



# Powerstown Educate Together National School

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## Agreed Minutes

### Board of Management

**Tuesday 17th of September 2024**

1. Board of Management would like to welcome the school community back for the 2024/2025 school year. A big warm welcome to our new Junior Infant students and families and our new students enrolled throughout all classes.
2. Board of Management wishes to welcome our new staff, Scott, Anne, Vangelina, Leah, Dee & Audrey
3. BoM are happy to report that all fixed term and permanent teacher and ANA posts have been filled for this academic year. 3 day/week subbing job remains vacant at this time, however school is actively seeking a consistent substitute teacher for this role
4. BOM wishes to congratulate James Howe on the birth of his daughter and Anita McGuinness on the birth of their son
5. BoM are delighted to report that we have been accepted into the NCSE Sustained School Support programme for 2024/2025 school year. This means staff will have access to Speech and Language Therapist support and an Occupational Therapist to further enhance their teaching practices and approaches. These therapists will not be working directly with children.
6. Admission dates for 2025/2026 school year have been finalised and will be published in early October.
7. Board of Management completed an annual review of Child Safeguarding policy and procedures.
8. Board of Management completed an annual review of Anti-Bullying policy and procedures.
9. Board of Management have agreed to implement Working Together (2024) document for 2024/2025 school year

10. Board of Management are aware of Bí Cineálta guidelines published. BoM look forward to training dates being confirmed so school can notify parents of half day for whole staff training. Board are aware that new guidelines and policy must be implemented by September 2025 and look forward to parental input on same.
11. Board of Management acknowledged receipt of Smartphone usage letter from the Department of Education. School leaders and PTA will work with parent body to create guidance document on same. A letter to parents will issue shortly about this.
12. Board of Management acknowledges the challenge faced by school leadership in managing autism and DLD students' buses. Recruitment of bus escorts is ongoing. Board of Management are aware of the challenges faced by Bus Éireann in the tendering of bus routes to bus companies and drivers. Leadership team continue to work closely with Bus Eireann to ensure all those entitled to school transport have access to same at the soonest possible opportunity.
13. Yes to Languages programme will deliver 10 week Spanish lessons each Monday to children from 3rd - 6th class starting October 7th.
14. Board of Management thanks school community for welcoming Ombudsman for Children on September 4th.
15. Board of Management thank 6th class students for engaging with Minister Jack Chambers on his recent visit and questioning him on his role as Finance Minister. They offered fabulous suggestions on how government could spend the apple €1.7billion euro.
16. Board of Management would like to remind all 6th class students and parents to attend as many open days as possible. The school recommends 6th class students apply to at least 4 schools. We wish to remind parents, applying to a school does not guarantee a place.