

Admission Policy of Scoil Mháthair Dé

Address: SCRd., Limerick V94VR64

Website: www.scoilmhathairde.ie

Roll number: 18677M

School Patron: Bishop Brendan Leahy

1. Introduction

This Admission Policy complies with the requirements of the Education Act 1998, the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018, and the Equal Status Act 2000. In drafting this policy, the board of management of the school has consulted with school staff, the school patron and with parents of children attending the school.

The policy was approved by the school patron on _____ It is published on the school's website and will be made available in hardcopy on request to any person who requests it.

The relevant dates and timelines for Scoil Mháthair Dé admission process are set out in the school's annual admission notice which is published annually on the school's website at least one week before the commencement of the admission process for the school year concerned.

This policy must be read in conjunction with the annual admission notice for the school year concerned.

The application form for admission is published on the school's website and will be made available in hardcopy on request to any person who requests it.

2. Characteristic spirit and general objectives of the school

Scoil Mháthair Dé is a Catholic co-educational primary school with a Catholic ethos under the patronage of the Bishop of Limerick, Patron.

"Catholic Ethos" in the context of a Catholic primary school means the ethos and characteristic spirit of the Roman Catholic Church, which aims at promoting:

- (a) the full and harmonious development of all aspects of the person of the pupil, a living relationship with God and with other people; and
- (b) including the intellectual, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual aspects; and
- (c) a philosophy of life inspired by belief in God and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; and
- (d) the formation of the pupils in the Catholic faith;

and which school provides religious education for the pupils in accordance with the doctrines, practices and traditions of the Roman Catholic Church, and/or such ethos and/or characteristic spirit as may be determined or interpreted from time to time by the Irish Episcopal Conference.

In accordance with S.15 (2) (b) of the Education Act, 1998 the Board of Management of Scoil Mháthair Dé shall uphold, and be accountable to the patron for so upholding, the characteristic spirit of the school as determined by the cultural, educational, moral, religious, social, linguistic and spiritual values and traditions which inform and are characteristic of the objectives and conduct of the school.

Scoil Mháthair Dé is a Catholic / Christian school and is committed to:

-fostering a caring and compassionate environment for all the pupils, especially the materially poor and those at risk

-fostering a child centred and holistic education

-valuing every child as an individual and developing in each one a sense of self esteem and self worth

-seeking the cooperation and support of the parents in the implementation of this vision

3. Admission Statement

Scoil Mháthair Dé will not discriminate in its admission of a student to the school on any of the following:

- (a) the gender ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
- (b) the civil status ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
- (c) the family status ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
- (d) the sexual orientation ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
- (e) the religion ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
- (f) the disability ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
- (g) the ground of race of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
- (h) the Traveller community ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned, or
- (i) the ground that the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned has special educational needs

As per section 61 (3) of the Education Act 1998, 'gender ground', 'civil status ground', 'family status ground', 'sexual orientation ground', 'religion ground', 'disability ground', 'discriminate', 'ground of race' and 'Traveller community ground' shall be construed in accordance with section 3 of the Equal Status Act 2000.

- Scoil Mháthair Dé will cooperate with the National Council for Special Education in the performance by the Council of its functions under the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004 relating to the provision of education to children with special educational needs, including in particular by the provision and operation of a special class or classes when requested to do so by the Council.
- Scoil Mháthair Dé will comply with any direction served on the patron or the board, as the case may be, under section 37A and any direction served on the board under section 67(4B) of the Education Act.
- Scoil Mháthair Dé is a school which has established classes, with the approval of the Minister for Education, which provide an education exclusively for students with categories of special educational needs specified by the Minister and may refuse to admit to these classes students who do not have the category of needs specified.

4. Categories of Special Educational Needs catered for in our mainstream school with special classes

Scoil Mháthair Dé with the approval of the Minister for Education, has established two classes to provide an education exclusively for students with Autism.

Scoil Mháthair Dé with the approval of the Minister for Education, has established two classes to provide an education exclusively for students with SSLD.

5. Admission of Students

This school shall admit each student seeking admission except where –

- a) the school is oversubscribed (please see section 6 below for further details)
- b) a parent of a student, when required by the principal in accordance with section 23(4) of the Education (Welfare) Act 2000, fails to confirm in writing that the code of behaviour of the school is acceptable to him or her and that he or she shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure compliance with such code by the student

Special education classes

The special classes attached to Scoil Mháthair Dé with the approval of the Minister for Education, have been established to:

- 1) provide an education exclusively for students with autism and the school may refuse admission to these classes, where the student concerned does not have the specified category of special educational needs provided for in this class
- 2) provide an education exclusively for students with SSLD and the school may refuse admission to these classes, where the student concerned does not have the specified category of special educational needs provided for in this class

6. Oversubscription

In the event that the school is oversubscribed, the school will, when deciding on applications for admission, apply the following selection criteria in the order listed below to those applications that are received within the timeline for receipt of applications as set out in the school's annual admission notice:

