

Brannoxtown Community National School

A warm welcome back to BCNS!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you and your families have had a lovely summer and enjoyed some time together over the holidays.

It is hard to believe that the beginning of another school year is almost here. We are busy making our final preparations at Brannoxtown CNS and are really looking forward to welcoming everyone back on **Tuesday, 25th August**.

A particularly warm welcome to the children and families joining our school community for the first time this year. We hope you will very quickly feel at home at BCNS.

We are excited for the year ahead. We want our school to be a happy, vibrant and caring place for children, with high expectations for our pupils and plenty of opportunities for active, engaging and enjoyable learning. Just as importantly, we want our children to enjoy coming to school, to feel supported and to take pride in being part of our school community.

Back to School

OUR FIRST DAY - TUESDAY, 25TH AUGUST

08:50am - 14:30am

For **Senior Infants to Sixth Class**, morning drop-off is from **8:40am–8:50am**, with school beginning at **8:50am**. Senior Infants finish at **1:30pm**, while First to Sixth Class finish at **2:30pm**.

Our new **Junior Infants** will begin their phased start at **9:30am on Tuesday, 25th August**. Junior Infant families have received separate information about their first days and phased timetable.

Getting Ready for the New School Year

All school books and copies will be provided by the school. Please ensure your child has the materials outlined on their class Back to School List and that **all belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name and class**.

Our **2026/2027 School Calendar** is shared below, along with our **Back to School Learning Toolkit**.

Our Team for the Year Ahead

We are delighted to welcome **three new teachers to Brannoxtown CNS this year: Múinteoir Eimear Fanning, Múinteoir Katie Hughes and Múinteoir Sophia Casey**. They are experienced, enthusiastic and caring teachers, and we are very excited to welcome them to our school community.

Our team for the year ahead:

Junior & Senior Infants: Múinteoir Síle & Múinteoir Eimear Fanning

1st & 2nd Class: Múinteoir Eimear

3rd & 4th Class: Múinteoir Katie Hughes

5th & 6th Class: Múinteoir Sophia Casey

Special Education Teacher (SET): Deirdre Murphy

Supporting our school community:

Additional Needs Assistants (ANAs): Suzanne Dowling & Sinéad Leydon

Secretary: Liz Kavanagh

Caretaker/Cleaner: Patrick O'Connor

Breakfast Club & Afterschool Provider: Sinéad Leydon

Múinteoir Sophia also joins us as our newly appointed **Deputy Principal**. She brings with her a wealth of experience across both teaching and school leadership, including having served as Principal of Scoil Mochua in Dublin. We are delighted to welcome her experience and expertise to both our teaching and leadership teams.

As we welcome new faces, we also say a fond farewell to some familiar ones. We wish **Múinteoir Eoin** every happiness as he continues to travel, explore and enjoy life abroad; **Múinteoir Sofia** every success in her next chapter; and **Múinteoir Kate** all the very best as she returns to her base school in St. Corban's.

We are very grateful to Eoin, Sofia and Kate for all they contributed to BCNS and, most importantly, for the care and commitment they showed to our pupils. They leave with our warmest wishes.

Hot School Meals Update

A quick update also on the **Hot School Meals Programme**. While the service will not yet be up and running for the beginning of the school year, we are now close to securing the contract that will allow us to proceed.

This is a very positive development and we are looking forward to introducing the programme for our pupils. We will share full details with families, including the anticipated start date and how the service will operate, as soon as arrangements are finalised.

In the meantime, children should continue to bring their usual snack and lunch to school.

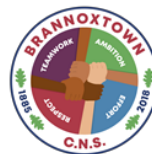
We know that returning to school can bring a mixture of excitement and perhaps a few nerves — particularly for children joining a new class or a new school. We will be ready to welcome everyone back, help the children settle into their routines and make the beginning of the year a positive one.

For now, enjoy the last few days of the summer holidays. We are looking forward to seeing familiar faces again, welcoming our new pupils and families, and beginning another busy and enjoyable year together at BCNS.

Warm regards,
Deirdre Murphy

Principal

Brannoxtown Community National School



Brannoxtown Community National School (CNS)

School Calendar 2026/2027

School Day: ☑

Drop-off:	8:40am – 8:50am	
School begins: ☑	8:50am	
Breaks:	Snack begins at 10:30am.	Lunch begins at 12:30pm.
School ends:	1:30pm: Junior & Senior Infants	2:30pm: First to Sixth Class

Junior Infant phased enrolment:

Tuesday 25 th & Wednesday 26 th August (2 days):	9:30 - 11:00 (Bring snack only)
Thursday 27 th & Friday 28 th of August (2 days):	8:50 to 11:00 (Bring snack only)
Monday 31 st of August – Friday 4 th of September	8:50 to 12:00 (Bring snack & lunch)
Monday 7 th – 11 th of September	Full school day: 08:50 – 13:30

Calendar Event	School Closure Dates (Inclusive)
School begins	Tuesday 25 th of August: Junior Infants (9:30-11:00) Tuesday 25 th of August: Senior Infants – 6 th Class (08:50 – 14:30)
October Mid-Term Break One week closure	School closes on Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th of October (inclusive)
Winter/Christmas Break Two-week closure	School closes on Tuesday the 22 nd of December. School reopens on Wednesday the 6 th of January
St. Brigid's Day One day closure	School closes on Monday, 1 st of February
February Mid-Term Break Two-day closure	School closes on Thursday 18 th – Friday 19 th of February (inclusive)
St. Patrick's Day One-day closure	School closes on Wednesday 17 th of March
Spring/Easter Break Two-week closure	School closes on Friday the 19 th of March School reopens on Monday the 5 th of April.
May Bank Holiday One-week closure	School closes on Monday 3 rd – Friday 7 th of May (inclusive)
June Bank Holiday One-day closure	School closes on Monday, 7 th of June
Summer Holiday	School closes on Wednesday the 23 rd of June.

Additional Days, Brannoxtown CNS:

**Families will receive advanced notification of any additional closures or half-days that may arise to facilitate election events, DES directed closures to engage with CPD etc.*



Brannoxtown CNS 2026 - 2027 Calendar



AUGUST						
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30	31					

DECEMBER						
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30	31					

APRIL						
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SEPTEMBER						
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JANUARY						
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FEBRUARY						
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28						

JUNE						
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NOVEMBER						
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29	30					

MARCH						
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28	29	30	31			

KEY DATES	
	FIRST DAY
	HOLIDAYS - NO SCHOOL
	SCHOOL CLOSED - STAFF TRAINING
	LAST DAY

Brannoxtown Community National School (BCNS)

Back to School List 2026/2027: Junior Infants & Senior Infants

1.	Junior Grip Triangular pencil	X 4
2.	A pencil sharpener & eraser set	X1
3.	Small whiteboard eraser	X1
4.	A set of crayons/twistables/triangular colouring pencils	X 1
5.	Large glue stick (e.g., Pritt Stick)	X 4
6.	Children's scissors	X 1
7.	A set of whiteboard markers (minimum three markers)	X1
8.	Pencil Grips	X2
9.	B5 Mesh Wallet	X2
10.	A3 Mesh Wallet	X2
12.	A4+ Mesh Storage Wallet	X2

**Please ensure ALL your child's belongings
are clearly labelled with his/her name and class.**

Brannoxtown Community National School (BCNS)

Back to School List 2026/2027: 1st & 2nd Class

1.	Junior Grip Triangular pencil	X 4
2.	A pencil sharpener & eraser set	X1
3.	Small whiteboard eraser	X1
4.	A set of crayons/twistables/triangular colouring pencils	X 1
5.	Large glue stick (e.g., Pritt Stick)	X 3
6.	Children's scissors	X 1
7.	30cm ruler	x1
8.	A set of whiteboard markers	X6
9.	A4+ Mesh Storage Wallet	X2
10.	B5 Mesh Wallet	X2
11.	A3 64 Page Coloured Scrap Book – example (https://www.abcschoolsupplies.ie/product/supreme-a3-large-64-page-coloured-scrap-book)	x1

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Brannoxtown Community National School (BCNS)

Back to School List 2026/2027: 3rd & 4th Class

1.	Small scissors	X 1
2.	Colours (Twistables or similar)	Pack
3.	Whiteboard markers	X 6
4.	Pencil	X 3
5.	A pencil sharpener & eraser set	X 1
6.	Pens: Blue x3, Black x3 & Red x3	X9 total
7.	Ruler (30cm)	X1
8.	Large Glue Stick (e.g., Pritt Stick)	X 3
9.	Tin Whistle – Key of D (only if not purchased last year)	X 1
10.	A4+ Mesh Storage Wallet	X2
11.	B5 Mesh Wallet	X2
12.	Small whiteboard eraser	X1
13.	Subject Dividers – 5 Part	X1
14.	A4 Ring Binder	X1
15.	A3 64 Page Coloured Scrap Book – example (https://www.abcschoolsupplies.ie/product/supreme-a3-large-64-page-coloured-scrap-book)	x1

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Brannoxtown Community National School (BCNS)

Back to School List 2026/2027: 5th & 6th Class

1.	Small scissors	X 1
2.	Colours (Twistables/colour pencils or similar)	1 Pack
3.	Whiteboard markers	X6
4.	Pencils x 6	X 3
5.	A pencil sharpener & eraser set	X 1
6.	Pens: Blue x3, Black x3 & Red x3	X9 total
7.	Ruler (30cm)	X1
8.	Large Glue Stick (e.g. Pritt Stick)	X 3
9.	Mathematical Set with compass	X 1
10.	Calculator	X1
11.	Tin Whistle – Key of D (only if not purchased last year)	X 1
12.	A4+ Mesh Storage Wallet	X2
13.	B5 Mesh Wallet	X2
14.	Small whiteboard eraser	X1
15.	Subject Dividers – 5 Part	X1
16.	A4 Ring Binder	X1
17.	A3 64 Page Coloured Scrap Book – example (https://www.abcschoolsupplies.ie/product/supreme-a3-large-64-page-coloured-scrap-book)	x1

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