

## Education In Ballymote

A Secondary School opened in 1942. The first fifteen pupils were enrolled on the 14th of September, 1942 and the first classrooms were in the Convent. In 1955 the school became the first Co-Educational Secondary School in Connaught and the new school known as *Coláiste Mhuire* was opened in 1957. More classrooms were needed and the Sisters provided funding for five classrooms, a Domestic Science kitchen and cloakrooms. A large fully equipped science laboratory was opened in 1967. Later, another extension was added including a new gymnasium. It was opened in 1991 and it is now under the trusteeship of CEIST.

In 1915, a new girls' primary school was built and in 1918, it comprised of an infant and a senior school. The Sisters took charge of the senior school. In 1991 the boys' and girls' Primary schools amalgamated. The new amalgamated school became known as *Scoil Mhuire gan Smál*.

Today, the Primary school is under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Achonry. After 115 years of service the Sisters vacated the convent in 2017. There is still a Mercy presence in Ballymote.