CASE STUDY

A SchoolMoney success story

Newtownards Nursery Schools

- Up to 52 children each year
- Using SchoolMoney since 2020
- Interview with Principal/Class Teacher Joanne Dunne

Challenges before SchoolMoney

Before SchoolMoney, Newtownards Nursery School relied on cash and manual record-keeping, with some payments being made through bank transfers, which required staff to track and reconcile them individually.

Managing dinner money was time consuming, parents didn't always pay on time, and this created ongoing administrative pressure and made accurate record-keeping difficult.

Previous methods raised several challenges, including:

- ✕ Time spent collecting and counting cash
- ✕ Tracking individual payments
- ✕ Physically storing cash
- ✕ Chasing outstanding balances



The results

SchoolMoney eliminated the administrative burden and provided a clear, centralised system that allows both staff and parents to see payments instantly and accurately.

The most valuable aspects are:

- **Streamlined organisation,** creating complete transparency around payments
- **No daily cash handling,** eliminating wasted journeys to the bank
- Minimising payment disputes with parents booking and paying for dinners **in advance**

> **"Since moving to SchoolMoney, parents must book and pay for dinners in advance, which has completely streamlined the process."**

The impact of SchoolMoney

The biggest impact is the time it has saved the principal, who had previously struggled to manually keep track of cash and of missed payments: "It has improved accuracy and reduced errors, making financial administration far more efficient.

"Parental engagement has become significantly more positive and consistent, payments are made more promptly, and parents appreciate being able to see outstanding items clearly. Dinner money management is more efficient, accurate and simpler for both staff and families."

> **"The biggest impact is in the time saved for myself as a teaching principal with no school secretary, I no longer need to manage cash or manually track who has paid."**

Key impacts:

- No longer needing to manage cash and track payments manually, therefore improving accuracy and reducing errors.
- Parental engagement significantly more positive and consistent as payments are made more promptly.
- Reduced pressure and time constraints on financial administration.
- Dinner money management is more efficient and accurate for both staff and families as parents are able to see outstanding items clearly.