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**Admission Policy**

**Scoil Naoimh Ēanna**

**Killanny**

**Carrickmacross**

**Co Monaghan**

**Roll number: 05501A**

**School Patron/s: Bishop of Clogher Laurence Duffy**

## **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 in 2021. 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 Naoimh Éanna, Killanny 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 available in the school office.

## **Characteristic spirit and general objectives of the school**

Scoil Naoimh Éanna is a co-educational, Catholic Primary School which strives to provide a well-ordered, caring happy and secure atmosphere where intellectual, spiritual, physical, moral and cultured needs of the pupils are identified and addressed.

Scoil Naoimh Éanna will endeavour to enhance the self-esteem of everyone in the school community, to imbue in the pupils respect for people and property and to encourage in them the idea of being responsible. Scoil Naoimh Éanna will promote gender equality amongst the teachers and pupils.

Scoil Naoimh Éanna will strive to promote, both individually and collectively, the professional and personal development of teachers through staff development programmes.

Scoil Naoimh Éanna will encourage the involvement of parents through home/school contacts and through their involvement in the Scoil Naoimh Éanna Parents Association.

## **3. Admission Statement**

Scoil Naoimh Ēanna, Killanny will not discriminate in its admission of a student to the school on any of the following:

1. the gender ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
2. the civil status ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
3. the family status ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
4. the sexual orientation ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
5. the religion ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
6. the disability ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
7. the ground of race of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned,
8. the Traveller community ground of the student or the applicant in respect of the student concerned, or
9. 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, ‘civil status ground’, ‘disability ground’, ‘discriminate’, ‘family status ground’, ‘gender ground’, ‘ground of race’, ‘religion ground’, ‘sexual orientation ground’ and ‘Traveller community ground’ shall be construed in accordance with section 3 of the Equal Status Act 2000.

**Single gender**

Scoil Naoimh Ēanna is a co-educational school and does not discriminate where it refuses to admit a boy or girl applying for admission to this school.

**Primary schools receiving applications from applicants of a minority religion**

Scoil Naoimh Ēanna is a school whose objective is to provide education in an environment

which promotes certain religious values and does not discriminate in relation to the admission of a student who has applied for a place in the school in accordance with section 7A of the Equal Status Act 2000.

**All denominational schools**

Scoil Naoimh Ēanna is a school whose objective is to provide education in an environment which promotes certain religious values and does not discriminate where it refuses to admit as a student a person who is not Roman Catholic and it is proved that the refusal is essential to maintain the ethos of the school.

## **Admission of Students**

This school shall admit each student seeking admission except where –

1. the school is oversubscribed (please see [section 6](#_Oversubscription_(this_section) below for further details)
2. 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

## **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:

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| **Selection Criteria**   1. Children living within the Parish with priority to the oldest. 2. Brothers and sisters (including stepsiblings,( resident at same address) of children already enrolled with priority to the oldest. 3. Children of current school staff. 4. Children from bordering townlands, whose families would traditionally have attended the school. 5. Children from the wider community as long as our ceiling of 30 pupils is not breached after groups 1,2,3,4 have been allocated places. 6. Ages of the children: If the number of applicants for Junior Infants exceeds the number of places a ‘cut off birthday date ‘ will apply. 7. A waiting list of pupils (other than those pupils who meet the criteria from 1 – 4 will be devised and places will be given on a first come first served basis. 8. All applicants must undertake to respect our Catholic Ethos. |

In the event that there are two or more students tied for a place or places in any of the selection criteria categories above (the number of applicants exceeds the number of remaining places), the following arrangements will apply:

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| * Ages of the children: If the number of applicants for Junior Infants exceeds the number of places a ‘cut off birthday date ‘ will apply. * A waiting list of pupils (other than those pupils who meet the criteria from 1 – 4 will be devised and places will be given on a first come first served basis. |

## **What will not be considered or taken into account**

In accordance with section 62(7)(e) of the Education Act, the school will not consider or take into account any of the following in deciding on applications for admission or when placing a student on a waiting list for admission to the school:

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| 1. **a student’s prior attendance** at a pre-school or pre-school service, including naíonraí,   other than in relation to a student’s prior attendance at—  (I) an early intervention class, or  (II) an early start pre-school, specified in a list published by the Minister from time to time;   1. the payment of fees or contributions (howsoever described) to the school;   (other than in relation to a fee charging school or a plc or further education and training course run by a school in respect of those courses)   1. a student’s academic ability, skills or aptitude;   (other than in relation to:   * admission to (a) a special school or (b) a special class insofar as it is necessary in order to ascertain whether or not the student has the category of special educational needs concerned and/or * admission to an Irish language school, in accordance with the provisions of section 62(9) of the act  1. the occupation, financial status, academic ability, skills or aptitude of a student’s parents; 2. a requirement that a student, or his or her parents, attend an interview, open day or other meeting as a condition of admission;   (other than in the case of admission to the residential element of a boarding school or to a plc or further education and training course run by a school)   1. a student’s connection to the school by virtue of a member of his or her family attending or having previously attended the school;   (other than, in the case of the school wishing to include a selection criteria based on (1) siblings of a student attending or having attended the school and/or (2) parents or grandparents of a student having attended the school.  In relation to (2) parents and grandparents having attended, a school may only apply this criteria to a maximum of 25% of the available spaces as set out in the school’s annual admission notice).   1. the date and time on which an application for admission was received by the school,   This is subject to the application being received at any time during the period specified for receiving applications set out in the annual admission notice of the school for the school year concerned.  This is also subject to the school making offers based on existing waiting lists (up until 31st January 2025 only). |

## **Decisions on applications**

All decisions on applications for admission to Scoil Naoimh Ēanna will be based on the following:

* Our school’s admission policy
* The school’s annual admission notice (where applicable)
* The information provided by the applicant in the school’s official application form received during the period specified in our annual admission notice for receiving applications

(Please see [section 14](#_Late_Applications) below in relation to applications received outside of the admissions period and [section 15](#_Procedures_for_admission)  below in relation to applications for places in years other than the intake group.)

Selection criteria that are not included in our school admission policy will not be used to make a decision on an application for a place in our school.

## **Notifying applicants of decisions**

Applicants will be informed in writing as to the decision of the school, within the timeline outlined in the annual admissions notice.

If a student is not offered a place in our school, the reasons why they were not offered a place will be communicated in writing to the applicant, including, where applicable, details of the student’s ranking against the selection criteria and details of the student’s place on the waiting list for the school year concerned.

Applicants will be informed of the right to seek a review/right of appeal of the school’s decision (see [section 18](#_Reviews/appeals) below for further details).

## **Acceptance of an offer of a place by an applicant**

In accepting an offer of admission from Scoil Naoimh Ēanna, you must indicate-

(i) whether or not you have accepted an offer of admission for another school or schools. If you have accepted such an offer, you must also provide details of the offer or offers concerned and

(ii) whether or not you have applied for and awaiting confirmation of an offer of admission from another school or schools, and if so, you must provide details of the other school or schools concerned.

## **Circumstances in which offers may not be made or may be withdrawn**

An offer of admission may not be made or may be withdrawn by Scoil Naoimh Ēanna where-

1. it is established that information contained in the application is false or misleading.
2. an applicant fails to confirm acceptance of an offer of admission on or before the date set out in the annual admission notice of the school.
3. the 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; or
4. an applicant has failed to comply with the requirements of ‘acceptance of an offer’ as set out in [section 10](#_Acceptance_of_an) above.

## **Sharing of Data with other schools**

Applicants should be aware that section 66(6) of the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018 allows for the sharing of certain information between schools in order to facilitate the efficient admission of students.

## **Waiting list in the event of oversubscription**

In the event of there being more applications to the school year concerned than places available, a waiting list of students whose applications for admission to Scoil Naoimh Ēanna were unsuccessful due to the school being oversubscribed will be compiled and will remain valid for the school year in which admission is being sought.

Placement on the waiting list of Scoil Naoimh Ēanna is in the order of priority assigned to the students’ applications after the school has applied the selection criteria in accordance with this admission policy.

Offers of any subsequent places that become available for and during the school year in relation to which admission is being sought will be made to those students on the waiting list, in accordance with the order of priority in relation to which the students have been placed on the list.

## **Late Applications**

All applications for admission received after the closing date as outlined in the annual admission notice will be considered and decided upon in accordance with our school’s admissions policy, the Education Admissions to School Act 2018 and any regulations made under that Act.

## **Procedures for admission of students to other years and during the school year**

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| The procedures of the school in relation to the admission of students who are not already admitted to the school to classes or years other than the school’s intake group are as follows:   * Other pupils may be enrolled during the school year If newly resident in the parish. * Pupils wishing to transfer from other schools are enrolled subject to the Rules for National Schools, Education Welfare Act and school’s Enrolment Policy |

## **Arrangements regarding students not attending religious instruction**

This section must be completed by schools that provide religious instruction to students.

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| The following are the school’s arrangements for students, where the parent~~s~~ of the student, who has requested that the student attend the school without attending religious instruction in the school.   * These arrangements will not result in a reduction in the school day of such students: * Children will be provided with activities/tasks which hey complete independently in the classroom. |

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## **Reviews/appeals**

**Review of decisions by the Board of Management**

The parent of the student, or in the case of a student who has reached the age of 18 years, the student, may request the board to review a decision to refuse admission. Such requests must be made in accordance with Section 29C of the Education Act 1998.

The timeline within which such a review must be requested and the other requirements applicable to such reviews are set out in the procedures determined by the Minister under section 29B of the Education Act 1998 which are published on the website of the Department of Education and Skills.

The board will conduct such reviews in accordance with the requirements of the procedures determined under Section 29B and with section 29C of the Education Act 1998.

**Note:** Where an applicant has been refused admission due to the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **must request a review** of that decision by the board of management prior to making an appeal under section 29 of the Education Act 1998.

Where an applicant has been refused admission due to a reason other than the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **may request a review** of that decision by the board of management prior to making an appeal under section 29 of the Education Act 1998.

**Right of appeal**

Under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998, the parent of the student, or in the case of a student who has reached the age of 18 years, the student, may appeal a decision of this school to refuse admission.

An appeal may be made under Section 29 (1)(c)(i) of the Education Act 1998 where the refusal to admit was due to the school being oversubscribed.

An appeal may be made under Section 29 (1)(c)(ii) of the Education Act 1998 where the refusal to admit was due a reason other than the school being oversubscribed.

Where an applicant has been refused admission due to the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **must request a review** of that decision by the board of management **prior to making an appeal** under section 29 of the Education Act 1998. (see Review of decisions by the Board of Management)

Where an applicant has been refused admission due to a reason other than the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **may request a review** of that decision by the board of management prior to making an appeal under section 29 of the Education Act 1998. (see Review of decisions by the Board of Management)

Appeals under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998 will be considered and determined by an independent appeals committee appointed by the Minister for Education and Skills.

The timeline within which such an appeal must be made and the other requirements applicable to such appeals are set out in the procedures determined by the Minister under section 29B of the Education Act 1998 which are published on the website of the Department of Education and Skills.

**Ratified at a Board Meeting**

**Signed Martin O’Reilly**

**Chairperson B.O.M.**