etc. in confidence
- Record all absences via the **Aladdin app**

*Note: The school must report absences over 20 days to Tusla.*

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## **Further Questions?**

Please contact:

- **Mary McDowell** (Principal) – [principal@leixlipetns.ie](mailto:principal@leixlipetns.ie)
  - **Lisa Freeman** (Administrator) – [admin@leixlipetns.ie](mailto:admin@leixlipetns.ie)
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