

Growing Up in Ireland – the National Longitudinal Study of Children

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

PRINCIPAL'S QUESTIONNAIRE

School ID: <MERGE 4 Digit ID>

<Merge Date>

Growing Up in Ireland is the national longitudinal study of children and young people. The purpose of the study is to improve our understanding of all aspects of children and their development. It will examine how children develop over time and identify 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 will be used by government to develop policies and interventions to support children and their families in the future.

The study is funded by Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) and is managed by the Department in association with the Central Statistics Office. The Department of Education is represented on the Steering Group which oversees the study. The study is carried out by a group of researchers led by the Economic & Social Research Institute (ESRI) and Trinity College Dublin (TCD).

The young people who are participating in the study were randomly selected when they were 9 months old and the Study Team has collected information from them and their families and schools at a number of points since then (9 months, 3 years, 5 years, 7/8 years, 9 years). We are now carrying out a follow-up interview with them to see how they have developed by the age of 13 years, when they are mostly in 1st year in second level.

All principals of second-level schools are being asked to complete the questionnaire because the 13-year-olds have dispersed to almost every second-level school in the country. With the parents' cooperation, we can match the information on the schools being attended by the young people with the information we collect from them and their families in their own homes.

All information provided in the course of the Study will be treated in the strictest confidence and would not be passed on to anyone or any body outside the *Growing Up in Ireland* Study Team, unless we record information which leads us to be concerned about the health or safety of the child or other vulnerable person, as outlined in Children First guidelines for the protection and welfare of children.





An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth





1. Compared to the period before the COVID-related school closures, how would you rate your students in relation to the following:

		Much better	Better	About the same	Worse	Much worse
a.	Engagement		2	3	4	□s
b.	Motivation		2	3	4	□s
c.	Wellbeing	 1	2	3	4	□₅
d.	Attendance		2	3	4	□s
e.	Behaviour in class		2	3	4	□s

- 2. We would like you to rate students' curriculum learning after the school closures compared to how you would expect them to be in normal times. What proportion of the students are:
 - a. Not behind at all ____%
 - b. Behind by about 1-2 months %
 - % c. Behind by about 3-5 months
 - % d. 6 or more months behind
- 3. (a) How satisfied were you with the remote learning your school was able to provide to students during the first period of school closures (around April 2020)? 4 Not v
 - Very satisfied Fairly satisfied 2

very satisfied 🔄	Not at all satisfied
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3. (b) How satisfied were you with the remote learning your school was able to provide to students during the second period of school closures (around January 2021)? Ver Fairly satisfied

y satisfied	
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Not very satisfied \square_3 Not at all satisfied \square_4

4. What impact has the COVID situation and associated public health requirements had on the following:

		Very little (continuing as normal)	A little (mostly as normal, with some changes)	A lot (severely curtailed)	A great deal (activity suspended)
a.	Day-to-day teaching and learning		2	3	4
b.	Use of group-work in class		2	3	4
C.	Doing practical work (e.g. lab work, cooking, metalwork)	□ı	2	З	4
d.	PE classes		2	3	4
e.	Extra-curricular sports		 2	3	4
f.	Other extra-curricular activities		2	3	4
g.	Interaction between students and staff		 2	3	4
h.	Interaction among students		 2	3	4

5.	(a) Has your school received funding under the COVID Learning and Support Scheme (CLASS)?Yes1 No2					
5.	(b) If Yes, how many students is your school supporting through this funding?					
6.						
7.	How effective do you think these activities have been in hel Very effective \Box_1 Fairly effective \Box_2 N	ping students adjust back to school? Iot very effective□₃ Not at all effective□₄				
8.	 Since the start of the 2021/22 school year, have you had to COVID cases? Please tick all that apply. a. Close the school b. Send a year group home c. Send a class home d. Send a group of students home 	do any of the following because of (suspected)				
	SECTION B. INFORMATION ON Y	OURSELF AS PRINCIPAL				
9.	Are you male or female? Male	\Box_1 Female \Box_2				
10.	D. To which age group do you belong? 20 - 29 yrs□1 30 - 39 yrs□2 40 - 49 yrs□3 5	i0 - 59 yrs□₄ 60 yrs or older□₅				
11.	 For how many years have you been Principal: (a) in this school?years (b) in other second-level schools?years				
	SECTION C. SCHOOL CHA	ARACTERISTICS				
12.	12. How many boys and how many girls are enrolled in the school?					
	Boys Girls 1	otal Students				

13. What type of school is it?

Fee-paying secondary
Non-fee-paying secondary2
ETB school
Educate Together school
Community college
Community school
Comprehensive school

14. How would you describe the ethos of your school?

Catholic
Church of Ireland2
Presbyterian
Methodist
Muslim
Jewish
Multi-denominational
Interdenominational
Other (please specify)

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

eilge 🔤 2

16. Does your school take part in the DEIS Support Programme?

٧o	 	 		2
				-

17. 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		 2	 3	4	
b. Religion		2	3	4	
c. Music		 2	3	4	
d. Drama	 1	2	3	4	
e. Social justice		 2	 3	□ 4	
f. Environmental awareness		2	3	4	
g. Irish language and culture		 2	3	_ 4	

18. How many full-time and part-time teachers work in this school? Please indicate how many are male and how many are female.

Teachers	Full-time	Part-time		
Male				
Female				
Total				

19. Does your school provide the following resources?

	No	D	Yes	If Yes, how many (full-time equivalent)?
a.	Special Education Teachers]1	2	······
b.	Language Support Teachers]1	2	
c.	Home-School Community Liaison Co-ordinator]1	2	
d.	Special Needs Assistants]1	2	
e.	Other Teaching Assistants]1	2	·····
f.	Guidance Counsellor]1	2	

- 20. If your school has a Guidance Counsellor, how many hours a week does s/he spend on career guidance and counselling?
- 22. Compared to other second-level schools in the country, how adequate to the needs of the school and the students are the school's resources in each of the following areas?

	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
a. Number of teachers		 2	3	4
b. Number of classrooms	1	2	3	4
c. Computing facilities		 2	3	4
d. Broadband access	1	2	3	4
e. Sports facilities		 2	3	4
f. Science labs/equipment		2	3	4
g. Learning support provision		2	3	4
h. Language support provision	Γı	2	3	4
i. Guidance counselling	1	2	3	4
j. Extra-curricular activities		2	3	4

23(a) In what year was the school built? Year _____

23(b) Approximately how many students do you feel the school is designed for? ______ students

SECTION D CURRICULUM, TEACHING AND LEARNING

24. Do	bes your	r school offer the following program	mes?			
					es No	
	a.	Level 1 Learning Programmes			_12	
	b.	Level 2 Learning Programmes]1	
	c.	Transition Year (TY)] ₁ 2	
	d.	Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA)		[]1	
	e.	Leaving Certificate Vocational Prog	gramme (LCVP)] ₁ 2	
	f.	Post-Leaving Certificate (PLC) cour]1	
		y students in your school are on red please state.)	uced timetables/s	hor	ter school days?	
26. W	hich of t	the following are taught as full subje	ects in junior cycle	in t	the school? (Please tick all that ap	oply)
	SUBJEC	CT	L	EVE	L	
a.	Irish		Higher [7₁	Ordinary 🔽	
b.		۱		_	,	
C.	-	matics		_	· <u> </u>	
d.		۷		_	,	
e.		, aphy				
f.	Moder	rn Foreign Languages: French	Common [$\overline{1}$		
g.	Moder	n Foreign Languages: German	 Common [1		
h.	Moder	rn Foreign Languages: Spanish	 Common [_]1		
i.		rn Foreign Languages: Italian		_		
j.	Visual	Art	Common	٦,		
k.				-		
Ι.		е				
		Economics				
n.	Wood [.]	Technology	Common [٦,		
0.		eering				
р.	-	ics				
q.	•	d Technology				
r	Rucino	ss Studies	Common	-		
r.		ss studies		_		
s. +		ıt Greek		-		
t.				_		
u.		S				
v. w.		Studies ous Education				
х.	Civic, S	Social and Political Education (CSPE)	Common []1		
у.	Physica	al Education	Common[1		
Ζ.	Social,	Personal and Health Education (SPF	HE) Common [1		
aa.	Other ((please specify)			1	

27. Which of the following are taught as short courses in junior cycle in the school? (Please tick all that apply)

a.	Coding
b.	Civic, Social and Political Education (CSPE)
c.	Physical Education (PE)
d.	Digital Media Literacy (DML)
e.	A Personal Project: Caring for Animals (Level 2)
f.	Social, Personal and Health Education (SPHE)
g.	Artistic Performance
h.	CSI: Exploring Forensic Science (Level 2)
i.	Chinese Language and Culture
j.	Philosophy
k.	Other please specify

- 28. If there is more than 1 class in any year group in junior cycle, on what basis are students in the school allocated to their base classes?

 - c. Performance on standardised tests.
 - e. Special educational need/disability
- d. Performance on other tests
- f. Other [please specify] _____6
- 29. What proportion of students use an individual electronic device for educational purposes in the classroom? Tick one box for each row. Devices may be owned by either the school or the student.

		Most/all	More than half	About half	Less than half	None
a.	Laptops/ netbooks		2	3	4	□₅
b.	Tablets	î	2	3	4	□₅
c.	Smartphones/mobile phones		2	3	4	□₅
d.	Other electronic device	1	2	3	4	□s

30. The following statements are about how the revised junior cycle operates in this school. Please state the extent you agree or disagree with each of these statements by ticking one box on each line.

		Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
a.	Teachers use a broader range of methodologies since the revised junior cycle		 2	3	4
b.	Teachers are positive about the revised junior cycle curriculum		2	3	4
c.	It is challenging to timetable classroom-based assessments		2	3	4
d.	The school has developed its own short course(s)		2	3	4
e.	It is challenging to timetable the required hours for wellbeing		2	3	4

SECTION E: STUDENT PROFILE AND SCHOOL SUPPORTS

31.	Are there	e anv other l	cal schools to	which students	s in vour schoo	l might go?

Yes	1 No	2
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32. In general, do more students apply to come to this school than there are places available?

			_
Yes	1	No	2

33. If yes, what criteria are used to admit students? [Please tick all that apply]

- 34. In your assessment, approximately what proportion of students in the school would have such literacy, numeracy, or emotional-behavioural difficulties as to adversely impact on their educational development? Please tick one box on each line to indicate the approximate percentage.

Approximate percentage of students with each problem					
	None	Less than 10%	10 - 25%	26 - 40%	More than 40%
a. Literacy Problems		2	3	4	5
b. Numeracy Problems		 2	3	4	5
c. Emotional / Behavioural problems		2	3	4	5

35. Approximately, what is the Average Daily Attendance for your school this year (2021/22)?

_____% Average Daily Attendance OR ______Average number attending daily

36. What percentage of students missed 20 days or more in the 2020/21 academic year when the school was open (as per the Tusla figures)? ______%

Number

37. Approximately how many of each of the following groups of students do you have in your school? If none, please write 'NONE' – do not leave blank – the same student can be recorded more than once.

a.	Students from an immigrant background	
b.	Students from a Traveller background	
c.	Students whose native language is other than English / Gaeilge	
d.	Students with physical / sensory disabilities	
e.	Students with learning / intellectual disabilities	
	77 of 81	

38. What proportion of students in your school usually go on to higher (third-level) education (university, technological university or institute of technology)?

____%

39. Schools take different approaches to helping first year students to adapt to second-level education. In column (a) below please tick Yes or No to indicate whether or not your school adopts each of the approaches listed. In column (b) please tick one box only to indicate the approach which you think is most important in your school.

	(a)	(b)
	Adopted by the school	Single Most
	Yes No	Important Approach
a.	Induction day	1
b.	Class Tutor	2
c.	Student Mentors	
d.	Study skills programme	4
e.	Other (please specify)12	5

40. Different school personnel can be involved in providing personal and social support to students across the school. In column (a) below please tick the extent to which these staff members are involved in providing support to students. In column (b) please tick one box only to indicate the most important source of support in your school.

	(a) Staff involved?						
		To a great extent	To some extent	Not to any great extent	Not at all	Single most important source of support	
a.	You as principal		2	3	4	1	
b.	Guidance Counsellor(s)		2	3	4	 2	
c.	Pastoral care/student support team		 2	3	_ 4	3	
d.	Year heads		2	3	_ 4	4	
e.	Class tutors		2	3	4	□s	
f.	Other (please specify)		2	3	□ ₄	_ 6	

41. Does your school provide any of the following activities outside formal class time? (If activities are currently curtailed because of COVID, please answer in relation to the pre-COVID period.)

		Yes	No
a.	Homework club/supervised study	1	2
b.	Team sports	1	. 2
c.	Individual sports	1	. 2
d.	Choir	1	. 2
e.	Learning musical instruments	1	. 2
f.	Drama	1	. 2
g.	Dance	1	. 2
h.	Debating	1	. 2
i.	Computer club	1	. 2
j.	Other (please specify)	1	2

42. Does the school provide: (If activities are currently curtailed because of COVID, please answer in relation to the pre-COVID period.)

		Yes	No
a.	A breakfast club	1	2
b.	Free school meals at lunchtime		2

43.	Does the school have a healthy eating policy?	Yes]1	No
	boos the school have a healthy cathing policy.		

44. Please tick Yes or No to indicate whether or not your school adopts each of the following:

		Yes	No
a.	Certain foods/drinks are prohibited in school	1	2
b.	Pupils are given guidelines on healthy eating	1	2
c.	Parents are given guidelines on healthy eating	1	2
d.	Mostly healthy foods/drinks are provided in the school	1	2
e.	Students are not allowed to leave the school at lunchtime	1	2
f.	Healthy eating is addressed during subject lessons	1	2
g.	Other (please specify)	<u> </u>	2

45. (a) Does the school have a vending machine for food and drink of any sort? Yes. 1+Go to 45b No.. 2+Go to 46

45. (b) Does the vending machine include sugary drinks?	Yes	No 🔤
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45. (c) Does the vending machine include diet drinks, unsweetened fruit juices and/or water? Yes \Box_1 No ... \Box_2

- 47. How much are students' opinions taken into account when decisions in the school are made about the following:

		To a large extent	To a moderate extent	To a small extent	Not at all
a.	School rules		 2	3	4
b.	The way classes are taught		2	3	4
c.	Teaching/learning materials		 2	3	4
d.	School uniforms		2	3	4

48. To what extent are the following forms of discipline used in your school?

		Often	Occasionally	Rarely	Never
a.	Extra classwork		2	3	4
b.	Extra homework		2	3	4
c.	Writing of 'lines'		2	3	4
d.	Detention		2	3	4
e.	Exclusion from sports or other popular activities		2	3	4
f.	Verbal (phone or otherwise) report to parents		2	3	4
g.	Written report to parents		 2	3	4
h.	Warning card/'points' system		2	3	4
i.	Restorative justice (i.e. a focus on mediation and agreement rather than punishment)		 2	3	4
j.	Suspension		2	3	4
k.	Expulsion/permanent exclusion		 2	3	4
١.	Other (specify)	 1	2	З	4

SECTION F: PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

49. Does the school usually hold formal parent-teacher meetings at least once per year?	Yes 🛄	No
50. Approximately what percentage of parents attend parent-teacher meetings?	_per cent	

51. Does the school have the following facilities?

		Yes	No
a.	An active parents' association/council	1	
b.	A parents' room within the school	1	
c.	Parenting courses		2
d.	Other courses for parents (e.g. literacy, art/craft)		2
e.	Access to health or social service professionals on the school premises	1	
52. (a)) Does the school receive voluntary contributions from parents? Yes	□ ₁ No	2

52. (b) If yes, how much is each family asked to give per year? €_____ per family

52. (c) What proportion of parents pay? _____%

SECTION G: YOUR OWN EXPERIENCES AS PRINCIPAL

53. What are the main challenges facing you as principal?

54. In general terms (a) how stressed do you feel by your job and (b) how satisfied do you feel with your job?

	Very	Fairly	Not Very	Not at All
a. How stressed do you feel by your job		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*