



22nd November 2023

Dear Stakeholder,

As you are likely aware, the trustees of St. Joseph's College and Ardscoil Mhuire have agreed to amalgamate both schools with a new voluntary Catholic co-educational school opening in September 2025. This amalgamation decision follows an extensive consultation process with stakeholders.

We have recently established a Steering Committee to lead the amalgamation process with nominees from both schools and patrons on this committee. The committee have established a number of Task Forces to manage the process. The **New School Name Task Force** has one distinct objective: In consultation with stakeholders, develop an appropriate name for the new school.

We are now asking the community and stakeholders to submit their ideas for a new school name between Monday 27th November and Friday 8th December 2023. The suggestions should be reflective of one or more of the following guidelines:

- Ballinasloe, its history and/or location
- The history and ethos of the schools from which the new school shall be created
- The Catholic and inclusive ethos of both schools
- A vision for the future of the new school as a reflection of the community

Once the suggestions have been received, they will be shortlisted by the task force, in conjunction with the steering committee and the Trustees/ Patrons. The shortlist of names will be shared with stakeholders once again and you will have the opportunity to vote on your preferred choice. This will take place in January 2024.

Once the process is completed, all those who contributed will be entered into a draw to win €100 Shop Ballinasloe Voucher.

We appreciate your continued support.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Paul Walsh
Principal
St. Joseph's College

Mr Pauric Hanlon
Principal
Ardscoil Mhuire

01. HISTORY

Established in 1919 by Sisters of Mercy to educate the Girls of Ballinasloe and its environs. The school moved from Society St. to Mackney in 2003

02. ETHOS

- Catholic Voluntary Secondary School under the Trusteeship of CEIST
- Gospel values of dignity and Christian love

03. TRADITIONS

- Excellence in Education
- Diverse extra-curricular provision
- Inclusive Educational Provision
- DEIS Status
- Mercy Day



ARDSCOIL MHUIRE

01. HISTORY

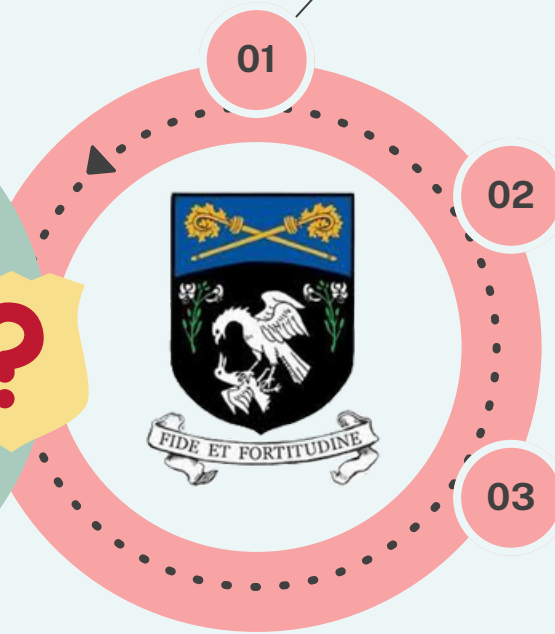
St Joseph's College/ Coláiste Sheosaimh (Garbally College) was established by the Bishop of Clonfert in 1892 to educate the boys of the Diocese. The school moved to its current site in 1923

02. ETHOS

- Catholic Voluntary Secondary School under the Patronage of the Bishop of Clonfert
- Gospel Values of love, freedom and justice

03. TRADITIONS

- Excellence in Education
- Rich sporting tradition
- Boarding School until 2005
- Inclusive Educational Provision
- St Joseph's Day



ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

THE CONTEXT

Ballinasloe is the largest town in County Galway after Galway City, and is a prosperous and expanding commercial/industrial centre for East Galway. The 2022 census put the population at just over 6,590.

The town derives its name from the ford of the River Suck near the old Norman castle at River Street, which became a meeting place for the hostings of the Connacht tribesmen, chiefs and warriors of Breifne and Meath. The ford became known as 'Beal Atha na Sluaigheadh' meaning the 'mouth of the ford of Hostings'