

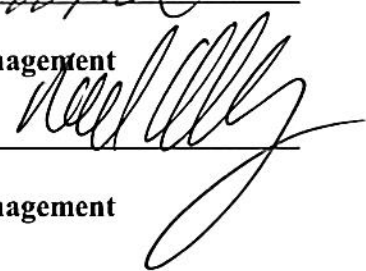
PME Placement Policy



Griffeen Community College

Ratified by the Board of Management

Signed: 
Chairperson,
Board of Management

Signed: 
Secretary,
Board of Management

Review Date:

22/june/21

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MISSION STATEMENT

Introduction & Ethos

Griffeen Community College (CC) is a co-educational multi belief post-primary school. The college will operate under the patronage of Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB), in partnership with Scoil Sinéad Ltd., a new partner for post primary education in Ireland. Scoil Sinéad's mission is to provide an educational platform that facilitates every child to achieve their true potential, regardless of individual challenges.

Griffeen CC is a school embracing modern and innovative approaches to teaching and learning through the medium of English. Our shared aim is to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment, utilizing available resources, where all learners will flourish.

Griffeen CC provides an array of educational experiences and development opportunities for students built on the principles of the Universal Design for Learning. The goal of the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is to use a variety of teaching methods and remove possible barriers to learning providing students with opportunities to succeed. Combining the experience and innovation of DDLETB and the unique vision of inclusive education endorsed by Scoil Sinéad, Griffeen CC is committed to the highest quality educational provision modelled on the capacities and unique needs of each child.

Mission Statement

Griffeen CC promotes the development of the whole person. It aims to nurture, in partnership with parents, responsible citizens equipped with skills for learning and for life. By creating a supportive and motivating learning environment we ensure that every student is given the opportunity to succeed. Awareness of students individual learning styles informs the learning strategies, thus personalizing the learning exchange for each student. The spirit of the college is based on respect, tolerance, understanding and appreciation for the diversity of our changing world. The Board of Management oversees the development of a caring and inclusive community where wisdom, inclusion and dignity are core values of our school. Fostering an atmosphere of mutual respect is central to what we do.

The community of teachers and parents, supported by the Board of Management are committed to creating a caring, learning community where each student is valued and accorded respect and dignity. Students will learn with pride, progress with confidence and achieve with human purpose.

Our Key Principles

- Wisdom-we aim to promote the importance of experience and good judgement
- Inclusion – we promote social inclusion and provide opportunity for all.
- Dignity – we promote equality of access to education and the dignity of each individual.
- Respect for diversity – we welcome diversity and embrace the values, cultures and traditions of all our pupils to the benefit of all.

Learn with Pride and Progress with Confidence

PME Placement Policy

Introduction

(A) Griffeen Community College recognises the need for the next generation of teachers to be facilitated in their training, and as such is willing to be part of that process, within the parameters of this policy, as approved by the Board of Management of Griffeen Community College.

The Board of Management of Griffeen Community College acknowledges the following regarding initial teacher education and the role of school placement in this process:

- Positive school placement experiences are critical to ensuring appropriate initial teacher education for all student teachers.
- It is desirable that schools host student teachers for placement and, in doing so, provide student teachers with the opportunity to observe teaching and to teach classes independently, in collaboration with suitably qualified practicing teachers.
- In the course of school placement, student teachers require the support of the whole-school community in their journey towards professional competence.
- Hosting student teachers on placement is enriching for the learners in a school, student teachers, co-operating teachers, the wider school community and Higher Education Institutions. In particular, learners benefit from a greater variety of teaching, learning and co-curricular experiences through the structured participation of student teachers in the school. Furthermore, the school gains access to a variety of newer approaches to teaching and learning through its engagement with student teachers and Higher Education Institutions' staff.

(B) Student teachers must apply to the Principal for a placement.

(C) Each student teacher should send a cover letter, placement requirements and a copy of their C.V. to the Principal or Deputy Principal.

(D) A student teacher will only be given a placement if there is a teacher willing to act as a cooperating teacher.

(E) Griffeen Community College should be advised of any vetting procedures that the Higher Education Institutions have carried out before the student teacher commences in Griffeen

Community College. It is the responsibility of each student teacher to have their vetting confirmed by their Teacher Training College before a school placement commences.

(F) Griffeen Community College reserves the right to cancel a placement at any stage if the Principal feels it appropriate.

(G) Before the placement begins the student teacher will attend an induction programme with our New Teacher Coordinator. At this meeting school policies and procedures and supports will be detailed. The student teacher should familiarise themselves with all relevant documents.

(H) As a member of staff, the student teacher should be aware of the Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers, published by the Teaching Council (2007) and drawn up in accordance with the Teaching Council Act 2001.

The student teacher is expected to conform fully to the ethos of the school and be available, throughout placement for the duration of the school day (when not in college). They will be willing to help in the school, in an appropriate manner, according to the wishes of school management.

The student teacher will be required to work according to the cooperating teacher and subject departments, scheme of work.

Commitment to hosting student teachers

Griffeen Community College is committed to hosting student teachers for school placement and, in this context, adopts without modification as part of this school placement policy the Guidelines on School Placement developed by the Teaching Council in consultation with all relevant education partners.

Implications for the school hosting student teachers on placement.

Hosting a student teacher on placement will, inter alia, involve the student teacher observing classes being taught by members of the school's teaching staff. It will also involve student teachers teaching classes, in the first instance, while being observed and supported by the teacher with primary responsibility for the welfare and educational progress of the class (the co-operating teacher). Then, as the student teacher's competence develops, the student teacher will move to teaching classes independently in line with Higher Education Institutions requirements and the student teacher's particular stage of development on the Initial Teacher Education programme.

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Scheduling of student teachers on placement

The Principal or Deputy Principal will allocate student teachers to cooperating teachers and classes, having regard for:

- the stage the student teacher is at in their initial teacher education programme;
- the particular needs of the learners in a particular class;
- the requirement for the student teacher to experience an appropriate range of placement contexts;
- any special circumstances of which the co-operating teacher has an awareness.

Induction of student teachers on placement

Student teachers will, prior to commencing their placement, be provided with an orientation to the key personnel, ethos and work of the school, this induction will be conducted by the schools New Teacher Coordinator.

Supports for the student teacher

Griffeen Community College is committed to supporting positively and sensitively the student teacher in accordance with the Guidelines on School Placement developed by the Teaching Council in consultation with all relevant education partners. Furthermore, the school is committed to allocating the student teacher to (an) appropriate co-operating teacher(s) and to the classes essential to them undertaking their school placement successfully. The school will also provide the student teacher with the teaching facilities and resources necessary to their work during the placement.

Continuing professional development for staff involved in supporting/facilitating student teacher placement.

The Board of Management and the school's Senior Leadership Team are committed to promoting and facilitating the participation of school staff in continuing professional development programmes essential to ensuring the successful operation of student teacher placement in the school.

Observation of student teachers on placement

The co-operating teacher has ultimate responsibility for the class to which the student teacher has been assigned. As such co-operating teachers will be expected to:

- Devise and set the Winter and Summer assessments.
- Correct the Winter and Summer assessments.

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- Input results and comments into the school data management system (VShare).
- Assist the PME with the promotion of positive behaviour in the class.
- Arrange to meet the student teacher regularly to access progress.
- Observe the student teacher in classes throughout the school year.
- Give information on subject curriculum.
- Explain how to access subject department resources.
- Advise on teaching methodologies and schemes.
- Advise on methods of assessment.
- Advise on strategies to support pupils with particular needs.
- Ensure knowledge regarding responsibility for disciplinary and pastoral matters as well as all school policies.
- Attend Parent Teacher Meetings for classes taught by the student teacher. The cooperating teacher can meet the parents with the student teacher or the cooperating teacher can meet the parents on their own.

Policy reviews

This policy will be reviewed by the school management authority periodically.