



Scoil Mhuire Nua: Your Questions Answered.

Q When will the new school be completed?

A The Board of Management applied to Galway County Council for planning permission on 8th July 2022.
It is hoped that the new school building project will be complete by the summer of 2025.

Q Where exactly is the new school being built?

A The new school will be constructed on the land behind the existing school.

Q Will the new school be a 2 storey building?

A Yes. The school will be a 2 storey building.

Q Will the neighbouring residential estates be adversely affected by the construction of the new school?

A Great care has, and will be taken, to ensure that this is not the case. Beyond the unavoidable inconvenience of having a construction site nearby, the Board of Management hopes that the impact upon our neighbours will be minimal. In fact, drainage works at the new school will improve drainage in neighbouring estates. It is not in the interests of either the Board of Management or the Department of Education and Skills (DES) that the construction of our new school would pose a major problem or inconvenience.

Q Will neighbouring houses be overlooked by a big 2 storey school building?

A Great care has been taken by the design team to address this. As can be seen from the plans, the designers have gone to great lengths to respect the privacy of local residents.

Q How big will the school site be?

A The total area of the school grounds, when construction has been completed, will be approximately 2.5 acres, just over 1 hectare.

Q Will the school be able to function while the new school is being built?

A Yes. Thanks to the cooperation of neighbouring landowners (for which we are very grateful) access to the building site will be from the south, meaning that the existing school in its current form (minus our pitch) will continue to operate as normal.

Q Won't the proximity of the building site and the noise of construction affect the school for the duration of the build?

A Yes, to a degree, and we will just have to get on with it.

Q What will happen to the existing school and the modular classrooms at the front of the school when the new school is complete?

A The existing main school building will be demolished. The modular classrooms, which are owned by the DES, will be removed offsite.



Q What will be installed on the site of the existing main school building and modular buildings?

A The plans for the new school include a drop off facility for parents bringing children to school, car parking spaces for staff, basketball courts and play areas. The Board would also like to install as large an all-weather pitch as space will allow.

Q Will the new school have a sports hall, as is currently the case?

A Yes, the new school will have a bigger, better sports hall. The existing Halla Mór is 176 sq. metres. The new Halla Mór will be 195 sq. metres, with adjoining toilets, a kitchenette and a store.

Q Will school facilities be available for use outside of school hours?

A Scoil Mhuire is, and has always been, at the heart of the Community of Moycullen. The Board of Management will manage the school's resources and facilities for the good of our pupils and of our community in general.

Q How many classrooms will the new school have?

A The new school will have 16 mainstream classrooms, as is the case in the existing school. The school will also have accommodation for 2 Special Classes in its dedicated Special Needs Unit.

Q For which pupils will the 2 new Special Classes cater?

A That will be a matter for the Special Educational Needs Organiser (SENO) to decide, based on demand locally. It is likely that at least one of the Special Classes will be an ASD Class, catering for pupils with Autism. It is possible that the other Special Class may be a SSLD Class, catering for children with Speech and Language Disorder.

Q Will the new school have sufficient capacity to meet the demand for primary school places in future years?

A Given the amount of housing development that is currently taking place in Moycullen and its associated growth in population, it is highly unlikely that the new school will be able to offer school places to all who apply.

Q Is the school going to install temporary modular accommodation (prefabs) at the new school to meet the growing demand for school places?

A The Board of Management has no intention of installing temporary modular accommodation at our new school.

Q Is the project being funded by the DES? Will the school need to fundraise?

A Yes, the project is DES funded. However, certain other expenses associated with the new build, in addition to the cost of installing any additional facilities and provision of additional resources, will fall to the Board of Management. The school will have to raise significant funds going forward to meet these costs.