



Growing Up in Ireland – Survey of 9-year-olds

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

PRINCIPAL'S QUESTIONNAIRE

Growing Up in Ireland is a major government study on children. The purpose of the study is to improve our understanding of all aspects of childhood and children's development. It examines how children develop over time and identifies which factors affect a child's development and make for a healthy and happy childhood or for a less happy one. The results of the study are being used by government to develop policies and interventions to support children and their families in the future.

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs is funding the study in association with the Central Statistics Office. A contribution is also being made by The Atlantic Philanthropies. The Department of Education and Skills is represented on the Steering Group which oversees the study. A group of researchers led by the Economic & Social Research Institute (ESRI) and Trinity College Dublin is carrying out the study.

The parents/guardians of each of the children listed on the ***Growing Up in Ireland School Record Form*** which will be emailed to you have already filled out questionnaires in their home. They have also signed a consent form which gives us permission to ask the teacher to complete the questionnaire about their child (the green questionnaire). All information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence. This information will not be seen by the child or by his/her parents/guardians.

An information sheet outlining in more detail the objectives of the study accompanies this questionnaire.

School ID (see enclosed cover letter)

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Completion Date: _____ day _____ month _____ year

1. Are you male or female? Male₁ Female₂

2. To which age group do you belong?

20 - 29 yrs₁ 30 - 39 yrs₂ 40 - 49 yrs .₃ 50 - 59 yrs₄ 60 yrs or older.....₅

3. For how many years have you been a Principal:

(a) in this school _____ years (b) in other Primary School(s)? _____ years

4. Which of the following qualifications do you hold? [*Please tick all that apply*]

- A primary school teaching diploma or certificate, or other primary school qualification₁
- A primary degree in education (B.Ed)₂
- A primary degree in another subject₃
- A postgraduate diploma in education₄
- A qualification in learning support, special education or resource teaching₅
- A higher degree in education (PhD, Masters etc.)₆
- A higher degree in another subject (PhD, Masters etc.)₇
- Other [please specify] _____ ₈

5. Did you do any continuing professional development (in-service training or up-skilling) in the last 12 months?

Yes ₁ No..... ₂

6. How many days or hours of professional development did you do? _____ days _____ hours

7. What is the school's DEIS status?

- DEIS – Urban Band 1₁
- DEIS – Urban Band 2₂
- DEIS – Rural₃
- Non-disadvantaged₄

8. Is this a private fee-paying school? Yes₁ No₂

9. Does the school receive voluntary contributions from parents? Yes₁ No₂

10. If yes, how much is each family asked to give per year? € _____ per family

11. What proportion of parents pay? _____ %

12. How many boys and how many girls were enrolled in the school on 30th September 2017?

Boys _____ Girls _____ Total Pupils _____

13. What is the main language medium of your school?

English₁ Gaeilge₂

14. What is the ethos of your school?

- Roman Catholic₁ Church of Ireland₂
- Other Christian₃ Jewish₄
- Muslim₅ Educate Together₆
- Community National School₇ Other (specify) _____ ₈

15. In addition to your duties as Principal, do you have a teaching class assigned to you?

Yes₁ No₂

16. How many *full-time* and *part-time* teachers work in this school? Please indicate how many are male and how many are female. (Please include the Principal among the teaching staff.)

<i>Teachers</i>	<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Part-time</i>
Male		
Female		
Total		

17. Excluding yourself, how many *full-time* and *part-time* administrative staff work in your school? (Please include the Principal among the teaching staff.)

Full-time admin. staff _____ Part-time admin. staff _____ [If none, please write none. Do not leave blank]

18. Approximately how many staff does your school currently have in the following capacities? Please indicate the number employed on a full-time and part-time basis.

		Full-time	Part-time
a)	Learning support/resource teachers		
b)	Language support teachers		
c)	Special needs assistants		
d)	Other teaching assistants		

19. How many rooms (including prefabs, etc) are used as classrooms in the school? _____ classrooms
20. Of these, how many portable classrooms (prefabs) are there in the school? _____ portable classrooms
21. How many classes (across all year-groups) are there in the school? _____ classes
22. Approximately how many children is the school designed for? _____ children
23. In what year was the school built? _____ year
24. In what year was the school most recently refurbished? _____ year never ... 9
25. How would you rate the school's resources in each of the following areas?

		Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
a)	Number of teachers	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b)	Number of classrooms	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c)	Books and worksheets	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d)	Computing facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
e)	Broadband access	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
f)	Arts and crafts facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
g)	Sports facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
h)	Music facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
i)	Playground	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
j)	Mathematics resources/facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
k)	Library/media centre	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
l)	Staff room	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
m)	Toilet facilities	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
n)	Learning support provision	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
o)	After-school facilities (e.g. homework clubs)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
p)	Administrative support	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
q)	Condition of the school building, classrooms etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
r)	Facilities for children with special needs	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
s)	Provision of Special Needs Assistants	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
t)	Provision of English as Additional Language	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

26. Does the school have a Home-School Community Liaison Co-ordinator? Yes.....₁ No.....₂

27. Does the school provide a 'breakfast club'?

Yes, every day₁ Yes, some days₂ No.....₃

28. Is this provided under DEIS? Yes.....₁ No.....₂

29. Does the school provide **free** school meals at lunchtime?

Yes, every day₁ Yes, some days.....₂ No.....₃

30. Is this provided under DEIS? Yes.....₁ No.....₂

31. Does the school have the following facilities or services?

		Yes	No
a)	An active parents' association/council	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
b)	A parents' room within the school	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
c)	Parenting courses	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
d)	Other courses for parents (e.g. literacy, art/craft)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
e)	Access to health or social service professionals on the school premises	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂

32. Approximately how many computers (PCs, laptops, tablets etc.) in total does the school have? _____ computers

33. Of these, how many can be used **by the pupils**, i.e. excluding those used **solely** by administrative or teaching staff?
 _____ used by the pupils

34. What proportion of students use an individual device for educational purposes in the classroom?

Tick one box for each row. Devices may be owned by either the school or the pupil.

	Most/all	More than half	About half	Less than half	None
Laptops, Netbooks, Mini-notebooks	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
Tablets	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
Mobile phones/smartphones	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
Other device, please specify _____	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

35. Does the school have a dedicated computer room for pupils? Yes.....₁ No.....₂

36. Are the school buildings and other facilities (playing fields, etc if relevant) open to the local community?

		Yes	No
a)	In the evenings during the week	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
b)	At weekends	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
c)	Out of term time	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂

37. For each of the following extracurricular activities, (a) are they provided in your school for pupils, either at lunchtime or after school hours, and (b) are they provided under either DEIS or the School Completion Programme (SCP)?

	(a) <i>Provided in school</i>		(b) <i>If yes, Provided under:</i>		
	No..... <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Yes ... <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<i>DEIS</i>	<i>SCP</i>	<i>Neither</i>
(a) Team sports (e.g. football)	No..... <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Yes ... <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
(b) Individual sports (e.g. judo, running)	No..... <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Yes ... <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
(c) Music/dance	No..... <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Yes ... <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
(d) Drama	No..... <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Yes ... <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
(e) Arts/crafts	No..... <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Yes ... <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
(f) Computers/technology	No..... <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Yes ... <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
(g) Homework club	No..... <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Yes ... <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
(h) Other activities/clubs	No..... <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Yes ... <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃

38. In your opinion, how important is each of the following to the ethos of the school?

		Very important	Fairly important	Not important	Not sure
a)	Sports	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b)	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c)	Music	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d)	Drama	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
e)	Involvement with the community	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
f)	Involvement with parents / guardians	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
g)	Social justice / concern for disadvantaged groups	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
h)	Environmental awareness	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
i)	Irish language and culture	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

39. Approximately how many of each of the following groups of pupils do you have in your school?

If none, please write 'NONE' – do not leave blank. The same child can be recorded more than once.

- a) Pupils from an immigrant background.....(Number) _____
- b) Pupils of families from the Travelling Community(Number) _____
- c) Pupils whose native language is other than English / Irish (Number) _____
- d) Pupils with physical / sensory disabilities(Number) _____
- e) Pupils with learning / intellectual disabilities.....(Number) _____

40. Approximately, what was the **Average Daily Attendance** for your school in the academic year 2016 / 2017?

_____ % Average Daily Attendance OR _____ Average number attending daily

41. What percentage of pupils missed 20 days or more in the academic year 2016 / 2017 (as per the figures the school returned to the NEWB)?

_____ %

42. Approximately what percentage of the pupils in your school would you say come from the immediate area, that is, live within about 20 minutes' walking distance of the school?

_____ %

43. Please indicate which of the following get involved in supporting children with emotional / behavioural problems in your school. [Please tick **all** that apply].

- Principal.....₁
- Classroom teacher.....₂
- Learning support / resource teacher.....₃
- Other staff member.....₄
- Child and Adult Mental Health Service (CAMHs).....₅
- National Educational Psychological Services (NEPs).....₆
- TUSLA.....₇
- Other external assistance (please specify).....₈

44. In your assessment, approximately what proportion of pupils in the school would have literacy, numeracy, or emotional-behavioural difficulties to the extent that they would adversely affect their educational development? Please tick one box on each line to indicate approximate percentage.

Approximate percentage of children with each problem

		None	less than 10%	10-25%	26-40%	More than 40%
a)	Literacy problems	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
b)	Numeracy problems	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
c)	Emotional / Behavioural problems	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

45. Over the past five years, has the number of pupils coming to this school

- Increased₁ Decreased.....₂ Remained fairly stable.....₃

46. Are there any other local schools to which pupils in your school might go? Yes.....₁ No.....₂

47. In general, do more pupils apply to come to this school than there are places available?

- Yes.....₁ No.....₂

48. What criteria are used to admit pupils? [Please tick **all** that apply]

- Designated catchment area.....₁
- Other siblings in the school.....₂
- Parents attended the school.....₃
- Language(s) spoken by child.....₄
- Date of application.....₅
- Religion.....₆
- Other (please specify).....₇

49. If there is more than 1 class in any year-group, on what basis are pupils in the school allocated to classes? [Please tick **all** that apply]

- Only 1 class per year-group.....₁
- Randomly/alphabetically.....₂
- Performance on standardised tests.....₃
- Performance on other tests.....₄
- Special educational need/disability.....₅
- Other (please specify).....₆

50. Does the school hold formal parent-teacher meetings at least once per year? Yes....₁ No....₂

51. Approximately what percentage of parents attend parent-teacher meetings? _____ per cent

52. To what extent are parents actively encouraged to get involved in the life of the school in:

A lot A little Not at all

- a) Curricular activities e.g. participation in reading / maths groups, support for specific area of curriculum (e.g. SPHE) ₁ ₂ ₃
- b) Extra-curricular activities ₁ ₂ ₃

53. Below we have a list of statements. Thinking about *all* pupils in the school, please indicate if you feel each is true of *nearly all*, *more than half*, *less than half*, or *only a few* pupils in the school.

	Pupils, in general	Nearly all	More than half	Less than half	Only a few	N/A
a)	Enjoy being at school	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	
b)	Are well-behaved in class	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	
c)	Show respect for their teachers	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	
d)	Show respect for their peers	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	
e)	Are rewarding to work with	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	
f)	Are well behaved in the playground/school yard	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	
g)	Settle into junior infants quickly	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
h)	Feel they are an important part of the school community/school life	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	

54. Does the school have a written Code of Behaviour (discipline policy)?

Yes ₁ No ₂

55. To what extent were the following involved in developing this policy?

To a great extent To some extent Not at all

- a) Teachers ₁ ₂ ₃
- b) Parents ₁ ₂ ₃
- c) Pupils ₁ ₂ ₃
- d) Board of Management ₁ ₂ ₃

56. In addressing inappropriate behaviour in your school, to what extent are the following forms of discipline used in your school?

		Often	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
a)	Extra classwork	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b)	Extra homework	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c)	Writing of 'lines'	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d)	Detention	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
e)	Exclusion from sports or other popular activities	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
f)	Verbal (phone or otherwise) report to parents	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
g)	Written report to parents	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
h)	Cancellation of popular lesson e.g. art	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
i)	Warning card system	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
j)	Suspension	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
k)	Expulsion / permanent exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
l)	Other (specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

57. To what extent is bullying a problem in your school?

A major problem₁ A minor problem.....₂ No problem at all.....₃

58. Please indicate the extent to which you believe each of the following to be true of teachers, in general, in your school.

		True of Nearly all	True of more than half	True of less than half	True of only a few
a)	Teachers are positive about the school	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b)	Teachers get a lot of help and support from colleagues	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c)	Teachers are open to new developments and challenges	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d)	Teachers are eager to take part in professional development	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

59. What are the main challenges facing you as a Principal? _____

60. In general terms:

Very Fairly Not very Not at all

a) How **stressed** do you feel by your job?₁.....₂.....₃.....₄

b) How **satisfied** do you feel with your job?₁.....₂.....₃.....₄

Thank you very much for having completed this part of *Growing Up in Ireland*.

Please collect the sealed envelopes containing their completed questionnaires from the teachers involved in this Study and return all questionnaires to the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), using the enclosed freepost plastic envelope.

Again, many thanks to you and your staff for your help in this very important study of children.