



PARENTS' PERSPECTIVE ON RE- DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMARY CURRICULUM



NPC

SUPPORTING PARENTS
SUPPORTING CHILDREN

NPC Vision

The National Parents Council want to see an Ireland where every child has the opportunity to reach their full potential

NPC Mission

The National Parents Council exists to ensure that all parents are supported and empowered to become effective partners in their children’s education. NPC will work to increase the capacity and capability of the education sector, to achieve true partnership and deliver better outcomes for all children and young people.

Values

NPC knows that when parents and schools work together, children do better. Therefore, NPC believes that in order to achieve this parents must feel:

Engaged: Parents must be actively engaged in the education of their children.

Supported: Parents’ involvement in children’s education must be supported by the attitudes, beliefs and practices of all members of the school and broader education community.

Partners: Parents must be viewed as partners in facilitating children’s learning and be supported in this role by the school and broader education community.

Valued: Parents should be viewed as full partners in the decisions that affect their children and their family.

Welcomed: Parents should be welcome in the school, and their support and assistance sought as a valuable resource to support children’s education in the school.

Connected: All communication and dialogue with parents must be regular, open, two-way and meaningful.

National Parents Council

Key Activities

SERVICE DELIVERY

NPC's services are developed to empower parents so that they can support their children in all aspects of education.

HELPLINE

The NPC helpline is a national confidential service for parents. The helpline staff listen and give information and support to parents to help them make the best possible decisions for and with their children.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

The NPC Training and Development programme is a national programme of training, development and support for parents. The purpose is to empower parents to play an active part in their child's education at every level.

WEBSITE

The NPC's website www.npc.ie aims to provide parents with information regarding education at early years, primary and post primary levels.

ADVOCACY

NPC engages in awareness-raising activities and campaigning and lobbying at a national level on the objectives of its Strategic Plan.

REPRESENTING PARENTS

NPC represents the voice of parents through representation on external bodies and other mediums. NPC consults with parents and brings parents' views to bear on education policy.

BUILDING PARTICIPATION

NPC builds participation strategies and activities to ensure parents and children are an integral part of the work of NPC.



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Introduction

The National Parents Council (NPC) thanks the Joint Committee on Education and Youth for the opportunity to contribute parents' perspectives on the development and implementation of the new Primary Curriculum.

In preparation for this work, the NPC gathered parents' views through a national survey, building on several years of engagement with families on curriculum reform. The survey explored parents' awareness, experiences, expectations, and concerns regarding the revised curriculum, including the introduction of the updated English, Irish, and Maths specifications, as well as the phased rollout of other subject areas in the coming years.

The survey aimed to understand how parents view the new curriculum, what they know about it, how they feel it will affect their children's learning, and any areas where they believe further clarity or support is needed. This consultation follows earlier engagement in 2024, when NPC held an in-person consultation with parents and used their feedback to inform a submission to the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA).

The findings presented in this report are based on the results of a survey conducted by the NPC during January and February 2026. The survey was sent to all parents on the NPC mailing list who had consented to receive such invitations and was open from January 30 to February 10, 2026. During this period, a total of 431 parents completed the survey.

The opinions of all parents who took part in the survey will be shared in this report, which will be submitted to the Joint Oireachtas Committee.

Survey

A survey titled Re-Development of the Primary Curriculum was shared with parents to gather their views on the introduction of the new Primary Curriculum and the changes being rolled out across schools. The survey included a combination of multiple-choice questions, and open-ended questions, allowing parents to indicate their level of awareness of curriculum changes while also providing space for more detailed written feedback.

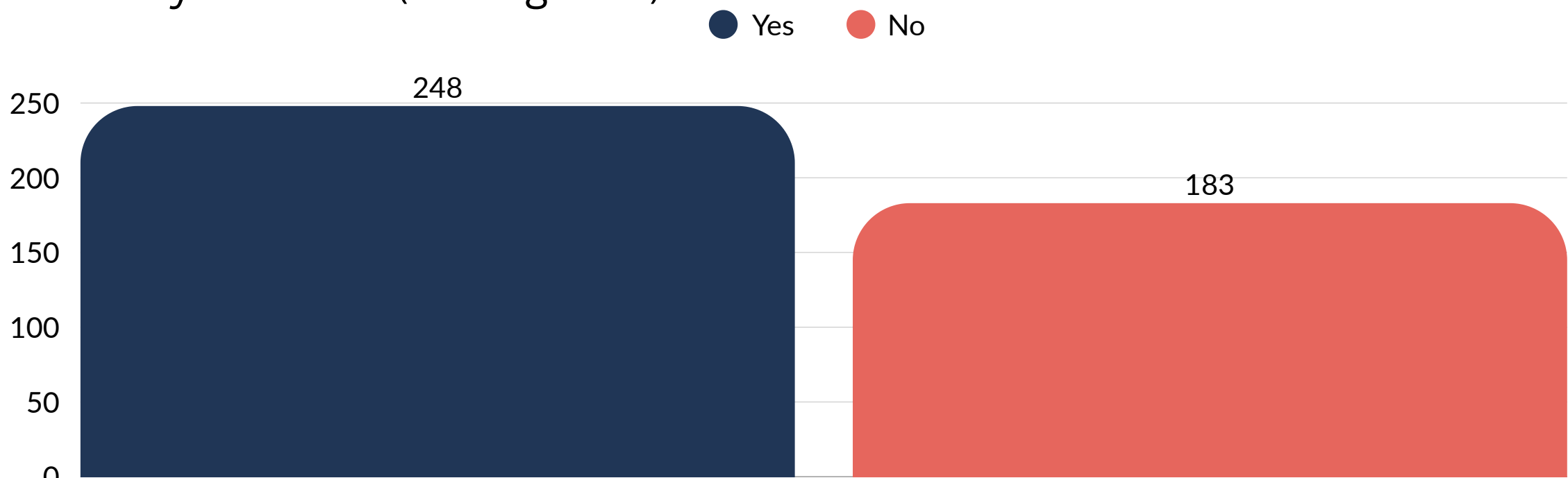
Parents were asked about key aspects of the new curriculum, including their awareness of changes such as the introduction of seven key competencies, revised subject areas, adjustments to curriculum time allocations, new approaches to teaching and learning, and the addition of flexible time in the school timetable. They were also invited to comment on school-parent partnership practices currently in place and to share any further information or support they felt would help them engage with the new curriculum.

The main results of the survey, including parents' key insights, levels of awareness, and opinions on the new Primary Curriculum, will be shared in this report as part of the submission to the Joint Oireachtas Committee.



Survey Findings

Q 1 When parents were asked whether they knew that a new primary curriculum is being introduced over the coming years, almost half of the parents (51%) indicated that they were aware of it, while a smaller proportion reported that they were not (see Figure 1).

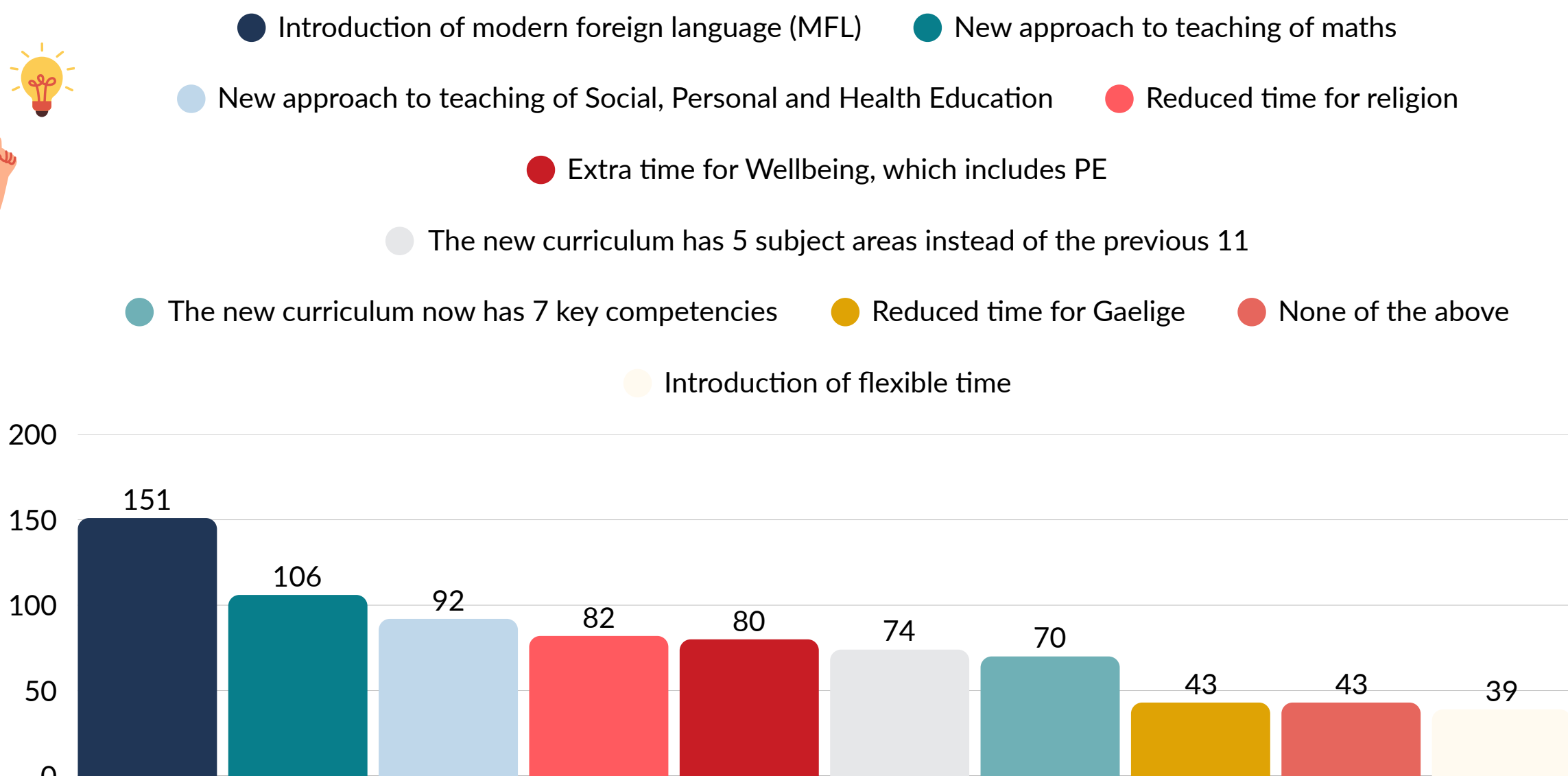


(Figure 1)

Do you know that a new primary curriculum is being introduced over the coming years?

Q 2 Parents that knew about the new primary curriculum were asked which changes to the new primary curriculum they were aware of, and they could select more than one option. The introduction of modern foreign languages was mentioned most often. Many parents also reported awareness of the new approach to teaching maths, followed by the updated approach to Social, Personal and Health Education. Awareness was also commonly reported for the reduced time allocated to religion and the increased time for wellbeing, including PE.

A considerable number of parents noted the shift from the previous 11 subjects to the new five-area curriculum and the introduction of seven key competencies. Smaller numbers reported awareness of reduced time for Gaeilge and the introduction of flexible time within the school timetable, while the least reported response was that they were unaware of any of the changes (see Figure 2).



(Figure 2)

Which of the following changes are you aware of? Please choose all that apply:

Parents expressed a wide range of views about the new curriculum, with many welcoming the greater focus on play, wellbeing, physical activity and modern languages, as well as the effort to make learning more engaging and relevant for children. However, a very large number were unhappy about the reduction in time for Irish, describing it as disappointing, unnecessary or damaging, and many felt the issue lay not with the amount of time but with how Irish is taught.

Religion also created deeply mixed reactions, many parents wanting it reduced or removed from the school day, while others strongly defended maintaining or even strengthening Catholic instruction. Opinions on digital learning, mathematics and the overall workload were equally varied, with some appreciating modernisation and others concerned about too much screen use, over-complicated teaching methods or a curriculum that feels too full for teachers to deliver effectively.

Many parents raised concerns about the content and age-appropriateness of personal and social education, particularly in relation to gender and sexual topics, and several emphasised the importance of parental choice, transparency and opt-out options. Others worried about children who are high achievers, children with additional needs and the lack of facilities or staffing to support the proposed changes.

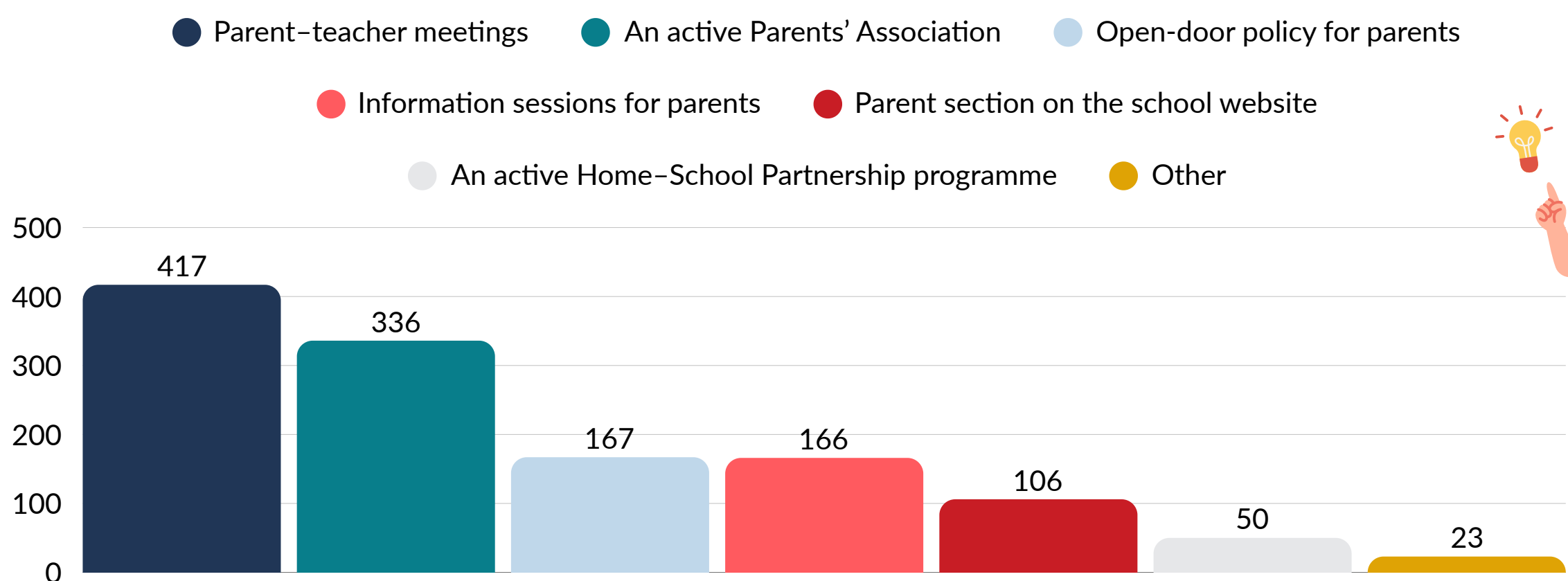
Furthermore, parents wanted more emphasis on practical life skills, stronger foundations in reading, writing and mathematics, and better alignment between primary and secondary education.

Overall, while there was broad support for modernisation and for introducing languages and wellbeing, the feedback showed strong disagreement about Irish, religion, digital learning and sensitive personal development topics, and a widespread belief that schools will need clearer communication and more resources for the curriculum to work in practice.

*This is a summary of the parents' voices; please refer to the appendix for full answers.



Q 3 When parents were asked about school-parent partnership practices, and what types if any were available in their school, (they were allowed to tick all options), parent-teacher meetings were mentioned most frequently. Many parents also reported having an active Parents’ Association. A substantial number noted the presence of an open-door policy for parents and information sessions provided by the school. Smaller proportions indicated that their school had a dedicated parent section on the school website or an active Home–School Partnership programme, while the least frequently selected option was ‘Other’ (see Figure 3).



(Figure 3)

The new curriculum emphasises strong school–parent partnerships. Which of the following partnership practices are currently available in your school? Please tick all that apply:

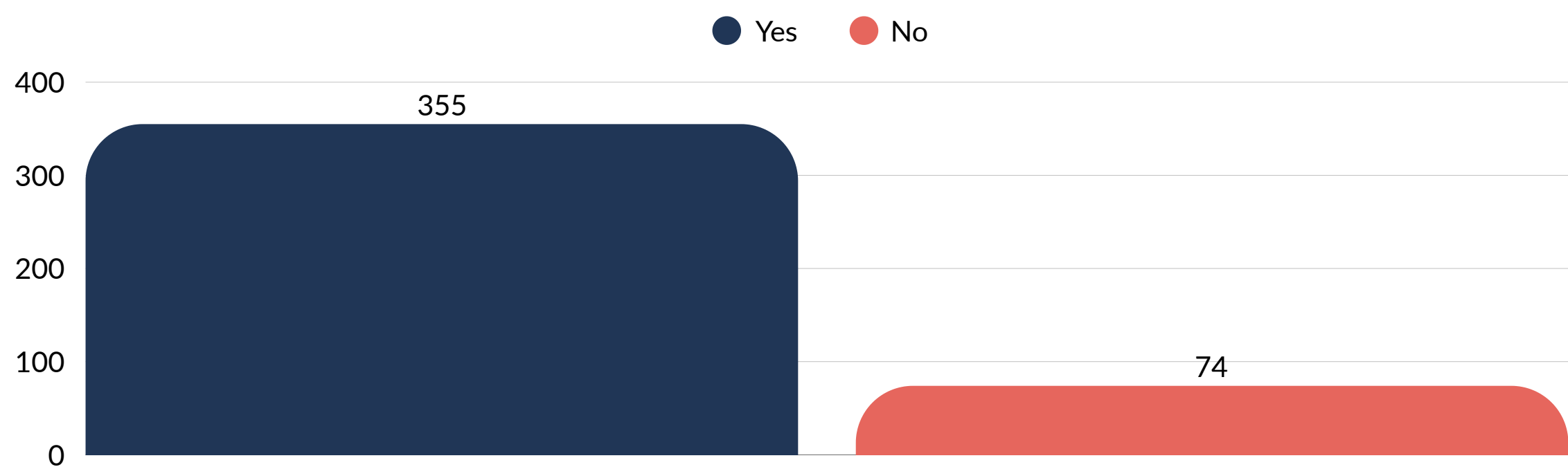
Parents who chose “Other” and chose to make an additional comment said that their experiences of school–parent partnership practices vary widely. Some described positive practices such as open classroom hours, direct email communication with teachers, regular updates, invitations to school events, paired reading and strong personal relationships with principals or individual staff members. A few noted opportunities like contact with support teachers, parent classes during the school day, social events organised by parents and involvement in walking or active school initiatives. Some parents said that schools could make better use of parents who have specialist knowledge and who are willing to contribute to learning materials and classroom resources.

Many other parents described feeling excluded or poorly informed. Several said their school does not feel welcoming and that very little information is shared about teaching methods, plans, events or curriculum content. Parent–teacher meetings were often described as too short, too early in the year and too infrequent to offer real insight into a child’s progress, leaving parents unsure about what is being taught because the schoolbooks remain in school. Some schools do not allow parents onto the grounds or limit the parents’ association to fundraising rather than discussion about curriculum or school decisions.

A number of parents expressed strong frustration about what they see as a lack of genuine consultation and said they feel parents are being sidelined rather than treated as partners. Some added that working parents often cannot attend events during school hours, which contributes to their sense of exclusion.

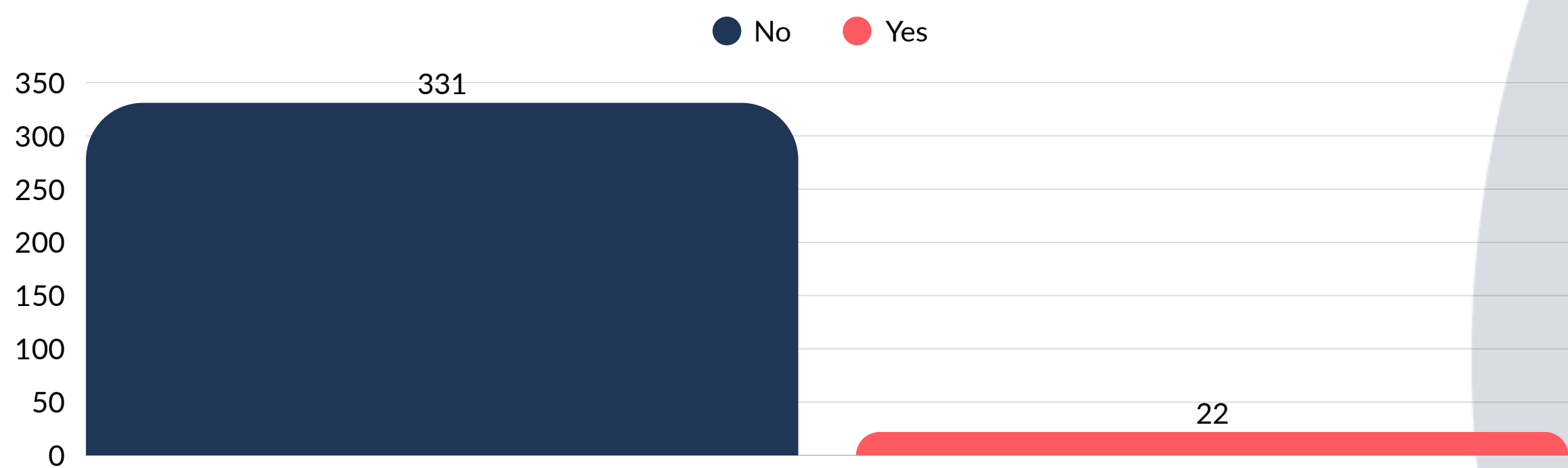
*This is a summary of the parents' voices; please refer to the appendix for full answers.

Q 4 When parents were asked whether they would like to know more about the new curriculum, most indicated that they were interested in receiving further information, while a smaller proportion reported that they would not. Parents who selected ‘Yes’ were provided with the National Parents Council helpline phone number and email address should they wish to seek information at a later stage. (See Figure 4).



(Figure 4)
Would you like to know more about the new curriculum?

Q 5 When parents were asked whether they were aware of any information currently available to them about the new curriculum, the vast majority reported that they were not aware of any such information, while only a small proportion indicated that they were (Figure 5).



(Figure 5)
Are you aware of any information that is currently in place for you, as a parent, in terms of the new curriculum?



Parents who indicated that they were aware of information about the new curriculum reported that it typically came from their child's school, usually via emails or general updates. Some parents said the school shared details about new ways of teaching, including changes in maths and in Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE). Others said they found information on national education websites, especially the NCCA website, which has simple explanations and short videos for parents. A small number found information from other public sources.

Parents who indicated that they were not aware of any information currently available to them were asked what additional information or support they would find helpful. Many wanted clear information about what changes are happening, why they are happening, and how these changes will affect their child's learning each day. Parents asked for simple, easy-to-read explanations, including short documents, leaflets, summaries, infographics, or videos instead of long technical reports. They said they would like regular communication from schools, such as emails, newsletters, updates on school websites, or information booklets sent home.

A large number wanted information sessions, workshops, meetings or webinars where teachers could explain the curriculum and answer questions, and some were interested in seeing sample workbooks, lesson plans or curriculum materials. Parents also asked for guidance on how to help their children at home, including support for children with learning difficulties such as dyslexia or autism.

Others said they needed clearer information on particular subjects, such as SPHE, Gaeilge, or how time is allocated during the school week. Some parents highlighted the need for materials that are accessible in different languages or formats, especially for families who did not attend school in Ireland.

Overall, these parents wanted clear, practical and reliable information, delivered in a straightforward way, so they can understand the changes and support their children with the new curriculum.

*This is a summary of the parents' voices; please refer to the appendix for full answers.



General Comments from Parents

Parents were invited to provide open-ended responses to two separate questions: Question 6, ‘Is there any additional information or support that you would like to help with the new curriculum?’, and Question 7, ‘If you have any other comments, please use the box below.’ These questions gave parents the opportunity to share their views in their own words. The following is a summary of their responses:

Q 6 Is there any additional information or support that you would like to help with the new curriculum?

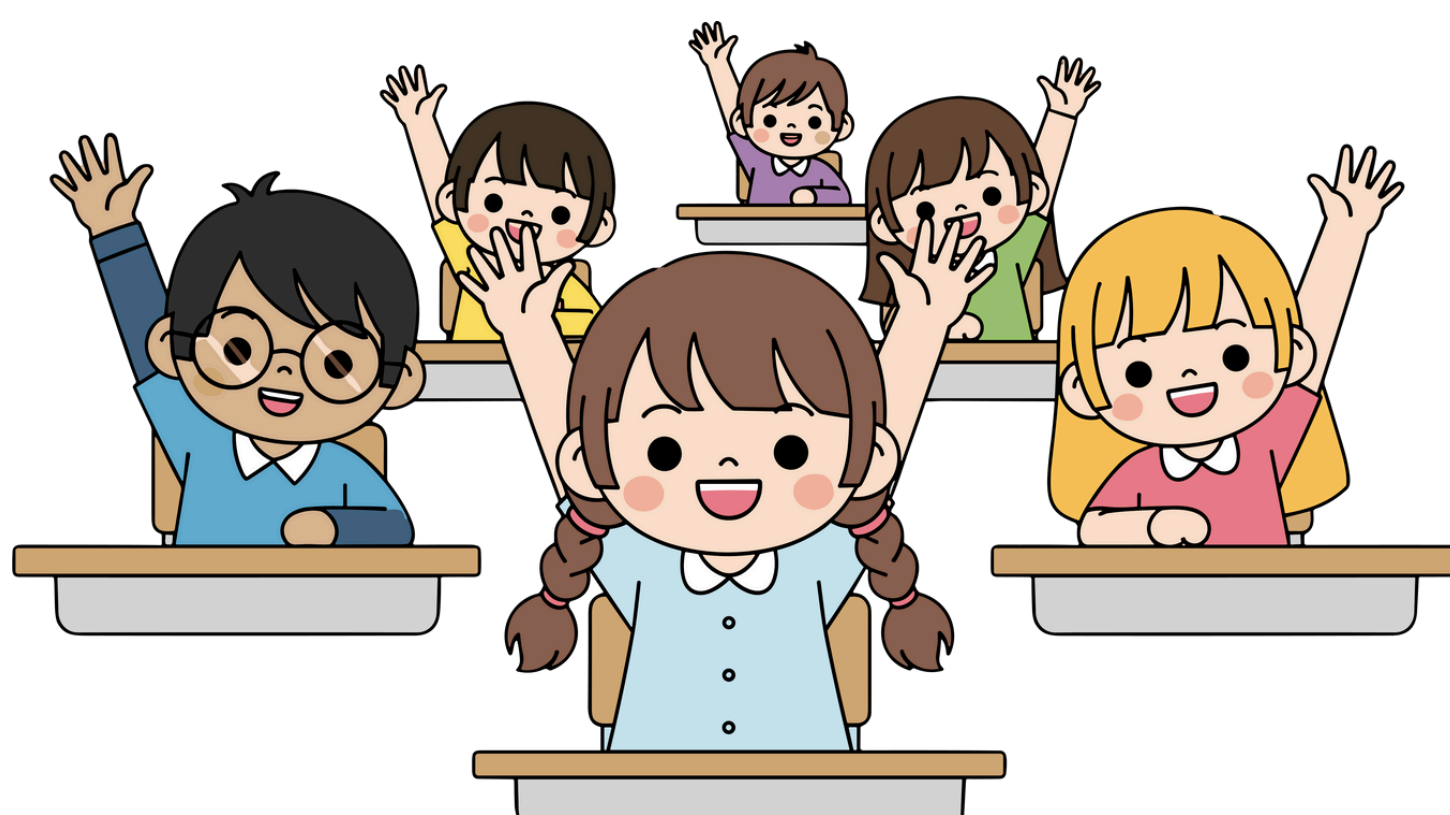
When asked whether they would like any additional information or support to help them with the new curriculum, parents said they would welcome clear and accessible guidance. Many asked for information sessions or workshops in schools so they could better understand what will be taught and why the changes are being made.

Parents also highlighted the need for simple, easy-to-read materials such as overview leaflets, booklets, or summaries that outline the main changes, both online and in printed form. Several noted that there has been confusion or misinformation circulating, particularly about SPHE and changes to time allocations, and said that factual, reliable communication would be helpful.

Others explained that they had not received many updates from their school and would like more regular communication, including emails or information posted on the school website. Some parents also said it would be useful to receive materials sent home, such as a booklet explaining the changes, or to have the opportunity to attend meetings where teachers could explain how the new curriculum will be implemented.

A smaller number requested support with specific areas such as structured literacy programmes similar to Dcode and Ncode.

*This is a summary of the parents' voices; please refer to the appendix for full answers.



Q 7 If you have any other comments, please use the box below:

Parents shared a wide range of additional comments about the new curriculum. Some said they would like a stronger focus on core subjects such as Irish, maths, reading, and literacy, including support for children with learning difficulties and clearer information about what their child is learning.

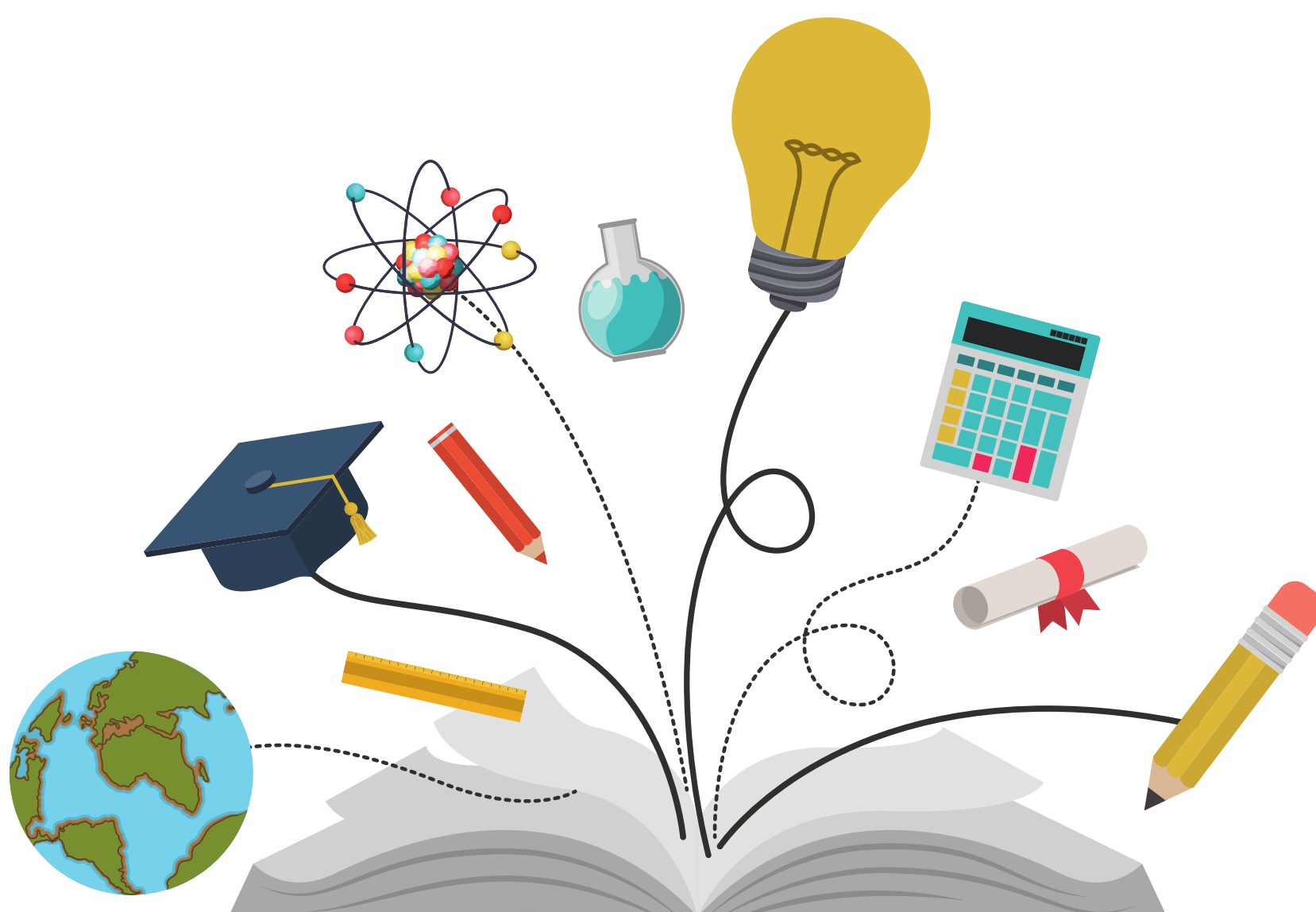
Parents once again emphasised the need for more communication from schools to help them support learning at home. They suggested practical ways this could happen, including booklets, emails, information evenings, or access to lesson plans. This is a common theme that had already been raised in other parts of the survey, and parents confirmed it again here. A number of parents commented on modern foreign languages, life-skills education, and the importance of practical, hands-on learning.

Several parents raised concerns about limited updates, the use of digital devices, and the need for clear guidance on how the curriculum will be implemented in schools of different sizes and contexts. Parents also shared views about class materials, school–parent communication, time allocation across subjects, and the importance of ensuring that teachers have the necessary training and resources to deliver the changes.

Some highlighted the need for transparency around curriculum decisions and opportunities for parents to give input. Many parents expressed a general desire for more information, clearer explanations of the changes, and reassurance that the new curriculum will support children’s overall development.

Others offered positive feedback about their schools and said they welcomed aspects of the new curriculum and the direction it is taking.

*This is a summary of the parents' voices; please refer to the appendix for full answers.



Conclusion

This report shares what parents think about the redevelopment of the Primary Curriculum. The feedback shows that while families welcome the intention to modernise teaching and make learning more engaging, parents also highlighted several key areas that must be addressed to ensure the new curriculum truly meets the needs of all children.

Parents consistently expressed a desire for a curriculum that is clear, balanced and communicated effectively. They want changes that genuinely support children's learning—through play, wellbeing, physical activity and modern languages—while also protecting strong foundations in literacy, numeracy and Irish. Many parents emphasised the need for simple, accessible explanations of what is changing, why it is changing and how it will affect daily learning. They also stressed the importance of school-parent partnerships built on regular updates, meaningful information sessions and communication that helps families understand and support the curriculum at home.

Across all areas, parents noted that new curriculum expectations must be matched by strong implementation. Families want teachers to have the training, resources and time needed to deliver the changes effectively, and they raised concerns about capacity, workload, digital device use and the consistency of teaching practices. Parents also highlighted the importance of transparency around SPHE, practical life-skills education, and ensuring that children with additional needs and high achievers, are supported within the new structure.

Overall, parents believe that by ensuring clear communication, strong foundations in core skills, meaningful parental engagement, balanced time allocations and well-supported implementation, the redevelopment of the Primary Curriculum has the potential to become a more inclusive, modern and child-centred approach to learning. They welcome its direction but want to be fully informed, fully included and confident that these changes will benefit every child.



Appendix

Do you have any comments about the changes in the new curriculum:

- 1.The new curriculum is much more holistic for children's development
- 2.Children love play and learn through play. It's fantastic. However, teachers are completely overworked and it must be impossible to have play involved in every single subject/ topic taught.
- 3.It's disappointing that religious education will continue to take up two hours per week. So many schools are Catholic and this is not reflective of the general population. In my son's Catholic school class, 9 kids didn't make their communion. In my daughter's class, there are 8 not making Communion. In both cases this is nearly half the class who have no curriculum work during Communion preparation and religious education. There are not enough alternatives to Catholic schools to justify this.
- 4.I am horrified really that we are reducing the time of our national language and it only has an extra hour over religion which is basically forced conversion. There are 12 main religions in the world, one session a month on each. We have to get the catholic church and religious indoctrination out of schools.
- 5.I think families should be included in the introduction of the EU language and a choice. Our school currently do German however, due to friendships and travel opportunities I'd have a preference for Spanish
- 6.Very happy with introduction of modern languages and more PE well being time
- 7.I don't agree with the reduction of Irish. Instead we could repurpose the 30 mins to being more about learning Irish through various conversational methods of teaching. Interactive and interesting rather than just grammar through repetitive busy work.
- 8.Welcome the teaching of modern foreign languages earlier. Have reservations about the SPHE curriculum
- 9.If the school has a catholic ethos for example I don't think they should cut back on the time spent on teaching religion. The same applies for Gaelscoileanna and Gaeltacht Schools, if that is apart of their main school ethos then they shouldn't reduce it. Parents choose a school for a reason, I for example choose a Catholic School and a Gaeltacht School so I would assume that teaching both subjects would be a strong part of the school.
10. Gaelige should be a priority and not reduced in time
11. Only it looks good and more modern/applicable and catered to different ways of learning and different levels of capacity
12. I am happy with the introduction of modern foreign language (MFL).
13. I don't think the Irish time should be reduced
14. Time for Irish shouldn't be reduced
15. I would not want to see a reduced time for Gaeilge

16. I would hope children can focus on learning more about the world around them. Science, languages, history and geography as the primary curriculum can be a little boring.

17. Changing from 11 subjects to 5 is massive and puts a lot of pressure on children aged 12-14 to know what they want to do when older. As in picking subjects they might need for college. I don't think it's will work.

18. It seems to be more focused on the wellbeing of the student, but I worry that the actual application of it will be difficult for teachers who are already stretched to capacity. I think it should be accompanied with structured, practical and hands on support in schools in the line of extra staffing to allow proper implementation of the whole thing.

19. No

20. I have read the document which is from the consultation with parents (can't believe that is from June '24!!!) but I wholeheartedly agree with the feedback from the parents on this document. I do not wish to increase digital learning in school, I think religion (catholic instruction) should be removed from the school education completely, I agree that the 'be well' competency is a horrendous concept in terms of measuring children (it should be the school/teachers who are measured on this in terms of how the parents reflect that their kids are well). I think MFL introduction is hugely valuable (all mainland European countries do this). I also massively agree with other parents that there are plenty of kids who are bored at school - where it is not as challenging as it could be and thus the overall feeling of children at school is that it is just a place to spend a few hours each weekday but where they are not excited to go to/do not have interesting challenges to work towards/learning is always brought to the lowest level as there is so much emphasis on bringing along the poorest students in each class. Nothing to stretch the better students/no role models of great achievements. Along with that, I believe that children should not automatically progress to the next class if they are not meeting the standards that they should have in each year. This is common also in other EU countries - exams at the end of the year to show competency and thus graduation to the next year (or not) depending on results. This does not mean that the exams must only be paper-based or on one day only, but it gives a great a sense of achievement to the kids at the end of the year and they have confidence that they are ready for the next school year based on what they have already learned. There is much to improve in Ireland and I believe that looking at what best practices there are in other EU countries would be very pertinent.

21. Religion time should even be reduced further or even be taken out completely so children can be taught about religion outside of school.

22. I think the changes outlined above sound good and this change was long overdue. I welcome the increased wellbeing time. I know other subjects have to be cut to allow for it but I think it's important in these times.

23. Great to see increased emphasis on both mental and physical well-being, pity formal religion wasn't removed completely to free u some extra time. Modern foreign language may be difficult to implement re staff confidence /competency.

24. Concern about the quality of English language teaching, written work and comprehension seem to be undervalued within the curriculum
25. I really like that foreign languages are being introduced earlier, and I hope that students will get a choice in which language they can study.
26. I think we need to spend more time learning Irish and it should be considered having specific drama or or teachers
27. "Disappointed that there is less time allocated to Gaeilge.
However, happy with the focus on well being and the new approach to maths.
Unsure if MFL is necessary st primary level."
28. I think it is unnecessary to add another language into a curriculum where a lot of children (and parents) already struggle with Irish. The curriculum seems quite overloaded and I would be concerned about the depth of learning the children will experience.
29. Religious instruction should take place outside of school hours.
30. Happy about reducing religious instruction
31. Digital learning should be only for 5th and 6th class students to enable them to navigate secondary school. Countries of secondary schools such as korea and norway who introduced e learning well ahead of other schools are reverting back to text book due to damage of tech. As always we will be 10 years behind again before we revert with damage done. Most children in fully enabled tech schools for books are rushing work and just playing games on laptops. totally unmonitored. And before you think im a hippy im a computer science degree graduate.. didnt know Gaelige time was been reduced!! We are a shambles of a country.!!!!Disgrace. Just teach it differently.
32. They are welcome changes but it feels like a very full curriculum. Also with less time on Irish I feel the standard would reduce. I feel less time could be spent on religion as that is a parental choice.
33. "As well as reducing time for irish I hope they make Irish more conversational and fun and even optional. The current emphasis on learning by heart and not on understanding is detrimental. Also as children learn English using phonics it is challenging when the kids attempt to learn irish. Is it possible to apply phonics style learning for irish ?
Lastly, I think religion (if only catholic) should be even more limited."
34. No
35. I can't see why religion is still being taught and in a 'factual' way making it confusing for younger children of no/other religions. Religion is a personal family choice and should be kept to outside of vore school hours. If the catholic church are so concerned about declining number of catholic practicing, then putting their money where their mouth is and providing religious education outside of core school hours is a must. Focussed catholic preaching should not be part of the day to day class time in national schools. Inclusivity is key for children and not exclusion

36. "P.E is not 'well-being', it is a proper separate subject and it should be taught by proper P.E teachers. Many teachers just let them play outside in that class, that is not P.E. They also use this class to discipline them, if they misbehaved, they take it away, while they would never ever take English, Maths or Irish away for the same reason.

Also, I absolutely disagree with reducing time for Irish/Gaelige as it is not taught properly even currently. Irish is very difficult in secondary schools, they would need strong, solid basis laid down in the primary schools to be able manage that. They should also start learning writing&spelling as soon as they start to learn words or speaking, writing (and homework in writing) should not be delayed as it is much more difficult to learn it later - I am a language teacher myself."

37. "I work in a primary school so was aware from my profession, rather than from my role as a parent.

I am in support of the play based and hands on methodologies for maths and subjects.

MFL is very challenging for schools.

I disagree with reduced Irish time.

I think religion should be removed completely. My children are educated in a Gaelscoil which is Catholic. I wanted the Gaeilge for my children but not the indoctrination. "

38. Would like to see more time for gaeilge

39. If not religious instruction then ethics should no be included

40. There is a lot of reading involved in the new maths curriculum. My son has dyslexia and finds it difficult to navigate the questions

41. "Will there be a choice of foreign language?"

42. Reducing time to Gaeilge is a backward step. 3hr well-being ridiculous with 2hr pe and no hall facilities in our local schools. You can't teach well-being

43. I am concerned about the reduction in religion. I think it is so important for students to learn about faith cultures including their own religion to keep them grounded and make them well rounded individuals. It is very easy for children to become lost in a materialistic society and see no purpose or meaning in life other than worldly values. When life gets tough it is very important to be able to draw on other strengths and spiritual reserves. I welcome the increased increases in PE and wellbeing hoys and the introduction of MFL.

44. I am concerned about the amyof screen time that will be involved in "becoming a digital learner" aspect. I feel screen time is used for down time, during meals and for learning in school

45. Generally happy

46. "I welcome the changes I would like the schools to be open about the changes and inform parents of changes coming and I think some parents are worried about the religion and sec ed will consent still be needed by parents etc

I'm new to school years so I don't think I have much to compare to and will go with it "

47. Please include non-sporty students in the extra time for wellbeing. Kids with dyspraxia, ASD, and other reason why they might not resounate with sports based activities. They need other options.
48. An awful lot to cover,not sure there will be time for a block of "flexible time"
49. I am not happy about teaching such young children and genderism. This really bothers me
50. "Yes the time reductions for Gaeilge and Religion are not a good idea. The increase in time for well being is not a good idea. Well being is not delivered well in any of the schools my children attend or have attended. it's really used as down time/ no learning time and is really of no value to the children Also the gameification/ playfulness in maths will just lead to the use of more apps for maths games further promoting the use of screens in schools. Screen time is far less effective a method for teaching than a person engaging with the child and being able to gauge their comprehension level and needs and adjust accordingly "
51. I dont know enough about it
52. Disappointed with less Gaeilge. Whilst I'm happy about wellbeing and pe being given a nod, it just reinforced the fact that the only movement a lot of children will get is in school. Legislate around the gaming and the screens and get the children out playing again! Stop asking teachers and schools to do the job of educating and parenting in a short day!
53. I disagree with reducing the amount of time especially for religion and Irish.
54. Worried about the reduction of hours in Gaeilge as many students struggle to cope in secondary school with the jump from the existing primary curriculum
55. Every single change seems to be positive
56. Reducing Irish time is so disappointing to hear
57. Disappointed in the reduction of irish
58. Religion should have taken out altogether. It should be taught as an optional subject after school, and organised by churches, not by schools. Disappointed that there is no emphasis on outdoor learning as part of wellbeing
59. "Religion time should be reduced further. Parents should be made aware of these changes so that they can understand and appreciate the changes."
60. "Irish would be better served as a specialist subject to ensure a more consistent and effective approach across classes and grades. Being a digital learner should prioritise deep human skills and critical thinking over outdated rote learning, preparing students to master artificial intelligence rather than be replaced by it"
61. I hope under the new subjects/competencies the following important life skills are taught/included: importance of exercise and how to be healthy including nutrition and basic hygiene: practical skills for life like cooking, sowing and food shopping.

62. "I object if there's less time for our national language. We don't speak it outside. We should make an effort to spread it and speak it rather than reduce it. Our language is dear to us a part of who we the Irish people are. Other countries would not water down their language that way.

I disagree with kids learning about sexual matters at a young age. The only talk they should have is from their parents as they are the primary educators. There should be no place for the indoctrination of children about sexual matters. Gender ideology and identity affirmation language at a young age is damaging according to the Cass report. This has been ignored by the Irish government. Parents concerns about Sphe and engineering social activists through every subject is not in a child's best interest. It is Marxist indoctrination. We the parent prefer our children learn without this pervasive ideology and communist thinking entering our children's classroom. We feel that we are not being listened to. This is a European ideal not suitable for our children.

In relation to Catholicism, where is the solid teaching on this or the support from our government in being able to practice our catholic faith? The religion books leave a lot to be desired. We want proper catholic instruction and formation and the right to be able to live out our catholic values without fear of not 'conforming' to modern secularism.

We love our faith and catholic faith schools. Our religion books in catholic schools should teach about the bible the lives of the Saints, transubstantiation Jesus Christ, the ten commandments and so on so we can guide our children on the path of salvation. Reading about other religions is interesting but confusing and watering down our catholic doctrine and our catholic faith says we love everyone and is inclusive without taking on the ways of other religions or ideologies. We as a predominantly Christian nation deserve to be allowed proper catholic formation in schools.

Also I am concerned that those making these decisions aren't actually representative of what parents actually want on the ground. Running a few surveys is actually not sufficient to roll out a programme of these ideologies onto all subjects. Is there an opt out as there should be in a democratic society or are we becoming ideological and communist and have to adhere to these even if we disagree with every subject being ideology driven. It's a form of brainwashing. Parents are very unhappy with aspects of the new curriculum. We had a perfectly good educational system. A high standard in all subjects. What changed? "

63. My opinion is that a new approach should be implemented for teaching Gaeilge as a language. More interactive and a fun way to learn our native language in order to stimulate and maintain a prolonged interest in the language

64. The update to the curriculum is needed. Previous curriculum dates to 1999. The world has changed a lot since then. For change to be meaningful schools will need support and time to enact the change.

65. All religions should be taught
66. Teachers are being expected to cover way too much content in a short time. Parents need to take ownership of certain areas and teach their children these life skills.
67. Very disappointed in the reduction of Religion and Gaeilge times
68. Need to review the approach to structured literacy
69. Introduction to foreign languages must take dyslexic students abilities into consideration.
70. I do not think religion should be taught in schools, this is the role of parents.
71. The new curriculum is very STEM heavy with science, technology, maths, engineering, environment, with just one category of arts. This is a missed opportunity to encourage creativity at a time when our world needs imaginative responses to disaster and not mere scientific approaches.
72. I like the fact that the kids get extra PE time as I strongly feel that today's children are missing out on a lot of physical play due to various screen time.
73. I don't agree with lessening the time spent on Gaeilge. It is an important part of the curriculum. I think the focus on playfulness and creativity in Maths is an excellent idea. Likewise with extra time devoted to wellbeing.
74. I will not have my child sit in a class that discusses topics on transgender non binary or queer subjects as we are catholic and don't believe in such nonsense
75. Worried that the new approach to personal education is too advanced and not age appropriate
76. I'm very disappointed that Gaeilge is being reduced.
assist with intercultural awareness - again, so essential in today's world."
77. I don't know what is involved
78. Please no more far left political agendas or ideology in the curriculums please.
79. I am disappointed with the reduction in Gaelige as this is our native language and children need all the support and help in this subject, I am happy to hear that a mfl is being introduced as beginning a mfl at second level I believe is too late. I think it is important to acknowledge all children's strengths and be widening the curriculum and not focusing on just academics is welcome however, this change needs to align with what is happening at second level as children will not be prepared for the change. With childhood obesity being a big issue I welcome more time being allowed for wellbeing but I strongly feel this needs to be for movement many schools have silly rules that do not allow children to run during break and lunch and also I know many children do not use their break times to get movement and I think this is something that needs to be encouraged. SPHE is important subject and helping children identify feelings and relationships is important however I feel we need to be mindful of supporting teachers they already play such an important role in children's lives but I am not sure about expecting them to fill the gap of struggling services such as counselling etc for children.

80. "I think the reshuffling of time and changes made to the curriculum structure were necessary - they reflect changes in society and newer demands which children face (e.g., need for greater emphasis on wellbeing, mental health, RSE).

Children are going through puberty at a younger age and are sometimes exposed to sexual content- they require a greater awareness of their bodies from a younger age, discussions around relationships and how to stay safe/consent.

The addition of modern foreign languages is a very positive change. It will add to children's existing linguistic repertoire and will also assist with intercultural awareness - again, so essential in today's world."

81. "I think moving to give more time to 'wellbeing' ahead of concrete subjects is a bad move, there is already a wellbeing curriculum in place in primary schools and more of this is not needed. This feels to me like 'dumbing down' of the curriculum, which is bad for our children in the long run. I see the same at junior cycle and coming into leaving cert I believe - the overall standard feels lower than it was when I was at school and I think this is to the detriment of our children.

The modern language addition is long overdue and very welcome. This is a key skill for our children and I'm delighted to see it coming in.

I am not keen on the new maths curriculum. It is too loose in places - it seems to encourage children to do things their own way as opposed to teaching them the correct or simplest method. For children like my son who has mild autism, this is very overwhelming and confusing, and just creates an issue that was never present before. My daughter says they play lots of games now in maths, and for a child like her who already 'gets it', these are very boring. She also says they teach the children ten different ways to do the same sum, which is incredibly confusing for the children and is unnecessary.

I feel that this new approach generally prioritises the needs of less capable students at the expense of the more capable. I wish there was some framework in Ireland for high achieving children to move ahead, but this is sadly lacking.

I also have concerns about the new approach to SPHE and I want to see more detail on the content. I take great issue with subjects such as transgender ideology being anywhere near children, and I have seen this appear in the junior cycle curriculum which I am greatly unhappy about. I would be very upset if anything like this were to even be mentioned at primary level as it is utterly inappropriate. I feel that parents as the primary educators of their children could be allowed to teach SPHE topics as they choose themselves and I don't see the necessity to introduce more of this into schools. The old 'Stay Safe' was plenty for primary level and wellbeing covers off the rest. Nothing else is needed here."

82. Keep and transmit the Irish values in new generation.

83. not transferring into schools

84. Good evening, I am a mother and work within the school setting. I do not believe that the new curriculum is preparing the kids at all. An awful lot of wasted time. The Irish people were really prepared in the past and learnt manners as well in school. We are unfortunately seeing this disappearing and will be only getting worse in the future.

85. Yes. Too much time is focus on wellbeing and being an active citizen. Kids should not be in the educational system to be littleactivist or being taught gender or sexuality ideology. Too much time is being taken away from core subjects and while we are at it, again activism should be left out. Let kids be kids. Keep the faith in school which in itself regardless is a much more positive influence.

86. the introduction of more languages is welcomed, although it would be important to consider the extra burden this may put on children and teachers. The arts education part of the curriculum is very welcome as well.

87. With 3 NS going children - 6th & 4th & 2nd - I think they are fundamental missing the basic building in core subjects Maths & English that facilitates the learning of other topics like science/languages etc. One cant run without walking first!!!!

88. "I think there shouldn't be any discussion on gender identity or sex until secondary school. Any mention should be shared with parents beforehand.

Use of technology should be limited - we shouldn't be using screens when teaching

Reduction of Irish language time in schools is shameful"

89. Something other than "colouring" for children not participating in religion.

90. Yes, I'm not really happy seeing that my son will be taught about sexuality in such a young age. I'm a Christian and I don't want my child to be exposed to certain topics too early. Let the children be children , innocent being as long as possible.

91. "Important to have a higher emphasis on STEM and digital learning. Hope the SPHE will include relationships learning from professionals experienced in field & not deliver by teachers ill equipped to engage children.

Disappointed to see reduction in Irish but on balance teaching a foreign language has been delayed for too long"

92. "

1. Transparency and Parental Engagement

It would be tremendously helpful to share specific curriculum content and topics with parents for early feedback during the design stage. This allows for true transparency. Specifically, sharing draft resource examples: especially around sensitive topics would help parents identify if there are actual areas of concern rather than having to guess based on high-level summaries.

2. RSE and Sensitive Topics

I believe there should be a consensus-based approach regarding sexual topics, including gender identity. I have questions about the timing; for instance, what makes Grade 6 the appropriate age for these discussions? I feel these areas should be ""opt-in/opt-out"" so parents can decide if they want their children to study them at school. In my view, these values are best left to the family to teach according to their own culture and beliefs, while allowing an optional approach for families who feel otherwise.

3. Curriculum Balance and Anxiety

I agree with raising awareness about the world to ensure children are grounded in reality, but this must be carefully balanced so as not to introduce unnecessary anxiety at a young age.

4. Maths, Science, and Technology

Teaching Maths and Science should leverage modern AI tools (like NotebookLM and others) to enhance learning. However, this needs to be balanced with ""offline,"" fun methods away from screens to ensure a healthy, well-rounded approach to STEM.

5. Curriculum Balance and Anxiety

I agree with raising awareness about the world to ensure children are grounded in reality, but this must be carefully balanced so as not to introduce unnecessary anxiety at a young age.

6. The 7 Competencies

While I like the 7 competencies, I wonder why we only have ""Being Mathematical."" I suggest considering ""Being Scientific"" or ""Being Experimental."" This would better cover the experimental sciences like Physics and Chemistry and encourage an inquiry-based mindset.

7. Religious Education

I believe Religion should be made optional in schools, following the consensus and preference of the parents.

8. Tolerance and Social Cohesion

What would be most effective is teaching kids the general concept of tolerance and how to live together regardless of our differences. If they grasp the concept of respect at a young age without needing to be explicit about specific differences, they will be able to apply that mindset to any situation they encounter later in life.

9. Inclusion in Drama

Regarding Drama, I agree with the concerns raised about shy children. We should expand the roles within Drama education to include ""off-stage"" roles like designers, producers, sound engineers, or even ""journalists"" who analyze and describe the performance. This allows every child to participate and build confidence without the pressure of performing if they aren't ready for it.

Expert-Led Course Material Toolkits

I strongly advocate for the development of ""Course Material Toolkits"" and suggest opening these up to Subject Matter Expert (SME) parents to contribute to the content. For example, as a parent with a PhD in Physics, a Masters in IS Security, and professional experience in AI and Databases, I would welcome the opportunity to help develop high-quality toolkit materials for kids and parents. Leveraging the professional expertise within the parent body could significantly enrich the curriculum's practical application."

93. No

94. In my opinion There should be no religion thought in schools.

95. "The doubling of wellbeing is excellent news! I hope they teach about mental health and wellbeing in age appropriate ways as well as PE.

Modern language also an excellent addition, and more useful in life than Irish, so that's a good move."

96. Keep Irish as one of the key languages as our national language. Inclusion of philosophy and history. No single sex schools.

97. No

98. The way Gaelige is taught should be changed. In general kids really don't like it as they struggle with it.

99. Don't agree with the reduction in hours for Irish

100. "It has been developed and is being enforced without any true involvement from the children's parents. There were certainly sham "consultations" but no actual input from mothers and fathers.

This survey here is just another example of the pretend consultation that goes on. The time to send us a survey was a long time before you got to the point of rolling out anything.

As a parent I reject organisations like Belong To, TENI, the LGBT group of the INTO or any other special interest groups having their content anywhere near my child. Who decided they were the ones to say what's in the classroom and parents had no such say..... we actually do have rights that these groups do not have. These groups should have no access to our children, who we entrust to our schools everyday.

I don't support my local school turning my child into an "agentic" "" active global citizen " either and this new curriculum priorities that. And don't get me started on the gender nonsense.

The things like the new languages are doomed to failure but I actually don't mind that because you might as well try something and it's not a psychological assault like the other stuff.

I don't support this curriculum and as a primary educator I will be treating it like a menu.

Also for question 4 below, I'm not a partner or stakeholder, I'm a primary educator. The school and all related officers are educational service providers. "

101. I don't agree with reduced time for gaeilge. I understand there's a need for more time for new things like well-being. I would have preferred it would be taken from religion, which should be done through the parish or various churches etc.

102. Less Irish language and religion and focus more on core subjects

103. I would like to see less time on SPHE which has controversial content, and contains values better taught by parents at home.

104. I do not like nor approve of the reduction in time for either Gaeilge or Religion. I feel there is no need to introduce another language into primary school. Secondary school is time enough. I think if what was meant to be taught was taught properly it would be better, rather than doing a smattering of lots of things.

105. Against the new Marxist curriculum

106. "I don't want my children exposed to LGBT ideology

I want them to know the natural order is a family of 1 man and 1 woman in marriage to create and educate children "

107. It is regrettable that rather than increasing our children's time to learn Gaeilge, it is being reduced. So many parents would love the opportunity (including me) to send our children to Gaelscoileanna but do not have that option and now our children will learn less. It would be regrettable too that more maths and digital learning will come at the cost (and already have in the past 10yrs) of music and culture, speech & drama at a time when college graduates are joining the workforce and avoiding using phones and direct communication for email etc. Inability to communicate and converse. Make eye contact.

108. I disagree with ANY emphasis on sexuality or matters of a sexual nature to primary school children, unless educators are trying to desensitize, sexualise or groom our little children. In addition, I completely find the promotion of gender fluidity to be so dangerous to young minds. I dislike the weaving of these topics across subjects such that families who object will struggle to isolate particular classes in which they are taught. Finally, the overuse of technology is not beneficial for our children, in or out of school. Interactive whiteboards, Ipads, screens. Too much.

109. Wonderful. It is a reflection of our progress and feels like we are leaning into traditional Irish strengths and tackling weaknesses:)

110. I'm deeply concerned about SPHE. There is the biggest mental health crisis ever currently with young people, child psychologists and councillors are impossible to get an appointment with, yet our government focus on sex, LGBT, diagnosing and labelling which is causing confusion, depression and more mental health problems. Teach them morals, take them into nature, let them play games and be children.

111. "Yes, the SPHE new approach is not clear neither are its new objectives. The extra time for the well-being which includes the PE : how will it be distributed??? As the SPHE is also part of the well-being. I can understand that we are going to reduce the time of Gaeilge to have time for the modern language but why are we reducing the religion time while we are going to give a block of free time!!! Are we planning to extend the school day ?!!!"

112. What are the goals that these changes are supporting? Who decides and what is it based on? Will the outcome prepare them for secondary school? I think a MFL is overdue and should be from an early age

113. One competency missing is being a confident reader ... bring a communicator and using language does NOT state reading and it's the backbone of all the proposed 7 competencies. This is a disaster to not include specific reference to reading.

114. I object to the inclusion of groups promoting gender ideology such as TENI and Belong To having a major input into the curriculum. The agenda of these groups is contrary to my beliefs. In time I believe the Department will be sued by children / families as a result of their input and affect on children.

115. "Why is a core subject like Gaeilge getting the same teaching time as wellbeing?

Get SPHE gender nonsense out of school!."

116. I am completely against any form of gender ideology being taught in my children's school.

117. Teachers are not qualified psychologists. Political interference from the UN is unacceptable. Parents have given no consent or mandate for gender ideology, critical race theory or social justice to be indoctrinated into School Curriculum.

118. "I would like religion to be removed from the curriculum as Catholicism is not as entrenched in society anymore. Religion should be an extra curricular piece for those who wish to partake.

As an Irish person who chose not to baptise their child, I want my child to attend a national school. But she will not be partaking in the religious study. Should the religious study become multidenominational studies, this I could get behind."

119. Limited provision for high achievers - little attention to the highest achieving pupils

120. Sounds good but I am unaware of the detail. I hope the literacy part is more helpful to those with dyslexia.

121. I don't want poisonous far-left ideology being shoved down my kid's throat. Organisations like TENI, BelongTo or any other child grooming or race-hustling communists should have their vile submissions accepted by the INTO.

122. Appalled that the time is being reduced for Gaeilge our National language. This is a regressive move time allocation to Gaeilge should be increased.SPHE teaches things that are totally inappropriate for primary school kids they Dre being exposed to too much confusing information.

123. I believe specific religious education should take place outside of school but there should be broad teaching of works religions, ethics and values. Strongly support modern foreign language but disappointed less time for gaeilge. Otherwise support proposed changes.

124. Would not like to see any reduction in teaching Gaeilge.

125. Do not agree with reduced time for religion, im notnoverly religious but at end of everything we ask for him. Really think the maths reteachings will be highly beneficial and productive

126. Parents need to be made aware of key changes once implemented
127. Disappointing to see a reduction in hours of Irish but I wonder if that is being compensated for by scattering it throughout the rest of the school day with vocabulary? Very happy to see reduction in religion and expansion of PE.
128. I'm interested in the teaching on feelings and relationships and how its taught, as different families have styles
129. The curriculum should focus on life skills instead of religion. Religion should be the responsibility of the family not the school as it is not a necessity of life, but the school has a duty to make sure that children are equipped with life skills as not all children have families that can show them.
130. The play-based emphasis across subjects is welcome as making learning fun works best for my child.
131. I strongly agree that the sexuality topics suppose to be delayed at list until the 6th class. Kids should be left alone to discover all naturally as they grow, ...and they learn just enough about those subjects in their own environment, home life with parents and siblings etc.
132. No
133. I do not think the new changes have been communicated to parents / citizens effectively. I was unaware of most of the changes. My sister is a teach, she informed me of some of the changes.
134. Teaching gaelige in a new way.
135. O
136. It seems positive. Would hope that the relationship and feelings is appropriate for different ages.
137. I think reduced time for Religion is what ud prefer
138. Yes. I do not want the new curriculum implemented for Social Personal and Heath Education. Its way beyond what children need to be learing about regarding the sexual content
139. Any changes need to be enforced and monitored in schools, for example, in my daughters schools they do not currently have even the allocated 1.5 hours PE
140. Giving extra autonomy to schools to nadapt to the needs of their children is positive. The curriculum seemed to be overloaded. Hopefully the new curriculum is not too stretched and that it is properly funded!
141. Catholic / Christian indoctrination should be removed from valuable school time and Gaeilge should not be reduced
142. NA
143. I have major concerns with the reduction in time given to academics and the increased emphasis on wellbeing. I do not believe it is beneficial for children to learn a MFL in primary school.
144. More children centred
145. I think it will be a disaster

If you selected 'Other', please tell us about any additional school-parent partnership practices in your school:

1. It is good however, working parents are often excluded
2. Contact with the support teacher
3. Parent classes during school time
4. I want to add here that I feel our school is NOT at all parent friendly. In fact, I am the chair of the PA, and it is exceedingly difficult to engage with the school management, there is almost NO information sharing in terms of policies, school plans, teaching methods, special events (e.g. English week next week is not even shared with the parents). There is an Instagram which literally says 'well done' to whomever for sporting activities and that is about all. I also really hate the fact that there is such an intertwined relationship with the local GAA (focus from our principal) at the expense of many other sports/activities in school.
5. Direct email to teacher who will come back to us straight away
6. Strong Principal parent relationship
7. "There is only 1 Parent-teacher meeting every year in Oct-Nov, which is way too early and not enough! There should be min 2, one before Dec and one after February.
Also, there is no open-door policy, we can't even enter the school grounds."
8. Invited to school Mass, retirements, school graduations, matches etc. Some parents help out in active school activities. Do WOW on Wednesdays
9. Open hour every first Friday of the month 8.50-9.50 where parents/caregivers are welcome to visit the classroom, engage in morning circle, activities...
10. Social events organised by the parents committee for the parents and children
11. Strong email communication with teachers; issues are addressed immediately and I always feel like I'm kept in the loop.
12. School actively keeps parents out.
13. Weekly newsletter from the principal. Designated times each day for parents to have a quick chat with teaches.
14. n/a
15. "I selected other really to highlight how poor parent teacher meeting are. Once a year, for 5 minutes, in October when the teacher barely knows the child provides little information for parents. I find the same message is delivered yearly except test results. No further updates through year & now with school providing books which stay in school, you don't even know what is being covered.
Should be regular updates & not just end of year reports "
16. "Open an opportunity it to Parents Experts in Some areas, to contribute to Toolkits and Learning content:
SME Parents & The Educational Bodies can get together, brainstorm and produce awesome stuff :)"

17. Paired reading
18. "Regular Masses for parents and grandparents.
Sad that parents and our place in education have been increasingly ignored by NCCA and DoE. "
19. "I don't want my children involved in activism - they are just children.
I don't want my children exposed to groups like belong in school setting "
20. "Parents Councils deal with raffles & School shows. There are no meetings facilitated to discuss Curriculum which should have happened prior to School books entering the classroom. Parents are not partners or co-parenting with Schools. Taxes provide an education service. Parents didn't consent to the changes happening. Schools have failed to communicate with Parents. The NCCA have allowed activists & Ngo's to alter Curriculum & embed Marxist queer theory. Catholic Schools are not getting christian values in books that are by woke publishers. Books recommended are not being used in Catholic Schools. Schools are not protecting the children & are failing to involve Parents in developments.
The National Parents Council is culpable by supporting TENI, Belongto & treating them as 'experts' when they are activists. Questionnaires, Consultations & Assemblies are no substitute for actual parental consent. Is this just another tick box exercise? The NPC should not be in receipt of State funding in order to truly support Parent's independently. Parents would pay a subscription if there was transparency. "
21. None of the above
22. Teachers who work with parents for individual child needs.
23. Aladin App
24. Aladdin provides good communication between parents and school for various reasons.
25. Parents can complete Garda Vetting and help facilitate out of school activities eg. swimming, museums trips, days out.
26. Community days eg. Cake sale, communion=confirmation after party, Grandparents day, fun evening
27. NA

Can you tell us more about this?

1. Through information from school directly
2. Email from school
3. N/a
4. New maths programme and SPHE
5. The NCCA website has information for parents and general overview videos by subject area about the revised Primary School Curriculum.
6. All thanks to the natural,women's councils who are highlighting the true rot in the education system
7. The school emailed us with information about the upcoming change, and they informed us about the approach the school has taken.
8. Teaching children about more than 2 genders as a fact it's wrong. Puberty is hard on its own , so let the children figure out themselves in later stage of life who they are , without pushing on them certain Idea and ideology.
9. Gov.ie
10. Just in emails I received so far,regarding new curriculum

Is there any additional information or support that you would like to help with the new curriculum?

1. Information sessions for parents, workshops
2. Structured Literacy - similar to Dcode and Ncode.
3. "I think some overview leaflets containing the broad headlines of the changes which are important for parents to know (distributed online and through social media; also printed and distributed through schools).
There has been a lot of mis/disinformation circulated online around SPHE and the reduced time for Irish, for example, which could be addressed and corrected in a factual way."
4. I feel that we haven't received many updates from the School about this, and so, I am not sure of what is being implemented. I could not find information about the redeveloped curriculum in the school's website, so, that perhaps may be useful.
5. Yes, there should be a meeting in the school about new curriculum and more information what exactly is going to be taught
6. Booklet sent home from school

What information or support would you like to help with the new curriculum?

1. What changes are going to happen
2. For dyslexic children
3. It would be helpful for all schools to inform parents for this new curriculum and provide digital information about it (like pdfs) so that parents could read them and understand all aspects of this new curriculum
4. Special education
5. More information
6. Emails regarding changes
7. Brief email
8. Emailed info
9. Handouts through the letter box of primary school parents either directly or through the school. An informal meeting with the school to understand the changes and how they will interpret them
10. Info booklet or website
11. As a mother who did not grow up in Ireland, I struggle to help my kids with Irish and this is reflected in their marks. With an increasing population of families in this situation is it possible to move the requisites for third level education around Irish while still keeping it as a mandatory part of an Irish education?
12. I'd like to know the reasoning behind the changes
13. That the department, through the schools shares this information openly at every part of the planning stage. If it wasn't for the NPC I wouldn't know anything about curriculum changes etc.
14. An outline of the implementation over the next few years.
15. To be informed of the changes
16. All information welcome
17. What is being covered or changed in the curriculum
18. Info on it
19. Could information be sent to us rather than us having to request it
20. Some details on time allocation and details for all topics
21. A broad outline
22. Any
23. It would be great if the school sent out an email with information about the changes being made to the new curriculum
24. Just to be aware of the changes
25. Newsletter email from school
26. Maybe a look at some of the work books so we know what's going to happen.
27. Introduction evening to explain it.
28. Written Information
29. Link from schools to the new curriculum
30. I would like to know exactly what, in simple terms, the changes are and how they will be taught to my child.
31. Leaflet. Overviews. Summaries. Infographic

32. Detailed booklet explaining the changes
33. A document which is not 30+ pages long. A 2-pager bullet point document, with links to the appropriate full text if parents want to follow up. But a headline document would be extremely useful. Otherwise parents won't read it - and the language is too complicated for many parents also.
34. Just more advertising of this new curriculum - an awareness campaign perhaps through social media and other media outlets.
35. All of it and what is for children with learning difficulties
36. Not sure, info packs
37. Regular updates of any changes.
38. Detailed course information
39. Information on the new curriculum to be shared with parents, including any new teaching/learning practices to help guide parents with their children's learning at home
40. Outline of new learning processes to support child's learning at home
41. Summary of how it will change and help children / parents
42. A breakdown of how the changes affect a child's day/week in school.
43. An information booklet/email
44. Content and changes taking place
45. a video that can be listened to rather than a long document
46. Any information would be good
47. I'd like to understand the changes as a whole
48. To know what is changing in the curricula
49. Changes and subject covered
50. Formal Notification of the updates
51. Information on content
52. A summary of the main changes in each subject
53. Information leaflet
54. To see the scope and what would be removed from religion
55. Objective of the new curriculum and considerations - support for neurodiversity and that it keeps abreast with the modern world e.g. technology and A.I.
56. Around the English language for my son with dyslexia.
57. school talks, information re how it directly affects my children individually
58. Novels as part of the school curriculum. I would like to see novels such as the Boy in the Striped Pajamas taken out of the primary schools curriculum. It is not appropriate fiction for children. Any information on the Holocaust or ethnic cleansing belongs to a History class of a day not to fictional material that is to be read over weeks.
59. Practical application of changes for children from junior infants to 2nd class in local school
60. Full new curriculum in pdf or in notes
61. Accessible information both in electronic format and in web browser that has options to convert to various languages

62. How as a parent we can help the children at home with the new curriculum the dos and don'ts the fun approach to learning when doing the homework
63. To know what's it about. All I know is that the school is going to be closed an extra 2 or 3 days because of this new curriculum
64. I just don't want my child to be listening to ideas about sensuality and genderism.
65. An easy visual
66. I would like to know when it's being introduced and if on a phased basis what the phasing is. What elements are optional or mandatory if any. What exactly is being taught under each subject and the method of teaching
67. Not sure.
68. What can I do as a parent to help my children
69. Why less Gaelge?
70. Sample curriculum
71. meetings and follow ups
72. Information evening for parents
73. Easy to access information online as well as information webinars and online videos.
74. To make the results of this poll public and to have proper debates on national t.v. in order to actually hear the voices of parents on the other side of debates not just the ones rolled out before us that we actually have little say in. A few representatives are not representative of the majority. . f
75. Document
76. In general further information per subject. Plus a timeframe for introduction of these changes.
77. Changes being made, benefits to & potential impact on child, if rolled out
78. Information Evening at school. Online links & resources to be forwarded
79. Some kind of informational document or presentation
80. Where I can access the curriculum content and what as parents we can be doing at home to support learning objectives.
81. information session
82. Changes made in view of subjects
83. an email from school outlining the changes
84. More information
85. information leaflets emailed with a summary of the changes
86. More communication between schools and parents
87. Other than NPC highlighting it, I was unaware of the new curriculum - there should be literature received from schools/dept as to what the key changes are to parents are informed
88. An email with the details
89. Outline of changes
90. how parents can participate / support
91. Way to support children with learning difficulties
92. An overview of this change please
93. Knowing where to find it

94. Leftlets sent home with children.
95. Critical thinking and creative social practice.
96. more information sent to parents
97. I would like to be informed of all the details and also what parent involvement is required and how I can support my children best
98. Webinar, Information booklet breaking down the new areas of the curriculum
99. All of it
100. More information on exactly what us being introduced especially the curriculum on personal education
101. More one on teaching or team teaching to support the children who struggle
102. the information...
103. All the details
104. I feel schools are already over burdened, but I think one parent teacher meeting in a year for some age groups is not enough. As a Mom of 4 children all of which are in primary school I think there needs to be clear guidelines given to parents as to the expected learning outcomes for a child in a particular class at the start of year, and I think the information on the new curriculum and information sessions should be held for parents.
105. Education newsletter
106. I would like full access to my children's SPHE textbooks.
107. Webinars to explain the changes would be helpful. Emails to parents explaining the changes for each subject and inviting questions. Just some communications on the matter would be welcome.
108. What's changing and why to understand and support learning reflecting the curriculum's aims.
109. How it will affect our kids on a day to day basis
110. Further information on worksheets and in school information that will be shared along with curriculum access
111. Strong support in learning Irish
112. Email information
113. I want to know how to help my child to learn better and to know what he is learning at school, I mean more transparency.
114. monthly updates and reviews
115. An information session on the new curriculum
116. A more inclusive approach would be appreciated
117. What the curriculum will look like, topics covered & how this will be delivered
118. How to assist with homework
119. An easy access guide to the changes and the plans in place to implement them
120. Example course material
121. More support for children who are Autistic and in a mainstream setting.
122. Overview of new curriculum, overview of why the changes are being made, guidance on how best to support your children

123. A direct link to website or a handout with details.
124. How to say NO to Marxist unscientific trans ideology
125. Bullet points as to the exact changes
126. Information session in school for parents, dedicated website (might exist already, just not aware), it would be beneficial to hear about it in the news as well
127. Visual examples of new curriculum workbooks etc
128. What are the proposed changes and what are the impacts on my children
129. School providing informative sessions for parents
130. A simple brief of what changes are being proposed, why they are being proposed and how they will be evaluated.
131. How to best support the new curriculum as a parent. Also the mental health and well-being content.
132. Information sessions at schools
133. Email of what's available
134. An info booklet or website sharing the changes and differences
135. I'd like to view the books being used and receive full information on the changes.
136. What's it about
137. I would like the exact lesson plans and programme plan for each of the new subject so I know what is being taught to my children.
138. Topics covered
139. Information on what it's going to be
140. I'm not aware of the new curriculum so I can't comment
141. To inform me for when it's starting and outline what the programme of it will be
142. Information day in school, website with video and info graphics, opportunity to submit questions
143. A reinforcement of status of patron's input.
144. Conference
145. Understand what the changes and objectives are for each class
146. Multiple information nights; sharing of the curriculum and to hear of school's plans to ensure Gaeilge, Culture, Music, Speech and Drama etc are not left behind. More camps for these subjects.
147. Information for parents that a new curriculum is being started
148. The changes being introduced
149. Easy guide to the changes and how it affects day to day
150. Have a channel to participate in the development of this new curriculum. Have a visibility on the work done on each subject area & competency which will reflect a real partnership.
151. I like to know what changes will be implemented and how will they improve the educational development of the primary school children.
152. I would like to know about it and how it improves the previous curriculum
153. Rationale and outcomes for the new design

154. Email, news is the media, articles
155. Access to textbooks and lesson plans
156. I want to know anything about gender ideology being taught to my children.
157. Meetings in Schools. Direct communication from the Dept of Education who is in charge of signing off. To hear from teachers who are sounding the alarm. Mary Creedon was treated in a dispicable manner. Teachers must not be bullied.
158. A summary document in 1-2 pages
159. Level at which the new curriculum will cover sexuality and gender identity. this shouldn't be taught at a primary school level.. how do you opt your child out of these classes?
160. Booklet information on exactly what is changing and why??
161. And SPHE or RSE books and lesson plans should be shared with parents
162. General information
163. I would like to know why time is being reduced for Gaeilge and what exactly is being covered by SPHE
164. Anything. I was not aware it existed
165. General outline of new or different aspects
166. A copy of the syllabus and learning outcomes.
167. more dept in the information that will be giving
168. The use of screens, media exposure and food environment in schools
169. Meetings and model showings. Perhaps parent teachings on how to assist our children at home
170. Bullet points if changes
171. More information
172. More information
173. I will email the above for info.
174. How it's getting taught, how it will work with the transitioning into secondary school.
175. Readily available, easy to read guides about the aims and objectives of the curriculum
176. A website that outlines the changes to the curriculum
177. I would like to be more familiar with the process for teaching certain subjects
178. Website info
179. Whatever information is available
180. Theres so much diversity in every classroom now, will there be more supports for children with needs?
181. Dept of Education to provide information leaflets for distribution thru schools & pre-schools. Dept of Ed (in conjunction with schools) to provide information sessions in a locality for parents
182. Details of any please
183. more information

- 184. Some basic parent instructions to assist children with homework. The way I was thought is considered outdated. I would like to support my children's education
- 185. Briefing sessions
- 186. Information on what the new curriculum is and how it differs from the current curriculum
- 187. Information about core teaching areas within each subject areas at different educational stages, e.g. what core areas are taught at Junior Infant Level in SPHE
- 188. Any information- don't know about the changes
- 189. If maths solutions are being completed differently, I'd like to understand the new method
- 190. What the new curriculum entails, I will do some research.
- 191. A principle that would relate to all parents

If you have any other comments, please use the box below:

1. "I would like if a specific Irish teacher came to teach each class who spoke only in Irish. Somebody to teach the language and not just memorising stuff. Somebody who is passionate about Irish."
2. I think it's really important to teach about a range of religions, evolution and LGBTQI content. I'd like to think that anti-misogyny lessons will be in effect, as well as lessons on the dangers of social media and mental health awareness.
3. Aligned with other european country, i think it would be great for primary school children to be introduced to a foreign language e.g. spanish, french or german
4. Thank you
5. Hopefully new curriculum helps build children's life skills
6. Hope there are more diverse modern foreign languages (MFL) to be introduced to students.
7. More information about what my child is learning would be interesting as we could support that more at home.
8. Happy to share my views more if needed: xxxx
9. It's a lot to process
10. Ive read about the changes!!!!?#@#.Maths was great as it was.No need to have changed it....Way too much input from.parents in my opinion..
11. It would be nice to have a life skills subject with practical skills like cooking, baking, knitting, moving in the community etc.
12. Reducing time for science when pushing stem is counterintuitive
13. Children in public primary school are not being given books to take home on History, Geography and Science in Gaeilge or in English. Our kids attend a Gaeilge school. I would like to see this changed. Our school is not providing children with any material / copy books with class work on the above subjects they could revise from.
14. I have noticed a few changes actively happening in the school my child attends I just really wish they gave more info to parents
15. In terms of curriculum, it would be interesting to know or maybe standardise what breaks are suppose to be like. Is the PE curriculum supposed to spill over to breaks? Are break times supposed to be used for competitive hurling practice every single day? Ultimately children that don't play sports aren't allowed to socialise with children that play sports and are pushed into practicing at break. Not to mention that most days they don't have enough time to eat their lunches. When older children complain about it, teacher says ... you aren't babies anymore! Since when as you grow up, you need less time to eat. When it comes to foreign language curriculum, wasn't another language supposed to be introduced by now? I remember reading about it a couple of years ago but I guess it's not happening and I haven't heard about it recently.

16. I do not want my child to be subjected to this genderism and sexual talks at such a young age. In my opinion they are not mature enough to evaluate or interpret the information in the manner which they may be able to in secondary school.

17. "Gael Scoil Chill Dara in Newbridge Co Kildare really have a lovely parent/teacher relationship

Teachers should have a phone in their classroom, I have a work phone and I think they should to, that's from my perspective "

18. There need to be some emphasis placed on foundational elements of maths, reading, spellings, grammar, English etc ie core foundation level skills eg tables, first before other subjects, reliant on those foundational elements are introduced

19. What if in small rural primary schools, children's phonics exams are being falsified in order to put that child into support classes under a special education teacher so their job will be safe. What if school books were not provided to your child, only photocopied sheets here and there out of the Phonics Word Book because the school said they did not have enough books to go around. This is definitely happening.

20. A leaflet for parents would be great. Outlining the curriculum by class and letting parents know how they can help with homework or information on how we can emphasise learning at home (eg if in history we can visit a castle to see real life ..)

21. "Communist marxist ideologies should be kept out of primary schools. We should not be imposing ideologies on children from a young age. Their innocence should be preserved. We the parents are the moral educators of our children. The schools also firm the children morally by their Catholic faith which is inclusive of all people. We should be allowed learn our faith through schools and for the government to respect and support us all in that. We love our faith. That is evident in all our Catholic schools and in the people that go there. The new curriculum does not provide the same core values we wish to observe and bring our children up with."

22. "Parents Association is fundraising only Parents teacher meeting is 5 minutes once yearly, in November, no other feedback, there should be regular opportunities for discussion/feedback "

23. "The curriculum's philosophical approach requires careful delineation regarding the concept of citizenship. There appears to be a notable confusion in the National Parents Council consultation documents between nurturing children to be active citizens and fostering 'activism'. It is critical to address the apparent conflation of these terms by stakeholders, including parents contributing to the consultation process. A clear, authoritative distinction must be drawn for both parents and teachers: 'Active Citizenship' fosters a constructive sense of belonging and positive contribution to one's immediate community, whereas 'Activism' involves political agitation and protest. The curriculum must explicitly guide all parties to understand that the primary school's remit is the former—building a foundation of community values—rather than recruiting children into political causes they do not yet possess the developmental maturity to fully comprehend."

24. "My son is in junior infants.

I find it challenging to come to terms with the use of tablets in primary school, especially with the very young classes given all the research which is proven in relation to children having screen time.

When I spoke to the principle of the school we discussed the push from the dept of education in relation to the move towards screens which is extremely disappointing.

My son has had no screen time until the point he started primary school and while he still has no screentime at home he now regularly looks to use my phone and my husbands phone to play games.

The current primary curriculum is encouraging screen use in an age where the disadvantages of screentime is spoken about and researched at length. "

25. Teachers burn out will increase if supports aren't put in place.

26. Whilst I appreciate technology in the classroom and its to be learned, I certainly feel like there is an over reliance on chrome books. The students seem to get them for movies/entertainment on some occasions and I often think they are used as a way to distract children rather than just educate. My concern on the new curriculum that there may be increased reliance on chromebooks that is unnecessary.

27. Spelling Rules - similar to Ncode system

28. n/a

29. I think teachers and school leaders will require adequate support, training, time and funding (for classroom resources) to implement the curriculum changes. It would be essential that this is provided so that the intended benefits of the curriculum changes can be fully realised in the classroom for our children.

30. The primary years are such an important time in children's lives and I feel strongly about helping children to become all rounded children, but at the same time I also think it is important for children to experience failure for example if they do not get 10/10 and to learn to take constructive criticism from feedback on a piece of work, as we need to help develop children who are resilient too. Parents need to be aware of the impact of giving their children their STEN scores and letting their children brag to other children. I think the new curriculum has an opportunity to create a bigger partnership with parents re the child's learning and not necessarily just the monotony of homework.

31. New Curriculum seems to be including all "buzz" topics but Id wonder about actual skills that will serve children to be independent & resilient....in my opinion the gap between the social & economic background will increase dramatically with more losers than winners because of access to devices/equipment etc. That is a backwards step in my opinion

32. Nil.

33. Leave the kids alone. Stop indoctrination. Take accountability for the books published.

34. N/A

35. "Increased parent engagement in their child's school development
Parent awareness of topics covered in class to help child
An open door policy not just parents stay beyond the gate "
36. "Cases Studies and Feedback from Kids and Parents on latest curriculum
Success Metrics for measuring that the new curriculum will meet the goals."
37. I want to say NO to sidelining our Christian faith
38. It's a positive change all round! But parent need to be active players, and they need to be empowered to be so
39. N/a
40. Given the succession of paternal rights that this brings to schools, the chain of responsibility for when it all goes wrong for a child needs to be established.
41. "I'm happy overall with the new curriculum, especially the Maths, with its focus on play and investigation. The publishers have done a good job providing good resources although they have only done it through English. Gaelscoileanna have been left high and dry largely. I don't believe publishers should be allowed to publish until they have both languages catered for, not just the profitable ones. It is a question of parity of esteem and a level playing field.
In terms of the Primary Curriculum as a whole, I believe it's important to always be willing to change with times and new innovations. "
42. At primary level if basics/ foundations are not covered well children are at all loss in secondary level
43. No meetings of area parents.
44. In our school there is no Parent's council/association and hasn't been since before Covid. The only missives we get are asking for money. The voluntary contribution is not a discretionary amount decided by parent but 150€ per child as well as 50€ for stationary and insurance. No communication from BofM for over 5yrs. No transparency. And no effort to involve parents. As a parent who can speak Irish, I have become the advisor in the parent's whatsapp group for Gaeilge, and in encouraging and supporting my friends in teaching their children as the school has no interest in teaching this. It is unacceptable that after studying to teach, that teachers can choose to not teach Gaeilge to a decent level and shrug shoulders when parents ask why their child has to do pass level in Secondary school. If it was taught as a foreign language our children would be fluent. It should be. After 4 years in school my son is still learning 8 Irish spellings each week and in Second class is not reading or writing any! But a child next door in same class is reading pages each night. How can there be such a difference between 2 country schools!
45. It's a shame to see Gaeilge and religion time reduced. As two elements that are proud components of us as a nation, it would be encouraging to see them celebrated. Thankfully, our wonderful little Catholic school has a strong ethos of faith and Gaeilge but I feel badly for upcoming students who will be disadvantaged by this lesser amount of time.

46. "I would like a longer school day to include more time for eating and play. I also like the Scandinavian way of 10 mins each hour is outdoors regardless of weather - they are cooped in too much. I think we should begin the conversation of a 4 day schooling week with longer days for the four - it may take years to happen but we need to start talking about the real benefit of day 5 and could longer 4 days work as well if not better."
47. "Please put in place a programme for foreign languages that will not be dropped when financial circumstances change. Please finance sports halls and equipment for sport with international sports not just Gaelic sports. Please use Irish food products especially meat supporting our farmers and environmentally friendly. Please do not use products outside the European Union. "
48. Get gender ideology out of schools. My children already know that men can't become women and have been instructed to tell me anything that says otherwise when in school. I will object to any gender ideology being taught to my children.
49. Would like to see the minutes of meetings between NPC, TENI, DEPT of Education & NCCA made available. & an option for Parents to share their concerns with other Parents. Full transparency with Parents. Parents are primary educators not stakeholders.
50. N/a
51. We are delighted with how our kids are progressing and believe the school and powers that be are doing a great service
52. Not all children are academic and many won't progress to college, they need to see that other life choices are reflected in the curriculum
53. No
54. Im very concerned about the implementation of areas of this curriculum
55. I am happy with more emphasis on health and creativity for students
56. I think for new curriculums to taught effectively there needs to be a good look at pupil/teacher ratio.
57. I would like more engagement with the school. Our school is very much separate to home.
58. NA
59. I have concerns, specifically with my son and his ability with Irish. He is 10yrs old now and due to COVID missed most of junior infants. He's in 4th class now and gets no Irish homework. Is this normal? I've been getting him to use Duolingo as I appreciate the struggle ahead of he doesn't get the basics. It's unfair that junior cert Irish is the equivalent of an English paper when most kids have no basic understanding.
60. "Would love to see more learning regarding self regulation and understanding (and accepting) emotions."
61. Teachers needs to be assessed regularly