

Additional Educational Needs (AEN) at St. Oliver Post Primary

At St. Oliver Post Primary, we are committed to delivering an inclusive, equitable, and supportive educational experience for all learners. Guided by national educational legislation and best practice, our AEN Department works collaboratively with staff, parents, and external agencies to ensure every student can access the curriculum, participate fully in school life, and achieve their personal potential.

Our approach is shaped by:

The NCSE Continuum of Support

- The EPSEN Act (2004) and Department of Education guidelines
- NEPS frameworks for identification, intervention, and review
- Our school's ethos of care, respect, inclusion, equality, and high expectations

Our Inclusive Philosophy

We recognise and value the diverse strengths, needs, backgrounds, cultures, and learning profiles of our students. Our aim is to:

- Create an environment where every learner feels respected and supported
- Promote independence, resilience, and confidence
- Ensure inclusive access to teaching, learning, and wider school activities
- Work in partnership with parents/guardians and students themselves

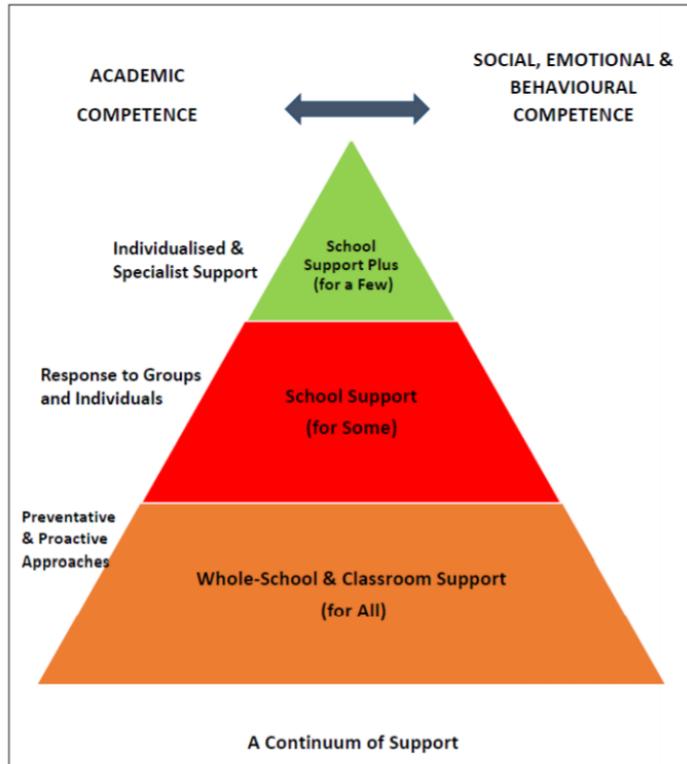
How We Identify and Support Students

Students may come to our attention through:

- Entrance assessments and primary school transfer information
- Teacher observations and ongoing classroom assessment
- Standardised testing
- Parent or student concerns
- Referrals from the Student Support Team, NEPS, or external agencies

The NCSE Continuum of Support (Post-Primary)

The Continuum of Support is the national model for planning and monitoring AEN support in Irish schools. It provides a three-level, flexible framework with increasing intensity depending on student need. St. Oliver Post Primary provides support in line with the continuum.



Level 1: Support for ALL (Universal Support)

Available to all students through:

- High-quality, differentiated teaching
- Positive, structured learning environments
- Clear routines and expectations
- Student Support Teams
- Whole-school wellbeing practice
- Early identification and screening

Level 2: School Support (Targeted – for Some)

Provides additional support for students who need more help, including:

- Small-group intervention
- Team-teaching
- Targeted behaviour/attendance supports
- Short-term individual support plans

Level 3: School Support Plus (Individualised – for a Few)

For students with complex or significant needs:

- Student support plans
- One-to-one interventions
- Collaboration with NEPS, HSE, CAMHS and external supports

Collaboration with Parents and Students

We ensure:

- Parents are actively involved in all planning and review stages
- Students have a voice in setting goals and reflecting on progress
- Staff work closely with families to monitor and support each learner

Working with External Agencies

We collaborate with:

- NEPS
- HSE (SLT, OT, CAMHS, CDNT)
- NCSE specialists and SENOs
- Other relevant services (in consultation with parents /guardians)

Our Commitment

St. Oliver Post Primary is committed to early identification, inclusive teaching, equitable access to support, high-quality intervention, continuous review, and creating a community where every student feels valued and supported.