



Board of Management Report 7 May 2026

The Board was updated on recent events in BETNS including:

- Neurodiversity Week and Active Schools Week
- The ongoing development of the school library
- The visit of the Incoming Infants with their parents/guardians for the first of their Stay and Plays
- Essential maintenance work on the outdoor environment.

The Board welcomed our new ANA, Anna Szmaj, to the school and wished her well for her time in Ballinteer ETNS.

The Board learned of the work of the school gardening committee who have been doing great work in the school garden. They have weeded, planted and tidied up the garden areas and spruced up the planters. Their contribution to the school is much appreciated.

Five Board members participated in the Educate Together AGM which was held in Ballinteer ETNS on Saturday, 9 May. The organisers of the AGM thanked the Ballinteer ETNS school community for the warm welcome and generosity shown to all visitors throughout the day.

The Board considered a letter signed by a number of parents/guardians asking that the Board reconsider the timing of the 6th Class Graduation. The Board understands that this letter was circulated through class WhatsApp groups to parents/guardians of children in 4th to 6th classes.

The Department of Education and Youth Circular 16/73 makes clear that the Principal has overall responsibility for the day-to-day management and operation of the school. The scheduling and organisation of school events, including the timing of the 6th Class Graduation, fall within the Principal's remit and are not matters for determination by the Board.

Having the Graduation during the school day represents a change from previous practice, and the Board understands that some families may be disappointed by this change. However, the Board recognises the significant planning and preparation undertaken by the 6th Class team, including class teachers, support teachers, ANAs, and their colleagues who work together with the 6th children to ensure they have a memorable and enjoyable experience at this important school event. The children and staff look forward to welcoming their guests, especially parents / guardians, to this special occasion. The Board wishes wish all 6th Class children, their parents/guardians, and staff a wonderful celebration.

The Board of Management also considered some routine matters, which for reasons of confidentiality are not included in this report. The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, 11 June 2026.