

Scoil Naomh Áine Presentation Primary School

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Celebrating 50 Years of Education 1969-2019

Principal: Marie Beattie Deputy Principal: Karen McKevitt



25th June 2025

Dear Sharon

Thank you for your letter, dated 18th June, regarding the gate between Scoileanna Íde and Mhuire.

Scoil Áine has always been in favour of that gate being re-opened.

My understanding is that it was closed during the Covid-19 pandemic. Upon restrictions being lifted, the Principals and Chairpersons of the three other schools on this campus, St Joseph's BNS, Scoil Mhuire and Scoil Naomh Áine, met with the principal and chairperson of Scoil Íde on a number of occasions regarding the issue of this gate being kept closed. Those meetings came to nothing. I should point out that the gate concerned was closed & padlocked with no prior arrangement made with the school sharing said gate, Scoil Mhuire.

and I have made very reasonable suggestions, including supervising our own pupils as they move through the Scoil İde yard. The yards of St Joseph's BNS and Scoil Mhuire would also need to be walked through to get to that gate. However, we made the suggestion of supervision in an attempt to allay fears about the possibility of people loitering in her school yard.

The suggestion has always been that the gate be opened at the following times:

- 8.40-9.00am
- 1.25-1.40pm
- 2.25-2.40pm

It is my belief that the parents of Scoil Naomh Áine would co-operate fully and not loiter, in an effort to make this work. In the meantime, the BOM of my school has invested in excess of €30,000 in a pedestrian gate for our pupils because, as a result of Scoil Íde closing & locking the traditional gate, our pupils were having to walk through the car park. There were instances of my having to stand in front of cars associated with Scoil Íde, being driven in the car park as children were walking through, so as to guarantee the children's safe passage to school.

If the gate in question opens again, there should be fewer children than there used to be, using that route, since we now have a pedestrian entrance on New Road. That entrance still has no barrier to prevent children running on to the road. I have been in repeated contact with SDCC and SRTS re this. SRTS met with principals on the campus earlier this month and I am hopeful of a barrier soon.

In summary, we in Scoil Áine want the gate to be re-opened, have asked for the gate to be re-opened, will do all we can to get the gate re-opened. Scoil Mhuire, St Joseph's BNS and Scoil Áine have not

stopped the gate being re-opened. I suggest that contact is made with the principal teacher & chairperson of Scoil Íde,

The BOM, children, parents and staff of Scoil Áine sincerely hope that, with the assistance of your committee members and yourself, the gate in question will re-open.

I look forward to a positive outcome.

Yours Sincerely,

Principal Teacher, Scoil Áine

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