

*Tralee Educate Together  
National School*

# UPDATE PACK September 2011



Produced by  
Board of Management September 2011

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## *Acknowledgement*

*The Board of Management compiled an Information Booklet in September 2010 which was forwarded to all parents. This information booklet will be given to all new parents each September and contains information on all aspects of the school. For other parents, an "Update Pack" will be circulated each September as a follow-up to the Information Pack. If you wish to receive a copy of the full Information Booklet, please contact the school. We hope that it will be a valuable source of information for you.*

*We would like to thank the Staff, Parents, Children and Board Members for their contributions to this document.....those made directly to Board members, or indirectly through suggestions and comments received in conjunction with the General School Survey carried out in June 2010 and Ethos Evaluation in May 2011. . Míle Buíochas.*

*Board of Management  
6<sup>th</sup> September 2011*

## LAUNCH OF INFORMATION BOOKLET SEPTEMBER 2010:



**Attention please.....**  
**IMPORTANT SNIPPETS OF INFORMATION:**

**School Times:** School starts at 8.45 am, and finishes at 1.25 pm for Junior and Senior Infants, and at 2.25 pm for first to sixth class. Junior Infants finish at 12 noon for the first two weeks to allow them to settle in.

**Dropping off Children:** 8.30 a.m. to 8.45 a.m. Staff would appreciate that once class begins at 8.45 a.m. that parents do not enter the classroom, to minimise the disruption to the class.

**Removing children from School:** If collecting a child early from school, parents must first call to the office and sign the "Sign-Out" book. The Secretary will then get the child from the classroom.

**Children Safety:** In the interests of child safety, parents are asked to park in the lower car park and not to park on, or drive up, the narrow roadway leading up to the school. The road and parking area across from the school is reserved for buses and staff cars only. The safety of the children is of paramount importance, and we appreciate your co-operation in this regard.

**Code of Behaviour, including Anti-Bullying Policy:** All parents should have a copy of this document. It outlines school policy with regard to behaviour, discipline, and anti-bullying. If you would like a copy, please contact the office.

**After-School Club:** This operates after school hours – to 2.30 p.m. for junior and senior infants, and to 3.30 p.m. for 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class. Children can do homework and other activities. Limited places are available and updates are given through school newsletter.

**Bus Transport:** Bus Eireann operates the School Transport Scheme on behalf of the Department. In order to qualify, children must live 2.3 km from the school. It caters for children who finish school at 2.25 p.m. Please contact Bus Eireann at 066 7123566 or the school for further information.

**Rural Transport Grant:** This is a grant payable by the Department of Education and Skills to parent who live a certain distance from the school, and whose children are not on a bus route to the school. Parents must request the school to complete a Statement of Attendance at the end of the school year and submit this to the Department. For further information contact the Department of Education and Skills, Tullamore, Offaly at **(057) 9324300**.

**School Records:** The school issues Parent/Guardian forms at the beginning of each school year to be completed and returned to the school. This is done to keep school records up-to-date and to record any changes, such as change of address, telephone numbers etc. All records are kept in accordance with legal requirements regarding same.

**Use of photographs/images:** The school recognises that use of images and photographs of children is a sensitive area and we respect the wishes of the parents/guardians in this regard. If you **do not wish** your child to be included in photographs/images which may be included in local papers, or on the school or Educate Together website, please contact the school. If you require further information with regard to the school's policy on this, please contact the office.

**Books:** The school operates a Book Rental Scheme in order to keep the costs down to parents. Some books are rented for the year, and returned to the school at the end of the school year. The school charges a fee to buy the stock of books necessary to operate the scheme. A fee is also charged for art materials and for photocopying of material used by the children.

**Absences:** Must be reported to the classroom teacher in writing when the child returns to school.

**LETTERS:** **PLEASE LOOK OUT FOR LETTERS IN SCHOOLBAGS** regarding points of interest and notice of events – **CHECK SCHOOLBAGS EVERY DAY.** You may also have the option of receiving letters by email – just contact the office to arrange this. Letters will usually be issued to the eldest child of a family attending. We will try to give at least 7 days notice of any meetings or upcoming events. The School and Board of Management issue a white letter, and the Parents Association issue an orange letter. Following every Board of Management meeting a Report is issued, which may give dates for upcoming events also. Where possible, text messages are sent to parents regarding upcoming events and reminders. ***Please ensure if you change your telephone number that you contact the school.*** A School Calendar is issued early each year with notice of closures & half-days. Classroom Teacher Information letters are issued early each year outlining information re your child's day, time allocated to subjects and points of interest.

**NOTICEBOARD:** Please check the noticeboards for items of interest. There are two noticeboards in place – one for the school, one for the Student Council.

**SCHOOL MEETINGS:** The school holds regular general school meetings each year to which all parents and staff are invited. The Parents Association holds one Open Meeting per term all parents are welcome to attend. Regular staff meetings are also held.

**MEDIA:** The school website is [www.tralee-educate-together.com](http://www.tralee-educate-together.com). which includes a school calendar that is updated regularly. Educate Together has its own website at [www.educatetogether.ie](http://www.educatetogether.ie). From time to time, we arrange for articles and photographs to appear in local papers – Kerry's Eye, Kerryman (usually Tralee edition), Tralee Outlook and Tralee Advertiser, and on the Facebook page of the Educate Together website – so look out for those. Kerry Radio has also advertised and covered events at the school.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** We are attaching photographs of the Staff, Board of Management members, Committee Members of Parents Association, Student Council and Building Committee members. ... so that you can put a name with the face!

**SCHOOL POLICIES:** These are available at the school. Policies are reviewed on an ongoing basis. These include Code of Behaviour, Child Protection Policy, Special Education Policy, Homework Policy, Health and Safety Statement.

**HEALTHY EATING POLICY:** We have a Healthy Eating Policy at our school, a copy of which is available in the office. We encourage the children to eat healthy lunches. No fizzy drinks, chocolates, sweets etc. On special occasions sweets are allowed – such as at events organised by the school.



## **THE PATRON and CURRICULUM OF TRALEE EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL.**

**PATRON:** The Patron of our school is “Educate Together”. Our patronage makes us different from other local schools that are under the patronage of the Bishop of the religion concerned. Under the Education Act, the Board of Management must undertake to run the school according to the ethos determined by the Patron. We are one of 60 Educate Together schools, educating 12,000 children in the country. Educate Together is a company limited by guarantee. It is governed by a Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer is Paul Rowe. The first Educate Together school was set up in 1978 – Dalkey School Project.

**NATIONAL CURRICULUM:** The school follows the national curriculum laid down by the Department of Education and Skills, similar to all primary schools in Ireland.

**LEARN TOGETHER PROGRAMME:** In every national school a daily period of time is set aside for the Patron’s religious education programme. In Educate Together schools this time is used to deliver our Ethical Education Curriculum. Therefore 2.5 hours each week is set-aside in our school for the delivery of the “**LEARN TOGETHER**” programme, which was formulated in 2004 by Educate Together.

The programme is divided into four strands – **Moral and Spiritual Development, Equality and Justice, Belief Systems, and Ethics and the Environment**. Information on the Learn Together programme is available on the Educate Together website, or contact the school if you would like a copy. Educate Together also provides online summer courses on the Learn Together programme for staff, Board members and parents.

As partners in the education process, parents will be invited to formally endorse the programme. Each strand lends itself to the involvement of parents and guardians and the individual teacher will decide the best way of making this involvement a positive experience for all concerned. Please contact the school or your classroom teacher if there is major religious or cultural event taking place in relation to your own belief system. All religions and none are equally respected at our school

**USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES FOR RELIGION CLASSES:** In addition to offering the Ethical Education programme, Boards of Management of Educate together schools endeavour to facilitate any group of parents who wish to use the facilities of the school outside school hours to organise specific doctrinal instruction classes. One such religious group are currently using the premises in this regard (Catholic Education Classes). *If any other religious group is interested in using the premises, please contact the school or any member of the Board.*



## **ETHOS OF TRALEE EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL**

**All Educate Together schools have a unique ethos, based on the following four principles....**

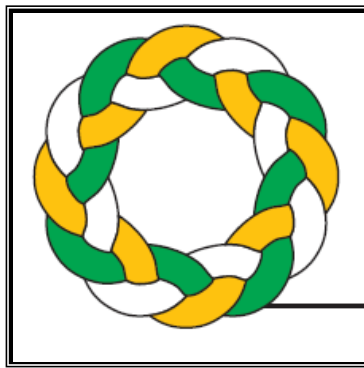
- ❑ **MULTI-DENOMINATIONAL**, i.e. all children having equal rights of access to the school, and children of all social, cultural and religious backgrounds being equally respected.
- ❑ **DEMOCRATICALLY-RUN** with active participation by parents in the daily life of the school, whilst positively affirming the professional role of the teachers.
- ❑ **CO-EDUCATIONAL** and committed to encouraging all children to explore their full range of abilities and opportunities.
- ❑ **CHILD-CENTRED** in their approach to education.

**EDUCATE TOGETHER STAFF AND CONTACTS** : Deirdre O'Donoghue, Head of Leadership and Governance Development, Louise Daly,, School Support Officer, Fionnuala Ward, Primary Teacher Education, Molly O'Duffy, Ethos Development Officer, and Niall Wall, Regional Development Officer, are our main contacts in Educate Together. There are two Patron nominees on the Board of Management – Francisse Walshe, Chairperson, and Maryanne Keane. They were appointed by Educate Together to represent them on the Board. . Educate Together provides support and training for the Board in relation to the role of Boards of Managements. Board members attend Educate Together's General Member's meetings, and its Annual General meeting, where members can propose and vote on Motions and can thereby have an input into Educate Together's national policy.

**DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE:** A copy of the documents **"What is an Educate Together School"** and **"Primary School in Ireland"** (which outlines how the Irish Primary school operates) were forwarded to all parents in conjunction with Ethos Week in October 2009. They are forwarded to new parents each year also. If you require a further copy of either document, please contact the office at 066 7180506, and we will arrange this for you. Both documents are also available on the Educate Together website ([www.educatetogether.ie](http://www.educatetogether.ie)) – in English and in other languages.

# Did you know

*Our School Logo was designed in 2003 by Jackie Foran, who is a parent at our school. It shows three strands intertwined – representing the staff, parents, and children coming together to work as one for the benefit of the school community.*



*The Student Council Logo was designed in May 2011 by Siobhan Foran, member of the Student Council:*



## **STAFF OF TRALEE EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL**

Tralee Educate Together has a current staff compliment of 6. Staffing levels in all schools are dependent on a number of factors, the main ones being the number of children enrolled in the school as at 30<sup>th</sup> September of the previous year, and the conditions/budgets set by the Department of Education and Skills.

**Denis Reidy is Principal, and Catherine Barry is Deputy-Principal at our school.**

**The current staffing structure is as follows:**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Name of Teacher(s)</b>
<b>Junior and Senior Infants Class</b>	<b>Deirdre Clifford</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Class</b>	<b>Fiona Foran/</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Class</b>	<b>Jean Ronayne</b>
<b>5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Class</b>	<b>Denis Reidy (Principal)</b>
<b>Special Needs Assistants:</b>	<b>Gillian Cronin, Deanah McCormick</b>
<b>Support Teachers:</b>	<b>Catherine Barry (Resource Teacher)</b>
	<b>Gail Groves (Learning Support)</b>
<b>Home School Community Liaison Teacher</b>	<b>Oonagh O’Rahilly</b>
<b>School Secretary</b>	<b>Brenda</b>
<b>After-School Club</b>	<b>Carmel Quill</b>

Fiona Foran is currently on Maternity Leave.

**In our school, staff are addressed by their first names, in keeping with the ethos of Educate Together schools.** The Principal and staff work extremely hard each year to give the children the best possible education, and to uphold the unique ethos of Educate Together schools.

**COMMUNICATION:** Staff meetings are held regularly. The school may close early on those days to facilitate the meetings. Parent-teacher meetings are held once a year where parents have individual meetings with the classroom teacher to discuss their child's progress. In addition, the classroom teachers issue Information Letters at the beginning of the school year outlining points of interest - including timetable of subjects taught, homework, and other factors which will help your child's experience at school. School reports are issued at the end of the school year. Look out for letters with permission slips in schoolbags in relation to school trips, school tours etc.

**PROJECTS:** Several projects are undertaken in the classrooms each year, such as ITT Sports for Success, Discovery Primary Science, Book Fair, along with projects relating to the Ethical Education Curriculum. The staff work particularly hard preparing for the biggest event of the year for the enjoyment of the entire school community .....the Multi-Faith and Culture Day concert.

**CONTACT:** If you have an area of concern regarding your child, please make an appointment through the office at 066 7180506 to meet with the classroom teacher, who will be glad to meet with you.

**STAFF OF  
TRALEE EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL  
SEPTEMBER 2010**

Insert Photo

As at September 2011

# **BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF TRALEE EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL.**

Our current Board was set up in December 2009 and will be in place until November 2011, when all Boards change nationally. The usual term of Boards is four years.

**INTRODUCTION TO BOARD MEMBERS:** The Board comprises 8 people as follows:

- ◆ Two people nominated by Educate Together to be their Patron Representatives – Francisse and Maryanne. Francisse is Chairperson and Maryanne is Minutes Secretary to the Board. Both of these parents also helped set up and served on the Parents Association Committee from its set-up in 2007. Maryanne is with the school since it opened in 2002, and Francisse joined the school in 2003.
- ◆ Denis Reidy, Principal – Denis joined the school in 2006 and was appointed Principal in January 2010. Denis is also Secretary to the Board.
- ◆ Two Parents Representatives - parents elected by the school community - Gillian Molloy and Gerard O'Carroll. Gillian is Treasurer to the Board. She joined the school in 2007, and also served on the Parents Association. Gerard is with the school since 2006. The Parents Representatives on the Board also serve as Committee Members on the Parents Association and liaise between both groups.
- ◆ Teachers Representative elected by staff – Catherine Barry was elected as Teacher Representative to the Board in May 2010. Catherine has been with the school since 2002, is Deputy Principal, and served on a previous Board.
- ◆ Two Community Reps. Melanie O'Sullivan, Sales and Marketing Manager with Radio Kerry. Muiris O'Laoire, Senior Lecturer with the Institute of Technology in Tralee served as Community Rep up to June 2011 when he resigned from the Board to take up work abroad. Community Reps are from the wider Tralee community and contribute their unique perspective and skills to the board.

**ROLE OF THE BOARD:** The role of the Board is to manage the school. It acts as employer of all staff at the school. The Board deals with matters such as education and welfare of pupils; support of ethos; school finances; school building; school policies; school plan; school events; enrolment; staffing issues and appointments; complaints from school community, correspondence from school community; communication with Educate Together and the Department; organises media coverage and PR for school; legislation governing schools and staff; interaction with outside agencies; attends Training Courses, General Members meetings and Educate Together Annual General meeting. Through the AGM, the Board can propose and vote on Motions proposed, and therefore has an input in the working of Educate Together on a national basis.

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE BOARD:** The Board meets on a monthly basis. A Board of Management Report is circulated to the parents and staff following each meeting, with notification of date of next meeting. This report is put into schoolbags and circulated to staff following each meeting.

Please refer to **"Who to contact"** page of this booklet for further information.

The Board of Management are a dedicated group of volunteers who work with staff, pupils and families to make the school experience happy, inclusive and productive for the school community, and one where the Educate Together ethos is a real experience for all involved. We welcome the views and opinions of the school community in our efforts and thank everyone for their help in achieving this.

**Board Members: Francisse Walshe, Chairperson & Patron Representative (087 2366796); Denis Reidy, Principal (066 7180506); Maryanne Keane, Patron Representative (087 2352652); Gillian Molloy, Parent Representative (086 6040661); Gerard O'Carroll, Parent Representative (086 3916600); Catherine Barry, Teachers Representative (066 7180506); Melanie O'Sullivan, Community Representative (066 7180506)**

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEMBERS  
OF  
TRALEE EDUCATE TOGETHER NATIONAL SCHOOL 2009 – 2011



Left to Right:

- Gerard O'Carroll (Parents Representative)
- Muiris O'Laoire (Community Representative to June 2011)
- Maryanne Keane (Patron Representative)
- Denis Reidy (Principal)
- Francisse Walshe (Chairperson)
- Catherine Barry (Teachers Representative)
- Gillian Molloy (Parents Representative)
- Melanie O'Sullivan (Community Representative)

# **The Parents Association of Tralee Educate Together National School.**

**Members of the Parents Association:** Membership of the Parent Association is open to all parents/legal guardians of children attending Tralee Educate Together National School.

**The Constitution of the Parent Association** provides the ground rules by which the Parent Association operates and was adopted in January 2008 following consultation with parent body.. It outlines in particular the aims and objectives of the Parent Association, and the roles of the Committee Members and Officers. If you would like a copy of the Constitution, it is available through the school, or by contacting Teresa at (0876272501).

**Committee Meetings** are usually held once-a-month for the members of the Committee. **Open Meetings** are being held once per term – all parents are invited to attend Open Meetings. The Parents Association is affiliated to the National Parents Council and members have attended training with them.

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE PARENTS ASSOCIATION:** Look out for orange letters in the schoolbags issued by the Parents Association. From time to time, we also have posters/notices on the notice board at the school. We meet with the school in relation to planning of events and any areas of concern raised at meetings.

**WHAT DO WE DO:** Please see overleaf for the Objectives of the Parents Association. The Committee of the Parents Association was **active** in various areas of school life in recent years, such as:

- Holding regular meetings with all parents and the Principal;
- Helping to represent views of parents to the school – especially in relation to school policies. We do not deal with individual complaints – those are to be directed to classroom teacher/Principal.
- The Parents Representatives on the Committee are also on the Board of Management and provide information between the two groups.
- Issuing letters to all parents regarding points of interest/upcoming activities/help required
- Fund-raising for school and Parents Association – bag-packing, raffles, sale of Christmas cards
- Working on the appearance of the school – painting, cleaning, flowerbeds and fencing etc.,
- Working with the school to pursue all options available for temporary/ permanent premises, and through membership of Building Committee
- Helping to organise events at school, such as Ethos Week; Winter Celebration; Healthy Eating Week; Student Council elections; St. Patrick's Day Parade; Easter Raffle; Mad Hatters Day/Ice-cream Day, Transition Talks for parents, Open Day. PA members meet with the school at the beginning of each term to plan events for the term.
- Helping with Multi-Faith and Culture Day activities in May, and working with parents to produce DVD and CD of concert for sale.
- Funding and organising School Community Barbecue and Disco
- Helping to raise the profile of the school by organising photographs and articles to appear in local papers.
- Helping to support the ethos of the school for the benefit of the pupils, parents and staff.

**Who to contact:** If you wish to volunteer your help at any of the events, or would like to discuss the working of the Parents Association, please feel free to contact any member of the Parents Association. Helping hands in particular are very welcome!

**The National Parents Council** provides information and training for parents and Parents Associations, as well as being a source of valuable information for parents. See their website at [www.npc.ie](http://www.npc.ie).

**Parents Association Committee Members:** John Walker, Chairperson (089 410533); Teresa Leonard, Secretary (0876272501); Barry Fitzgerald (Vice Chairperson); Jackie Foran, Minutes Secretary, Stephen Byrne, Treasurer; Gillian Molloy, Parents Rep. (086 6040661); Gerard O'Carroll, Parents Representative (086 3916600); Martina O'Brien, Dominique O'Carroll, Kemi Falade, Bairbre Damm.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF PARENTS ASSOCIATION**



John Walker, Chairperson



Teresa Leonard, Secretary



Jackie Foran  
Minutes Secretary



Barry Fitzgerald  
Vice-Chairperson



Stephen Byrne  
Treasurer



Gillian Molloy, Parents Rep



Gerard O'Carroll, Parents Rep



Dominique O'Carroll



Martina O'Brien



Kemi Falade



Bairbre Damm



## Who to Contact?

### ◆ For PARENTS:

If you wish to volunteer for school events, or if you have suggestions or comments on the working of the school, or any of the organisations, please feel free to contact any member of the Parents Association. The Parents Representatives serve on both committees and relay information between the two groups.

**If you have a query or complaint in relation to your child, your first point of contact should be the classroom teacher who would be happy to discuss the matter with you. You can make an appointment either with the teacher directly, or through the school secretary – this is to ensure that there is adequate supervision in place whilst the teacher is absent. If you wish to discuss this concern further, please make an appointment through the office to meet with the Principal. At that stage the Principal in consultation with the classroom teacher will endeavour to resolve the matter with you.**

**If following the above two steps, you feel that your concerns have not been adequately addressed, please contact the Chairperson of the Board of Management in writing. Copies of the full Complaints Procedure are available from the school office.**

**The role of the Parents' Representatives** on the Board was clarified at Board of Management training. They serve to represent the views of parents to the Board. It is not their role to act as intermediary between parent and school where there is a complaint – the steps above should be followed in those cases.

**COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS:** The school and Board and Parents Association issue letters to the parent body on a regular basis, and welcome your feedback/suggestions in relation to school matters.

### ◆ For STAFF:

If you have a complaint, or area of concern, this should be highlighted in the first instance to the Principal of the school. You may do this either in person or in writing. If you feel that your concern has not been addressed, please contact the Chairperson of the Board – in writing – who will deal with the matter in an appropriate manner, taking into account legislation, guidelines for Boards of Management, and best practice.

**The role of the Teachers Representative** on the Board was clarified at the Board of Management training. They serve to represent the views of staff to the Board. It is not their role to act as intermediary between staff and school where there is a complaint – the above steps should be followed in that case.

**COMMUNICATION WITH STAFF:** Staff hold regular staff meetings. Staff feedback/issues or concerns are to be communicated to the Board through Teachers Representative Report and Principals Report to members at BOM meetings. The Board communicates with staff through Board of Management report, and letters, and it is recommended that BOM members meet with staff both informally and formally during the school year. Letters issued by the school and Parents Association are also given to individual staff members.

### ◆ GENERAL COMMUNICATION and CONSULTATION:

The Board recognises the importance of good communication and consultation, and will endeavour to ensure that both are a part of the school experience for everyone. We welcome your contribution to the school and value opinions and suggestions from the school community.

Through the Student Council, Parents Association, Staff Meetings and Board of Management, we hope that all sections of the school community feel that they have a forum and that the ethos of the school will continue to be our guiding principle. We welcome your support in this endeavour.

## STUDENT COUNCIL OF TETNS



**Members as at October 2010: Front Row: Felix, Daire, Colin, Haris, Sherraya and Siobhán  
Second Row: Sorenta, Sara, Cathal, Patrick and Saoirse  
Back Row, Lia, Rian, Mayor of Tralee Arthur J Spring and Ryan.**

**What is the Student Council?** We are proud to be the only primary school in Kerry to have a Student Council at primary level. The Student Council comprises 14 pupils from the school who have been voted onto the Council by their classmates. The election process is a very exciting time at the school – with candidates making election posters and campaign speeches. Children from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> class can be elected onto the Council. Children can vote for one boy and one girl per class for 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> class. Children can vote for two boys and two girls for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class. While the Junior classes are really too young to take part, they are also included in the process and the Liaison Officers and members keep them informed of events and listen to their suggestions.

On Election Day, voting is by secret ballot. The whole school attends the Count – to eagerly watch the votes being counted. The Mayor of Tralee presides over this, and announces the winners. There can be great excitement at being elected, and some disappointment too if a candidate fails to be elected. All in all, it is a great experience for the school, and a great way for pupils to learn about voting and democracy. It's fun too.

Training and support is provided by the Student Council Committee – this was done by Treasa (Teacher), Caroline (Parent) Maryanne (Board of Management) and Catherine (Vice-Principal).

### ***What can the Student Council do?***

- ◆ Meet on a regular basis
- ◆ Learn about decision-making, how to hold meetings, understand different roles of Officers, communication skills, Minutes, Agenda.
- ◆ Liaise with their classmates – get feedback about the school to bring back to Principal, PA and BOM
- ◆ Meet with the Principal to discuss matters that are important to the student body
- ◆ Organise activities and events for the school
- ◆ Have input into decisions made – e.g. theme for parade, Health and Safety Statement, classroom resources.

*“I like being on the Student Council because you can decide what stuff your school can possibly do.”*

*“I like how we’re so involved in the school. I feel a sense of accomplishment after the election and our event.”*

*“ I like everything about the Student council. I like talking about things that would make school better.”*

*“I like being on the PR Team since I got to do the posters, and coming up with ideas to make this school a better place.”* “

*“I like that we do lots of activities, and we have roles.”*

## BUILDING COMMITTEE

A Building Committee has been in place in the school since 2007. Committee meetings are held regularly. School General meetings are also held to consult with school community and to inform them of any developments.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the group is to research and assess option for a permanent site/building for Tralee Educate together and to report on these to the Board of Management. The committee also liaises with the landlord on specific issues, such as improvement of current school premises. The Committee works closely with Niall Wall, Regional Development Officer of Educate Together.

**UPDATE:** The Committee has explored options for temporary and permanent premises for the school – the main one currently being explored is a site at Clash in the ownership of the Department. An Application has been forwarded to the Department in June 2011 in respect of this site. The Committee will be looking for assistance from the school community to lobby local politicians in the hope of expediting the application for new premises. The Committee has also made submissions to Tralee Town Council in respect of Tralee Town Development Plan.

The Committee have worked to improve appearance of the school - e.g. painting of classrooms; sanding of floors; designs for school yard. Our main projects this year is to continue to pursue permanent premises, to continue work on the garden area, and to help improve our current premises. .

**MEMBERS as at September 2011 :** The group is comprises of members of the Board of Management, Staff and Parents. New members may be co-opted.

The Building Committee Members are: Jackie Landers; Denis Reidy; Catherine Barry, Francisse Walshe, Maryanne Keane.



Jackie Landers



Denis Reidy



## CONTACT DETAILS:



**Tralee Educate Together National School**  
Collis Sandes House  
Killeen Road  
Tralee  
Co. Kerry

Telephone: 066 7180506

Fax: 066 7103942

Email: [tralee.ets@gmail.com](mailto:tralee.ets@gmail.com)

School Website: [www.tralee-educate-together.com](http://www.tralee-educate-together.com)

Educate Together Website: [www.educatetogether.ie](http://www.educatetogether.ie)

National Parents Council Website: [www.npc.ie](http://www.npc.ie)

