

Partnerships

Deaf Sports Ireland



We linked up with Deaf sports Ireland to ensure we could get involved with the local Deaf community more and also to link up with FAI. This partnership with Ben Looney allowed us to discuss our needs as a school and for him to support us by sourcing appropriate coaches who would be an excellent support for our Deaf and Hard of hearing pupils. We decided to hold an event to launch our partnership with DSI and FAI in the school hall.

Futsal launch



We launched our partnership with Deaf sports Ireland (DSI) and Football Association Ireland (FAI). We welcomed Paddy O'Reilly (head of FAI Football for all program) & Heather Jamerson (Coach), Derek Maguire (DSI President), Laura Clarke & Joey Watson (DSI Ambassadors) and Ben O'Looney (Sports Development) to our school and began our six week coaching sessions of futsal with the pupils. Participating classes include: Kerry, Mayo, Tipperary, Kilkenny, and Galway.



The children really enjoyed welcoming our guests, they compiled a short video to show everyone how we get active in HFSD, and then the children performed a short dance. We had a large welcome sign to greet everyone as they entered the play hall.

Joey Watson gave a lovely speech explaining to the children what they will be learning about and introduced our coaches. Ben presented the children with their own jerseys which were embroidered with the DSI logo. The children were delighted and wore their jerseys for their training session.

Wearing our new DSI and FAI jerseys



FAI

On the last day of our FAI training, the children also received an inspirational talk from three of the coaches. They talked about their own experiences of playing soccer/futsal and their achievements to date.



FAI

The FAI wanted to emphasise the importance of women in sport and to encourage girls from a young age to continue playing sport and being active. The Coach Heather was a great role model for our girls and spoke to them about her physical disability and how she has never let it stop her achieving her dreams. She will be competing in the paralympics. She was a great inspiration for some of our children who have physical disabilities.





Swimming Lessons:



Thanks to our partnership with Deaf Sports Ireland, Ben Looney the Sports Development Officer, arranged swimming lessons commencing Tuesday 3rd of May. These lessons will continue for the next month on a weekly basis.

We are lucky to have Active Inspire swimming pool, in Deaf Village Ireland, so close to our school. Just a short 20 minute walk!

We hope to continue this arrangement from September 2022, having a permanent slot at Active Inspire.