

## FUNDRAISER LAUNCHED FOR ALL-WEATHER MULTI-SPORT FACILITY AT NAAS CBS

Past and present members of Naas CBS Parents Council and associates have joined forces to launch a range of initiatives, to raise funds for a state-of-the-art flood-lit, all-weather multi-sport facility at the school. The fundraising seeks to bridge the gap between the significant development costs and various pledged Naas Municipal District and sporting grants, already in place. The committee will seek to engage support and sponsorship from parents, alumni, the wider Naas community, and businesses in the coming weeks. With a range of sponsorship options on offer to businesses in return for pitch-side signage, a GoFundMe page has also been created. Building works will commence in mid-2024, to conclude in early 2025.



Past and present members of Naas CBS Parents Council and associates have joined forces to launch a range of initiatives, to raise money for a state-of-the-art flood-lit, all-weather pitch at the school. Pictured from left to right front row are: Maeabh Ni Chleirigh; Rioghnagh Bracken; Emma Toner; Alice Lamont; Brid Gallagher. Pictured from left to right back row are: Tim Mulvihill; Niall Duffy; Frank Murphy; Kieran Sweeney. Missing from the picture are David Creighton, John Lennon and Sinead Harvey.

The facility, to be built in partnership with Naas GAA, will run adjacent to Naas CBS and will boast a fourth-generation (4G) playing surface, accommodating a broad spectrum of sports. The facility will be available for use by pupils, Naas GAA members, and by an array of sporting and community groups.

Naas CBS currently schools over 1,000 boys from Naas town, its rural villages, and hinterland, and it has educated thousands of young men over the decades. Alongside the sterling academic record the school has deservedly earned, Naas CBS enjoys a reputation for promoting sport as a valuable life skill, a sure pathway to encourage personal and team development.

Recent years at the school have been peppered with an extensive list of tremendous sporting accolades for the Naas CBS pupils of all ages across athletics, basketball, kayaking, tennis,

badminton, soccer, rugby, and football. Crowned All-Ireland Senior A Football Champions, St Patrick's Day 2022 will live long in the memories of both the players and the wider Naas CBS community. Retaining the Leinster Senior A football title in 2023, several Naas CBS students also represented Kildare in winning the All-Ireland U20 Football Championship.

Harnessing increasing sporting success and seeking to further develop students' potential, Naas CBS was granted planning permission for the all-weather playing facility in 2021. The development at the school in the heart of the town will give its students a higher level of physical education and increase the range of sport and fitness options in fair weather and foul.

Speaking of the project, Naas CBS Principal, Ben Travers said: "Generations of brothers and fathers, uncles and grandfathers have passed through the school portals and helped make Naas and its environs the strong and vibrant community it is today, while others have spread the school values of respect, justice and integrity across the land and across the globe. Now Naas CBS is asking for public help to continue building this community and to strengthen the school in the facilities and opportunities it provides its young men."

Speaking at the launch of the fundraising initiatives, Committee Chairman, Tim Mulvihill said: "Firstly, on behalf of the Fundraising Committee, I would like to convey my heartfelt appreciation to all those who have laid the foundation for us to take this project to the next level. The committee also wishes to express our thanks to the steering committee for the project."

He continued: "The estimated sum of putting this facility in place is just over €1.2m, and our school fundraising aims to raise capital of €350,000. Whilst parents will be asked to make voluntary contributions, we now invite alumni, and the wider community to help us raise this significant sum by donating to our GoFundMe page entitled, "Help Build All Weather Sports Facility at Naas CBS" (<https://gofund.me/075a790f>), or by committing to sponsorship:

- Pitch-side advertising (5m x 1.2m) will cost €3,000, plus fitting, for three years.
- Dug-out advertising (2 locations) will cost €5,000, plus fitting, for three years.
- Floodlight advertising will cost €5,000, plus fitting, for three years; to be sold as a package of 3 locations.
- Our scoreboard will cost €5,000 for three years.

Tim added: "Once in place, the facility will be extensively used by the Naas CBS school community, Naas GAA, and by an array of sporting and community groups with significant numbers of spectators to see your advertising hoardings."

Sponsorship enquiries can be directed to the committee, at [naascbspitchfund@gmail.com](mailto:naascbspitchfund@gmail.com).