



Coláiste Naomh Peadar  
St. Peter's College, Dundoyne, Co. Meath  
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29<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

It is with great sadness that I inform you that Ms Eimear Gilligan a Special Needs Assistant in St Peter's College passed away following a short illness yesterday.

Eimear was a wonderful special needs assistant and was ever present in the mornings welcoming students to school in the Gannon Area and supporting those who required extra assistance.

Students were informed of this very sad news this morning and have been encouraged to talk to someone if they need to; their teacher, tutor, Ceannaire or Chaplain and to talk to their parents/guardians also.

The St Peter's College school community will mark the passing of our friend Eimear when the funeral arrangements are known. There will be books of condolence for the school community to sign in the school oratory and at the main office.

It is hard to know how children and young people will react to hearing about the death of someone they know. Please find below some resources that may be of use to you.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Eimear's family and friends at this difficult time.

Her presence will be greatly missed among the entire school community.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanam.

Yours sincerely,

*Deirdre Maye*

Principal

[Ways to help your child through this difficult time](#)

[Children's understanding and reaction to death according to age](#)

[The Irish Childhood Bereavement Network](#)

<https://www.barnardos.ie/resources/bereavement/>

<https://hospicefoundation.ie/i-need-help/i-am-bereaved/types-of-grief/adolescent-grief/>