



Policy on Exemption from Irish

This policy was drafted by staff and Board of Management of St. Brigid's NS, Clonegal in November 2015, to clarify the circumstances which entitle a pupil to an exemption from Irish. This policy will be reviewed in 2017.

Rationale

Some pupils, who have a Psychological Assessment, have a recommendation for Parents to seek an Irish exemption under the criteria set out in Circular 12/96. We may, at some future date, have pupils on our roll who fulfil other criteria for an exemption.

Relationship to the school Ethos

This policy is in keeping with the mission statement of the school, which strives to enhance the self esteem of all through providing for the intellectual, physical, moral and cultural needs of all.

Aims and Objectives

- To allow for pupils of differing abilities, interests and circumstances to progress at their ability level in all aspects of the curriculum.
- To enhance inclusivity within the school.
- To enable children of all abilities to access the curriculum in a learner friendly manner.

Policy Content

Irish exemptions will be granted in accordance with Circular 12/96. Before an exemption is granted, the necessary documentation and reports from Psychologist/ Medical Specialist must be presented to the school, if applicable.

Procedures

- The school requires a written application for exemption from the Parents/Guardians of the particular child. It must be accompanied by documentary evidence such as age, previous schooling etc. and a psychologist's report (if relevant).
- The Principal, in consultation with staff, class teachers and BoM will grant an exemption if warranted and will present a certificate of exemption to the parents in accordance with Circular 12/96.
- Under the directions of Circular 12/96, the school no longer needs to send a copy of the exemption form to the DES. The school grants the exemption and keeps the form on file.



Roles and Responsibilities

In-school Management, class teachers and BoM will contribute to the implementation of school procedures.

Success Criteria

- Seamless integration of pupils of all nationalities (if applicable) and pupils with learning difficulties.
- Happy school learning environment.
- Positive teacher/parental feedback.