

Attendance Strategy 2025/2026



School Details:

Scoil Bhríde Primary School
Killane,
Edenderry
Offaly

Roll No: 20267F

DEIS Band 2 Urban

Vision:

Scoil Bhríde's vision is to promote the full and harmonious development of all pupils—cognitive, intellectual, physical, cultural, moral, and spiritual. As a DEIS school, we are committed to providing an inclusive, supportive, and equitable learning environment that meets the needs of all learners.

We aim to promote positive school experiences with high levels of attendance, ensuring that every child feels safe, valued, and capable of success. Our vision is that all pupils experience achievement and growth through consistent engagement in learning.

Scoil Bhríde works in partnership with parents, guardians, and the wider community to foster positive attitudes toward regular school attendance and lifelong learning, recognising the vital role that families play in supporting children's education.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The following monitoring measurement as per our DEIS plan will be implemented:

- Teachers will use MD-MTSS framework to monitor attendance.
- Parents/guardians will be contacted after 3 days of unexplained consecutive absences.
- A standard letter school letter will be sent to all parents/guardians once a child has missed 10 days of school. (monitored 6-8 weeks)
- Teachers will discuss attendance including early leaving and late arrivals with parents/guardians at Parent/Teacher Meetings.
- Students who miss 20 days or more will be reported to Tusla and parents informed via letter.
- Students with significant school absenteeism will be referred to the Education Welfare Service.

Target Setting (as per DEIS Plan)

To increase the percentage of students in Tier 1 of the MDMTSS Model (<10% absentee rate) from its current baseline of 28.3% to 35% by the end of 2028

2. Reduce the number of students in Tier 3 of the MDMTSS Model (>20% absentee rate) from its current baseline of 34.2% to 30% by implementing bespoke support measures and working with external agencies.

Three Tier Approach to Attendance		
Tier 1: Satisfactory/Regular Attendance Attending: 95% or more of the time	Tier 2: At-Risk for Chronic Absenteeism Attending: less than 95% but 90% or more of the time	Tier 3: Chronic Absenteeism Attending: less than 90% of the time
Long term Goal: At least 80% of students Short Term goal: 35% of students	Long term Goal: No more than 15% of students Short Term Goal: No more than 30% of students	Long Term Goal: No more than 5% of students Short Term Goal: No more than 25% of students
2024/2025 Statistics: 28.3%	2024/2025 Statistics: 37.5%	2024/2025 Statistics: 34.2%
Actions For all	Actions for some	Actions for a few
• Positive morning greetings coming into school/class • All classes will avail of a “Soft Start”, this maybe – sunshine start, morning meetings, play, movement breaks, low demand activity, subject of preference, meditation/mindfulness. • Student first approach – meeting basic needs of children before expectation of academic work. (Maslow before Bloom) • Building positive student/teacher relationships through meaningful connection and engagement.	• Classes with identified attendance issues will receive support of Sunshine Start. • Attendance letter sent once a student has missed 10 days (monitored every 6/8 weeks). • Attendance letter sent once a student has missed more than 20 days with information regarding notification to Tusla. • Students missing 20 days included in Tusla Attendance Report. • HSCL to work with students whose absences are in relation to school refusal.	• Attendance Letter to include individual pie chart visual to be sent when a student has missed 30 days. • Make attendance referral Educational Welfare Officer James Maher once significant cases of absenteeism is identified (40+ days) • Notify parents/guardians of referral and organise attendance clinics. • HSCL to engage in Home Visits to encourage and support school attendance.

• Begin each day with a positive greeting at the door – classroom/school door. • Breakfast club available to all students from 8.30am to 8.45am. • Homework Club available to students from 2nd to 6th class. • Yearly attendance initiative to be implemented for all class levels. • Positive comments on attendance “I’m glad your back as opposed to “Where were you?”. • Attendance awards for best/most improved attendance for individual/class level. • Promoting our “Be a Hero” Motto ➤ Here ➤ Everyday ➤ Ready ➤ On time. Parental Engagement: • Parents/Guardians to be notified by class teacher if a student misses 3 consecutive absences • Attendance to be discussed in at Parent/Teacher Meetings and information regarding days missed to be presented in % format. • Attendance to be included in school reports.	• Bespoke measures implemented including Sunshine group/start • HSCL to liaise with SCP to support students with attendance issues on a brief/intake capacity.	• In cases of persistent and significant cases of school refusal, the school will consider referrals to Tusla on a case by case basis.
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Additional measures: • National Attendance Campaign information to be shared with parents/guardians. • Information on Attendance to be included in all newsletters.		
<u>School roles in relation to attendance:</u> Monitoring attendance is a collaborative effort guided by the Board of Management and ISMT (In-School Management Team) to promote regular student engagement. Class teachers track daily attendance, identify patterns of absenteeism, and follow up with students and families. The Home-School-Community Liaison (HSCL) coordinator works closely with parents to address barriers to attendance, giving guidance and support to students facing personal or social challenges. Post Holder/Principal to monitor attendance over 10 days and issue necessary letters and report any students who accrue 20 days absence or more to TUSLA. Students with significant attendance issues will be referred to the EWO. Through this coordinated approach, the ISMT ensures targeted interventions are implemented to improve overall attendance and foster a positive school experience.		
<u>Review process and date for review:</u> As part of our annual review of our DEIS plan, the targets and actions set out will be reviewed annually. Based on this review, targets and actions will be amended as necessary.		
Date the Statement of Strategy was approved by the Board of Management: Signed: <u>Níchola Hogan</u> Date: 05 November 2025 Chairperson BOM		

