

Polasaí Gaeilge Scoil Lorcáin

Is bunscoil náisiúnta lán-Ghaelach faoi hátrúnacht Ardeaspag Chaitliceach Bhaile Átha Cliath í Scoil Lorcáin. Bunaíodh an scoil i 1952 leis na haidhmeanna seo a leanas:

Bunoideachas trí mheán na Gaeilge a chur ar fáil do dhaltaí as teaghlaigh gurb í an Ghaeilge an ghnáth-theanga iontu

Bunoideachas trí mheán na Gaeilge a chur ar fáil do dhaltaí eile agus a chur ar a gcumas a bheith ina gcainteoirí líofa Gaeilge

Timpeallacht Ghaelach a chur ar fáil agus dúil sa Ghaeilge agus i saíocht na Gaeilge a chothú i measc na ndaltaí agus ndtuismitheoirí.

Glacfaidh gach tuismitheoir le Polasaí Gaeilge na Scoile i scríbhinn sula dtagann a c(h)éad pháiste ar scoil agus tabharfaidh siad tacaíocht don Pholasaí agus iad ina dtuismitheoirí sa scoil. Crochfar an polasaí seo in áiteanna poiblí sa scoil ionas go mbeidh sé le feiceáil ag cách.

Timpeallacht Ghaelach

Tá béim an-láidir againn ar ár n-oidhreacht Ghaelach – idir cheol, chluichí, rince agus eile. Cothaíonn sé seo forbairt na ndaltaí agus láidiríonn sé seasamh na Gaeilge sa scoil. Déanaimid gach iarracht timpeallacht atá fábhreach, spreagúil d'úsáid na Gaeilge a chothú sa scoil agus a chur ar chumas na ndaltaí cumarsáid i nGaeilge sna suímh éagsúla ina mbíonn siad, m.sh. sa rang, ag súgradh srl.

Foireann na Scoile

Déanfar gach iarracht i gcónaí múinteoirí lán-oilte le hardchumas Gaeilge a earcú

Is í an Ghaeilge an teanga teagaisc agus cumarsáide a bheidh ag na múinteoirí go léir, agus ag an Rúnaí agus ag an Séiplíneach, lena chéile agus leis na daltaí, idir mhúinteoirí buana, sealadacha, páirtaimseartha agus breise agus iad sa scoil, i dtimpeallacht na scoile agus ag freastal ar aon imeacht a bhaineann leis an scoil seachas nuair a bhíonn teanga eile á múineadh.

Beidh múinteoir amháin ar a laghad a mbeidh cúram speisialta uirthi/air maidir le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge sa scoil. Tabharfaimid cabhair agus tacaíocht speisialta do mhúinteoirí nua sa scoil chun cabhrú leo teacht isteach ar chur chuige na scoile i leith na Gaeilge.

Cuirfimid tacaíocht ar fáil do mhúinteoirí ar mian leo feabhas a chur ar a gcuid Gaeilge.

Tabharfar Polasaí Gaeilge na scoile mar eolas d'iarrthóirí ar phoist sa scoil sula gcuirtear faoi agallamh iad.

Tumoideachas

Is tumoideachas iomlán i nGaeilge a chleachtaimid i dTimpthriall na Naíonán chun caighdeán Gaeilge na bpáistí a thabhairt chuig an leibhéal go mbeidh siad in ann lán-tairbhe a bhaint as an oideachas atá ar fáil sa scoil. Tá an tumoideachas iomlán aitheanta ar fud an domhain mar an córas is éifeachtaí chun an dara teanga a mhúineadh/shealbhú i suíomh scolaíochta.

Glacfaimid buntáiste d'aon oiliúint sa tumoideachas atá ar fáil lasmuigh den scoil.

Tabharfar tacaíocht do mhúinteoirí ar mian leo freastal ar an oiliúint seo. Cuirfimid tacaíocht don oiliúint sa tumoideachas ar fáil do mhúinteoirí na Naíonán ar leibhéal na scoile.

Múinfear léitheoireacht/litearthacht na Gaeilge ar dtús do na daltaí ag tosú sna Naíonáin agus léitheoireacht/litearthacht an Bhéarla ansin nuair a thosaímid ag múineadh Béarla ó thus Rang 1.

An Ghaeilge agus na Daltaí

Is í an Ghaeilge a labhróidh na daltaí lena chéile agus leis na múinteoirí an t-am ar fad. Cuirfear béim leanúnach ar chaighdeán Gaeilge na bpáistí – idir chruinneas agus shaibhreas – a fhorbairt is a fheabhsú. Bainfear úsáid as na cláracha múinte teanga is oriúnaí atá ar fáil chun é seo a dhéanamh, m.sh Séideán Sí.

Díreoidh an Plean Scoile don Ghaeilge air seo agus léireofar ann an cur chuige a bheidh againn d'fhorbairt Ghaeilge na bPáistí.

Aithníonn an scoil go mbíonn riachtanais speisialta teanga ag daltaí atáthar á dtógaint le Gaeilge, idir chognaíoch agus mhothaitheach. Aithnímid, chomh maith, an ról tábhachtach atá ag na daltaí seo i spreagadh fhoghlaim na Gaeilge i measc na bpáistí eile, go speisialta i dTimpthriall na Naíonán. Déanfaimid ár ndícheall a bheith airdeallach ar na riachtanais seo.

Reáchtálfar comórtais agus imeachtaí eile chun na daltaí a spreagadh. Cothóimid nascanna le Gaelscoileanna eile chun cur le heispéireas Gaeilge na bpáistí. Glacfaimid páirt in imeachtaí agus comórtais lasmuigh den scoil a spreagfaidh meas ar agus suim ag na daltaí sa teanga.

Dátheangachas

Cinntoidh an scoil forbairt chumas Bhéarla na ndaltaí chomh maith. Is dátheangachas suimíoch an sprioc atá againn. Aithnímid na buntáistí sóisialta, acadúla agus eile a bhaineann le dátheangachas/ilteangachas. Is é polasaí na scoile go gcuirfí am breise ar leataobh gach seachtain do mhúineadh an Bhéarla ó Rang 1-6 thar an 3 uair 30 nóim atá molta sa Chreatlach Seachtainiúil i Réamhrá Churaclam na Bunscoile. Idir 30-60 nóiméad atá i gceist i Rang 1-2 - de réir mar a mheasann an múinteoir a bheith oiriúnach - agus 30 nóiméad i Rang 3-6.

Tacaíocht Foghlama

Cuirfidh an scoil MTF ar fáil i nGaeilge do dhaltaí arb í a máthairtheanga í agus atá i dteideal MTF a fháil, de réir threoirlínte na ROE. Más acmhainn dúinn cuirfimid MTF ar fáil do pháistí eile sa Ghaeilge, chomh maith.

Ba mhaith linn tacaíocht foghlama i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla a chur ar fáil do dhaltaí na scoile. Bíonn formhór na dtéacsleabhar agus an ábhair teagaisc i nGaeilge agus téann formhór na bpáistí ar aghaidh chuig iarbhunscoileanna lan-Ghaeilge. Tá sé riachtanach go bhforbrófaí a scileanna litearthachta sa dhá theanga nó fágfar faoi mhí-bhuntaíste iad. Baineann buntáistí an dátheangachais maidir le foghlaim teangacha eile le dé-litearthacht seachas dátheangachas labhartha.

Imeachtaí agus Cuairteoirí

Is i nGaeilge a reáchtálfar aon imeacht lasmuigh d'am scoile a mbíonn páirt ag na daltaí ann, m.sh. ranganna breise, sport is rl.

Is i nGaeilge a bheidh na searmanais eaglasta ar a fhreastalaíonn na daltaí.

Is í an Ghaeilge a bheidh ag aon chuairoteoirí a labhraíonn leis na daltaí ach i gcásanna eisceachtúla amháin a cheadaíonn an Bord Bainistíochta agus i gcásanna a bhaineann go sonrach le curaclam an Bhéarla.

Turasanna

Féach Polasaí Thurais Scoile.

Cláracha Teilifíse is eile

Is i nGaeilge a bheidh clár teilifíse a thaispeánfar do na daltaí ach amháin (a) nuair atáthar á n-úsáid le teanga eile a mhúineadh nó (b) ar bhonn eisceachtúil oideachais nuair nach bhfuil a macasamhail ar fáil i nGaeilge. Is i nGaeilge a bheidh aon chlár a thaispeánfar mar shiamsaíocht ag deireadh téarma nó ag aon am eile.

Teicneolaíocht an Eolais

Caithfimid polasaí a fhorbairt maidir le húsáid na Gaeilge i dTeicneolaíocht an Eolais. Is ceist chasta í seo agus caithimid cothromaíocht a aimsiú idir dílseacht don Ghaeilge agus ár bpáistí a chumasú le dul i ngleic leis an saol.

Amhráin

Is amhráin i nGaeilge amháin a mhúinfead do na daltaí agus a chanfar nó sheinnfead sa scoil. Tá sé ceadaithe amhráin agus rannta Béarla a mhúineadh mar chuid de chlár Tacaíochta Foghlama.

Ainmneacha na bPáistí

Is é an leagan Gaeilge d'ainm an pháiste – nuair is ann dó - a úsáidfead i gcónaí nuair is ann dó ach amháin má iarrann na tuismitheoirí a mhalairt.

Tuismitheoirí

Iarraimid ar thuismitheoirí Gaeilge a labhairt lena chéile, leis na daltaí agus leis na múinteoirí a mhéad is is féidir leo agus iad i dtimpeallacht na scoile nó ar ghnó scoile. Tá dualgas speisialta orthu siúd ag a bhfuil Gaeilge mhaith í a labhairt sa scoil.

Iarraimid ar thuismitheoirí gan Béarla a labhairt sa seomra ranga chun cabhrú linn atmasfaer Gaelach a chothú. Más gá Béarla a labhairt le páiste nó le múinteoir is féidir dul lasmuigh den doras agus labhairt leo go ciúin ansin.

Beimid ag súil go dtabharfaidh tuismitheoirí gach tacaíocht dá bpáistí i sealbhú na Gaeilge lasmuigh den scoil, chomh maith. Bheadh sé an-chabhrach Gaeilge a bheith le cloisteáil agus le feiceáil lasmuigh den scoil. D'fhéadfaí:

Na páistí a mhealladh le Gaeilge a labhairt lena chéile

TG4 a roghnú in áit stáisiún eile

Cuairt a thabhairt ar an nGaeltacht

Gaeilge a labhairt ag am áirithe sa bhaile gach seachtain

Leabhar Gaeilge a cheannach agus a léamh le do pháiste

Clárú le heagraíocht ar nós Comhluadar

Féachfaidh an scoil trí Choiste na dTuismitheoirí le tionchar a imirt ar nósmhaireacht teanga na bpáistí agus na dtuismitheoirí lasmuigh d'am scoile trí dheiseanna caidrimh a thabhairt dóibh ina mbeidh an Ghaeilge in uachtar. I measc na n-imeachtaí a eagraítear nó a fhéadfaí a eagrú tá:

Ranganna Gaeilge

Ocáidí sóisialta ar nós Oíche Thuistí na Naíonán, Aonach na Nollag, Céilí na Samhna, Lá Spóirt

Grúpa Tuismitheora is Linbh

Áiseanna agus spreagadh a chur ar fáil, m.sh. i gCúinne na Naíonán

Tacaíocht do thuismitheoirí ionas gur féidir leo cabhrú leis an Obair Bhaile

Spreagadh do thuismitheoirí ag 1.15 in. agus na Naíonáin á mbailiú

Cairteanna a chrochadh ar na fallaí le nathanna a chabhróidh le tuismitheoirí caidreamh a dhéanamh lena chéile, leis na páistí agus leis na múinteoirí i nGaeilge.

Seantuismitheoirí agus feighlithe

Aithnímid an ról a imríonn seantuismitheoirí agus feighlithe i saol a lán de pháistí na scoile agus an tacaíocht a thugann a lán seantuismitheoirí - go speisialta - don Ghaeilge. Iarraimid orthu go léir a ndícheall a dhéanamh ó thaobh na Gaeilge. Iarraimid ar thuismitheoirí an tionchar láidir is féidir leo a imirt ar na páistí agus an dualgas atá orthu mar dhaoine fásta sa scoil a mheabhrrú dóibh.

Tacaíocht

Cuirfidh an Bord Bainistíochta agus/nó Coiste na dTuismitheoirí tacaíocht ar fáil do mhúinteoirí/tuismitheoirí ar mian leo feabhas a chur ar a nGaeilge.

Comhfhreagras

Is i nGaeilge a bheidh aon litríocht nó téacs lasmuigh de Churaclam an Bhéarla a chuirtear ar fáil do dhaltaí sa scoil.

Is i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla a bheidh gach comhfhreagras, fógra is rl. a eiseoidh an scoil chuig pobal na scoile.

Is i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla a bheidh láithreán gréasáin na scoile.

Is i nGaeilge amháin a bheidh na tuairiscí cinn bhliana a scríobhann na múinteoirí do na daltaí. Is féidir leis an mBB eisceachtaí a dhéanamh sa chás seo.

Iarraimid ar thuismitheoirí iarracht mhaith a dhéanamh Gaeilge a úsáid i gcomhfhreagras, chomh maith. Tá sé riachtanach gur i nGaeilge amháin nó go dátheangach a bheadh aon chuireadh Lá Breithe a thugtar amach sa scoil.

Áiseanna Gaeilge

Is é polasaí na scoile a bheidh ar an eolas faoi áiseanna Gaeilge agus iad a úsáid nuair atá siad oiriúnach. Féachfaidh an scoil le tacaíocht a thabhairt do mhúinteoirí nó tuismitheoirí ar mian leo áiseanna teagaisc i nGaeilge a fhorbairt nó a chur ar fáil.

An Stát

Is i nGaeilge a dhéanfaidh an scoil a gnó leis an Roinn Oid. agus Eol agus leis an gcigireacht. agus leis an gcuid eile den státchóras a mhéid agus is féidir. Éilimid seirbhís cheart, chóir i nGaeilge ón stát.

Cruinnithe

Is i nGaeilge a reachtálfar Cruinnithe an Bhord Bainistíochta. Reachtálfar cruinnithe Choiste na dTuismitheoirí agus cruinnithe eile do thuismitheoirí agus do phobal na scoile go dátheangach.

Post um Dhualgaisí Speisialta

Beidh cúram na Gaeilge mar ábhar Curaclaim agus mar theanga cumarsáide na scoile mar cheann de Phostanna um Dhualgaisí Speisialta na scoile.

Riail na Gaeilge

Is i nGaeilge amháin a dhéanfaidh daltaí na scoile cumarsáid lena chéile agus leis na múinteoirí ar scoil agus ag imeachtaí scoile. Cuirtear an Riail seo i bhfeidhm go daingean ó Rang 1 ar aghaidh. Spreagfar agus tabharfar tacaíocht do na páistí an Ghaeilge a úsáid sna seomraí ranga, timpeall ar an scoil, sa chlós agus ag gach imeacht a bhaineann leis an scoil. Cuirfear scéimeanna ar siúl le haitheantas a thabhairt d'iarrachtaí na bpáistí agus d'iarrachtaí ghrúpaí paistí agus ranganna.

Cuirfear smachtbhannaí aoisoiriúnacha ar dhaltaí a sháraíonn riail na Gaeilge, ar mhaithe leo féin agus leis na daltaí eile sa scoil. Is é seo an córas foirmeálta atá againn chun déileáil le daltaí ó Rang 1 – 6 a bhriseann Riail na Gaeilge sa scoil.

Céim 1: An chéad uair a bhriseann an dalta an riail, cuirtear nóta abhaile ón múinteoir

Céim 2: An dara huair a bhriseann dalta an riail, labhrann Bn. Uí Chroidheáin - an múinteoir a bhfuil Dualgas Speisialta i leith na Gaeilge uirthi - leis an dalta agus cuireann sí litir abhaile. .

Céim 3: An tríú huair a bhriseann dalta an riail, socraítear coinne do thuismitheoir/chaomhnóir leis an bPríomhoide chun an fhadhb a phlé.

I gcás fíor-eisceachtúil nach dtoileodh páiste glacadh le riail na Gaeilge d'fhéadfadh fionraí a bheith i gceist nó dul i bpáirt le tuismitheoir maidir le malairt scoile a aimsiú don pháiste.

Ceantar na Scoile

Nuair is acmhainn dúinn tabharfaidh pobal na scoile/Coiste na dTuismitheoirí faoi thionchar a imirt ar ghnónna i gceantar na scoile ionas go mbeidh Gaeilge le feiceáil/cloisteáil sa timpeallacht ag pobal na scoile.

Meánscolaíocht

Aithnímid an gaol speisialta atá againn le Coláiste Eoin/Iosagáin agus is mór linn go leanann formhór na ndaltaí lena scolaíocht trí Ghaeilge ar an meánscoil. Aithnímid go dtéann roinnt daltaí ar aghaidh chuig meánscoileanna eile agus go n-éiríonn go geal leo iontu sin.

Eisceachtaí agus Athbhreithniú

Is féidir leis an mBord Bainistíochta eisceacht a cheadú sna treoracha thuas más ar mhaithe leis na daltaí nó an scoil í. Déanfar Athbhreithniú ar an bpolasaí seo i gceann trí bliana nó roimhe sin, má gá.

Policy on Use of Irish in Scoil Lorcáin

Scoil Lorcáin is an Irish speaking national school under the patronage of the Catholic Archbishop of Dublin. Our school was founded in 1952 with these aims:

- To provide an Irish Language primary education for pupils from Irish speaking families
- To provide an Irish Language primary education for other pupils and to enable them to become fluent Irish speakers
- To provide a Gaelic environment and to engender interest amongst pupils and parents in Irish and Irish heritage.

Parents and guardians are required to accept the school's policy on the use of Irish in the school, in advance of sending their first child to Scoil Lorcáin and to actively support the school's policy on the use of Irish while they remain parents of a child at the school.

We will display copies of this Policy on the Use of Irish in Scoil Lorcáin prominently at various locations in the school so that everyone can see and read it.

Promoting Irish in the School

We are very conscious of the positive influence our Irish heritage has on our pupils, through music, games, and dance, etc. We emphasise this heritage in school. This contributes to our pupils' development and strengthens the status of the language. For our part, we will make every effort to cultivate an atmosphere in the school that encourages the children to use Irish in class and in all school situations, whether they are at work or play.

The School Team

Every effort will be made to recruit fully qualified teachers with high competency in Irish. Irish will be the working and conversational language used in the school and outside of it on school occasions by all the teachers - unless they are teaching another language - by the Secretary and Chaplin. At least one teacher will have particular responsibility for encouraging the use of Irish in the school. We will help and support any new teachers in the school to familiarise themselves with the way Irish is used and encouraged in the school. We will also provide support for any teacher who may wish to improve their own standard of Irish.

Immersion Education

We have a policy of complete immersion in the Infant Cycle to raise the children's proficiency in Irish to a level that enables them to benefit fully from the education available here. Complete immersion is recognised throughout the world as the most effective means to acquire a second language in an educational context.

We will avail of training in immersion education available outside the school. Teachers will be supported to attend this training. We will provide support in immersion education for Infant teachers in the school.

Irish reading/literacy will be taught first to the children starting in the Infant and reading/literacy in English then starting in Rang 1.

Our Pupils and Irish

At all times, pupils are required to speak Irish with each other and with teachers. We will place constant emphasis on improving and developing the accuracy and richness of the standard of Irish in the school. The most suitable available language teaching programmes, eg. Séidean Sí will be used to this end. Our Plean Scoile for Irish will delineate our approach to developing the children's Irish.

The school recognises the special language requirements - both cognitive and affective – of children who are raised as Irish speakers. We also recognise the special role these children have in helping other children learn Irish, especially in the Infant Cycle. We will strive to be aware of these requirements.

Competitions and other incentives will be used to encourage the pupils to speak more and better Irish. We arrange events with other “gael scoileanna” to enhance the children's experience of Irish. We participate in events and competitions outside school to encourage the children's interest in and respect for the language.

Bilingualism

The school will ensure that the pupils learn English to the best of each child's ability. Achieving bilingualism is our aim. We recognise the social, academic and other advantages that come from bi or multi-lingualism. It is the school's policy that time over and above the 3.30 minutes recommended by the Revised Curriculum be set aside each week from the Discretionary Curriculum Time for the teaching of English. Rang 1-2 will set aside 30-60 minutes – as the teacher sees fit - and Rang 3-6 30 minutes.

Learning Support

The school will provide LS for children in Irish when they are entitled to it under DES guidelines and when it is their mother tongue. If our resources allow it we will provide LS in Irish to other children, as well. Most of our text books and teaching materials are in Irish and most of our pupils continue to Irish Language Secondary Schools. It is vital for them to develop literacy skills in both languages or they will be disadvantaged. The advantages of bilingualism in learning other languages pertain to bi-literacy rather than oral bilingualism.

Activities and Visitors

All extra-curricular activities involving pupils, such as extra classes, sporting events and trips, will be organised and conducted through Irish. Religious ceremonies involving pupils will be conducted through Irish. Visitors to classrooms will speak Irish with the pupils, except in exceptional circumstances and with the prior agreement of the Board of Management. An example of an exception might be an author of an English book who comes as part of the English curriculum to address the pupils.

Trips

See Policy on School Trips.

Television

Programmes shown to pupils will be in Irish except (a) when another language is being taught (b) in exceptional educational circumstances when a similar programme is unavailable in Irish. Any programme shown for entertainment at the end of the school year or at any other time will be in Irish.

I.T.

We must develop a policy with regard to the use of Irish in IT. This will not be easy, balancing our commitment to Irish with the need to equip the children with the skills to manage in today's world.

Songs

Irish songs only will be taught, sung and played in the school. English songs and rhymes may be used as part of a Learning Support programme.

Children's Names

The Irish version of children's names will be used unless a parent requests otherwise.

Parents

We ask parents to speak as much Irish as they can with other parents, with pupils and with teachers when they are at the school or at school events. Parents with good Irish have a special responsibility for speaking Irish around the school. We ask parents not to speak English in the classroom, so that the atmosphere of learning through Irish can be maintained. Where it is necessary to communicate with a child in English a parent or guardian may take a pupil out of the classroom to speak quietly with him/her. We will expect parents to give full support to their children to speak Irish outside school. It would be very helpful if Irish were spoken and heard in the home as well as at school. We suggest:

Encouraging the children to speak Irish to each other

Choosing TG\$ instead of another station

Visit the Gaeltacht

Speak Irish at home for a particular period each week, eg. Friday dinner

Buy and read Irish books with your child

Engage with an organisation such as Comhluadar or Ógras.

Coiste na dTuismitheoirí will try to support parents and pupils by organising events where Irish is the primary language. Among the events which are organised or could be are:

Irish classes

Social events such as the Night for parents of Infants, Aonach na Nollag, Halloween Céilí, Lá Spóirt, Parent and Toddler Group etc.

Provide resources and motivation in Cúinne na Naíonán

Support for parents so they can help with the homework

Display lists of useful, everyday phrases on the walls of the school, as a means to help parents to converse in Irish with each other, teachers, pupils and others in the school.

Grandparents and Childminders

The school recognises the role that grandparents and childminders play in the lives of the children and the support that many of them, particularly grandparents, give to the use of Irish.

We ask each of them to do their best to encourage the children to speak Irish. We ask parents to remind them to exercise the best influence they can on the children and of their duty, as adults, to give good example.

Support

The Board of Management and the Parents' Committee will give teachers and parents every support to improve their standard of Irish.

Correspondence

Other than literature for the English Curriculum, all literature provided by the school will be in Irish.

All correspondence or notice from the school to the school's community will be bi-lingual.

The school website will be in Irish and English.

All annual school reports from teachers to pupils will be written in Irish only, subject to such exceptions as the Board of Management may authorise.

We ask parents to make every effort to use Irish in correspondence. Any party invitation which is distributed in school must also be written in Irish or bi-lingual.

Irish Resources

We will be aware of resources in Irish and use them when suitable. We will support teachers or parents who wish to provide Irish resources.

The State

Business between the school and the Department of Education and Science, the school inspectorate and any other official business will, to the best extent possible, be conducted through Irish. We are entitled to a proper and fair service through Irish from state bodies.

Meetings

Meetings of the Board of Management will be conducted through Irish. Meetings of the Parents Committee and other meetings involving parents and the school's community will be conducted bilingually.

Posts of Responsibility

Responsibility for the Irish Language as a curriculum subject and the spoken language of the school will be a post of responsibility in the school.

The Irish Rule

Children will communicate with each other and with the teachers using Irish in school and at school events. This rule is applied strictly from Rang 1. The children will be encouraged and supported in using Irish in the class, around the school, in the yard and at all school events. Schemes will be organised to recognise the efforts of individual children, groups and whole classes.

Age appropriate sanctions will be imposed, for their own good and that of other pupils, on pupils who breach the Rule of Irish. The following is the procedure that will be used to deal with pupils from 1st to 6th class who are in breach of the Irish Rule in school :

- Step 1: First offence – a note will be sent home to parents by the teacher;
- Step 2: Second offence – Bean Uí Chroidean, the teacher with special responsibility for Irish, will speak to the pupil and send a letter home to parents;
- Step 3: Third offence – there will be a meeting with the Headmaster to discuss the issue.

A pupil in serious breach of the Rule of Irish may be suspended, or expelled, from the school, in accordance with provisions of the Code of Conduct and Discipline.

The School Environs

When practicable the school's community and Parents Committee will try to influence business in the area so that Irish may be visible.

Secondary Education

The school recognises the special relationship that exists with Colaiste Eoin and Iosagáin and is happy that so many of our pupils continue their education through Irish at secondary school. We recognise that some children attend other secondary schools and that they prosper and continue their development based on the schooling they have received here.

Exceptions

The Board of Management is empowered to permit exceptions to any of the above rules, if such is in the interest of the pupils or the school.

Review

This policy will be reviewed in three years or before then if the Board of Management so decides.

November 2007

Learning Support will be provided in Irish to children whose first language is Irish.

Leagan Béarla

We would like to provide Learning Support in English and in Irish to all children regardless of home language as most of the textbooks and teaching resources are in Irish and the majority of children continue on to all-Irish post primary education. It is essential to develop literacy skills in both languages. The greatest advantages of bilingualism for learning other languages comes with biliteracy rather than spoken bilingualism.

The children will be encouraged and supported to use Irish in the classrooms, around the school, in the yard and at all school activities.

Schemes will be developed to give recognition to individual, group and class endeavour in this regard.

In exceptional cases where a child refuses to accept school rule regarding Irish, suspension could follow or co-operation with parent regarding alternative school for child.