



The NPC Innovation Award recognises innovative partnership work between schools and parents which supports children to have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

The Award seeks to shine a light on the excellent partnership work that we know Parents' Associations are engaging in across Ireland.



Supporting Parents
Supporting Children

Criteria for submitting an application:

- ✓ *The Parents' Association submitting the application must be a current member of National Parents Council Primary.*
- ✓ *The project must fall into the category of at least one of Dr. Joyce Epstein's six themes of parental involvement (Parenting, Communicating, Volunteering, Learning at Home, Decision Making and Collaborating with the Community). See the award application form for further information on Dr. Epstein's themes.*
- ✓ *The project must have the potential to be replicated in other schools.*

For further information, to download an application form and for details of the closing date for entries visit www.npc.ie, email: info@npc.ie or call: 01 8874034

National Parents Council Primary,
12 Marlborough Court, Marlborough Street, Dublin 1, D01 XP86

FRED O'CONNELL NPC INNOVATION AWARD



The 2019 winner of the Fred O'Connell NPC Innovation Award was the Parents' Association of Kilshanroe National School (Scoil San Treasa) with their project *'To clarify the role and purpose of the Parents' Association (PA) to school staff, school children and to parents, to form a collective vision for the school, and utilise the PA to achieve that vision.'*



Receiving the award from NPC CEO, Áine Lynch, on behalf of Kilshanroe National School Parents' Association, Mr. Alan Ryan. The Award ceremony took place at the NPC Education Conference 2019.

For many years participation rates within the PA were low, interest was waning, and the PA was seen only as a fund raiser. The PA decided to change this. Their project comprised three phases: Information gathering, Feedback and Actions, with a further fourth phase – Ongoing Goals.

For further information on their winning project see <http://www.npc.ie/npc-innovation-award-winners-2019>.

The winners received an engraved trophy in addition to free NPC membership for 2020 and €500 prize money.



Personalised reading goggles made by the children in St. Francis Xavier's Junior National School

In second place on the day was the Parents' Association of St. Francis Xavier Junior National School, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 with their project *'Academic Action Goal: Reading Goggles'* (pictured left). The aim was to expand and improve the reading skills of the students. Jennifer Cherry accepted the trophy on behalf of the PA and they also received prize money of €250.



The Garden at Gaelscoil Dhroichead na Banndan

In third place was the Parents' Association of Gaelscoil Dhroichead na Banndan, with their project *'Grow your own garden'* (pictured left). This school project relates to the collaboration between students, teachers, parents and the community, to establish and maintain a school garden with no green space available. The project also links the garden with the children's learning. The PA received a trophy and €100 in prize money.

To see other award entries and for information on how to enter please see the NPC website www.npc.ie

FRED O'CONNELL

Fred O'Connell was involved with NPC in the early years of the organisation's development and was the first paid employee of NPC. Fred believed that parents have a vital role to play in their children's education.