

Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir

Admission Policy

2023-2024



Admission Policy of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir

School Address: Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir, Ballingarry, Co. Limerick, V94 W1X4

School Website: www.ballingarryns.com

Roll number: 20094A

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 (date). 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 Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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 (Appendix 1) for admission is published on the school's website and will be made available via email on request to any person who requests it by contacting the school secretary on (069) 68402/office@ballingarryns.com

A Registration Form (Appendix 2) and Pupil Online Database (POD) form, (Appendix 3) also form part of the enrolment procedure. These forms will accompany the letter of offer that will be sent to parents/guardians of successful applicants. The completed registration forms must be returned to the school within the timeline specified in the letter of offer. Failure to do so will be interpreted as a refusal of the offer to enroll.

The address at which the applicant resides will be the address used by the school for correspondence regarding enrolment.

The completion of an enrolment application form or the placement of your child's name on a list, however early, does not confer an automatic right to a place in the school.

All offers of enrolment are subject to acceptance of the School's Code of Behaviour, a copy of which is appended to this policy (Appendix 4)

The Chairperson of the Board of Management, Donal McGoey, Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir, Ballingarry, Limerick, and the Principal teacher, Rebecca Cleary, Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir, Ballingarry, Limerick, will be happy to clarify any further matters arising from the policy.

2. Characteristic spirit and general objectives of the school

Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir is a Catholic co-educational primary school with a Catholic ethos under the patronage of the Bishop of Limerick, Bishop Brendan Leahy.

"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 Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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.

3. Admission Statement

Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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, '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.

Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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 of the Catholic faith and it is proved that the refusal is essential to maintain the ethos of the school.

Note for Parents: the inclusion of the above wording was mandated by the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018.

- Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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 Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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.

Denominational Primary Schools of a Minority Religion

Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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 Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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 (insert details of particular religious denomination concerned) and it is proved that the refusal is essential to maintain the ethos of the school.

4. Categories of Special Educational Needs catered for in the school

NA

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

Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir is a Catholic school and may refuse to admit as a student a person who is not of the Catholic faith where it is proved that the refusal is essential to maintain the ethos of the school.

Note for Parents: the inclusion of the above wording was mandated by the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018.

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:

The Board is bound by the Department of Education and Skills *Rules for National Schools* which provides that pupils may only be enrolled from the age of 4 years and upwards, though compulsory attendance does not apply until the age of 6 years. Children applying to enroll in Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir must have reached the age of 4 years by August 31st of the year they will commence school.

In the event that applications for enrolment exceed/is expected to exceed the number of places available the following decision making process will apply.

1. *Applicants with siblings currently enrolled in the school (including stepsiblings, resident at the same address), priority eldest;*
2. *Children residing in the parish, priority eldest;*
3. *Children of staff members, priority eldest ;*
4. *Random selection (independently verified).*
5. *The Board of Management strongly recommends that applicant children are at least four years of age on or before March 31st of the school commencement year.*

The Board of Management reserves the right to determine the maximum number of children in each separate classroom bearing in mind Department and Education Guidelines in relation to class size and staffing provisions. Other factors that may be considered are:

- Size and available space in classrooms.
- Educational needs of children of a particular age.
- Multi-grade classes.
- Presence of children with special educational/behavioural needs.
- Health and Safety.

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:

- Priority to eldest in accordance with the above criteria

7. 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:

- (a) 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;
- (b) the payment of fees or contributions (howsoever described) to the school;
- (c) a student's academic ability, skills or aptitude;
- (d) the occupation, financial status, academic ability, skills or aptitude of a student's parents;
- (e) a requirement that a student, or his or her parents, attend an interview, open day or other meeting as a condition of admission;
- (f) 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)
- (g) 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).

8. Decisions on applications

All decisions on applications for admission to Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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](#) below in relation to applications received outside of the admissions period and [section 15](#) 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.

9. 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](#) below for further details).

10. Acceptance of an offer of a place by an applicant

In accepting an offer of admission from Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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.

11. 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 Chríost an Slánaitheoir where—

- (i) it is established that information contained in the application is false or misleading.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) 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

- (iv) an applicant has failed to comply with the requirements of ‘acceptance of an offer’ as set out in [section 10](#) above.

12. 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. Section 66(6) allows a school to provide a patron or another board of management with a list of the students in relation to whom—

- (i) an application for admission to the school has been received,
- (ii) an offer of admission to the school has been made, or
- (iii) an offer of admission to the school has been accepted.

The list may include any or all of the following:

- (i) the date on which an application for admission was received by the school;
- (ii) the date on which an offer of admission was made by the school;
- (iii) the date on which an offer of admission was accepted by an applicant;
- (iv) a student’s personal details including his or her name, address, date of birth and personal public service number (within the meaning of section 262 of the Social Welfare Consolidation Act 2005).

13. 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 Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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 Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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.

Applicants whose applications are received after the closing date, outlined in the Annual Admission Notice, will be placed at the end of the waiting list in order of the date of receipt of the application.

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.

14. 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.

Late applicants will be notified of the decision in respect of their application no later than three weeks after the date on which the school received the application. Late applicants will be offered a place if there is place available. In the event that there is no place available, the name of the applicant will be added to the waiting list as set out in Section 13.

15. Procedures for admission of students to other years and during the school year

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:

Applications for enrolment during the school year will be considered subject to school policy, available space and the provision of information concerning attendance and the child's educational progress.

Such applications will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis but will normally only be considered for admission on the first day of each new term unless the applicant is newly resident in the area.

The procedures of the school in relation to the admission of students who are not already admitted to the school, after the commencement of the school year in which admission is sought, are as follows:

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 Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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 Chríost an Slánaitheoir 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.

16. Declaration in relation to the non-charging of fees

The board of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir or any persons acting on its behalf will not charge fees for or seek payment or contributions (howsoever described) as a condition of-

- (a) an application for admission of a student to the school, or
- (b) the admission or continued enrolment of a student in the school.

17. Arrangements regarding students not attending religious instruction

Our school is of a Catholic ethos and, in keeping with that ethos, children of all or no other faith are welcome to apply to this school.

We respect the decision of parents to withdraw their child/children from taking part in the religious education curriculum, religious ceremonies, school Masses, etc.

The following are the school's arrangements for students, where the parent(s)/guardian(s) have requested that the student attend the school without attending religious instruction (etc.) in the school. These arrangements will not result in a reduction in the school day of such students:

A written request should be made to the Principal of the school. A meeting will then be arranged with the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student, to discuss how the request may be accommodated by the school.

18. Reviews/appeals

Review of decisions by the board of Management

The parents/guardians of 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 parents/guardians of 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)

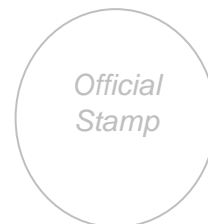
Appeals under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998 will be considered and determined by an independent appeals committee appointed by the Minister for Education.

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.

The policy was ratified by the Board of Management of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir on 26/09/2023

Signed: _____ Chairperson, Board of Management

The contents of this policy have been approved by St. Senan's Education Office, acting on behalf of the Patron.



APPENDIX (1)

Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir



Enrolment Application Form

Enrolment Year 2023-2024

Pupil's First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Address (at which the applicant resides): _____

Name and class of Sibling(s) currently enrolled: _____

Parish in which the applicant resides _____

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Details:

Name: _____ [] Parent [] Custodian [] Legal Guardian

Address: _____

Home Tel. _____ Mobile _____ Email. _____

Name: _____ [] Parent [] Custodian [] Legal Guardian

Address: _____

Home Tel. _____ Mobile _____ Email. _____

Signature 1: _____

Signature 2: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

We use texts/emails to communicate short notes of information to parents. We will contact you regarding our Open Day for new Junior Infants. Please nominate **one** mobile telephone number that we may contact you with. This will be the number used for all future school texts through our Aladdin system.

Nominated mobile no:

Completed enrolment applications must be returned to Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir, Ballingarry, Co Limerick, no later than **2.40pm** on **03/11/2023**

Please make sure both parents sign this form (where applicable)

APPENDIX (2)

Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir



Enrolment Registration Form

Enrolment Year 2023-2024

Child's details:

Pupil's First Name: _____ Surname: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Mother's name: _____ Occupation: _____

Father's name: _____ Occupation: _____

Address at which the child resides: _____

Name of emergency contact person: _____ Number: _____

Name of child's doctor : _____ Number : _____

Preschool attended: _____ Number : _____

Child's Medical details:	
1. Does your child have any medical conditions? eg allergies/asthma/toileting issues? etc	
2. Does your child take any prescribed medication? eg inhalers/antihistamines etc.	
3. Has your child ever attended a specialist/therapist for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speech and language • Play therapy • Occupational therapy • Physiotherapy • Psychologist/CAMHS services 	
4. Does your child have any reports from a professional they have attended?	
5. Please supply any other relevant information or explain if you said 'yes' to any of the points above.	

Please answer YES/No to the following questions:

Do you give permission for your child to participate in the Catholic Religious Education programme 'Grow in Love'?	
Has your child been baptised? (Please include copies of the child's Baptismal Certificate if they are participating in religious education.)	
Are there any Guardian/ Custody Arrangements that the school may need to be aware of?	

Do you give permission for an initial assessment of learning support for your child, if deemed necessary?	
Do you give permission for a diagnostic assessment to be undertaken to acquire the level of competence your child has in a certain area, such as literacy and numeracy if deemed necessary?	
Do you give permission for your child's photograph to be taken and used solely for school purposes? E.g., School Facebook and Instagram, school website, sporting events, acknowledgements, fundraising, school displays, local newspapers, etc.)	
Do you give permission for your child to partake in school walks, trails and local visits in conjunction with the school's curriculum?	
Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE) is part of the curriculum. In Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir we teach Relationship and Sexuality Education (RSE), Walk Tall and Stay Safe programmes. These may contain sensitive issues. They are available online to see the content. Do you give permission for your child to participate in these lessons?	

Please read and sign the following:

- I have read the 'Code of Behaviour' for Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir and confirm that my child will abide by the school rules. I will support the school in every possible way by encouraging my child/children to obey these rules.
- In the event of an emergency, if I am not available for contact, I give permission to the teacher/ school to deal with the situation. Eg needing medical attention, the assistance of a medical officer or attending a hospital. I indemnify the Board of Management and staff of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir in dealing with medical emergencies.
- Name and telephone numbers of person(s) who may need to be contacted in if parents/guardians are unavailable:

Name of Person A: _____ Telephone No: _____

Name of Person B: _____ Telephone No: _____

This form must be returned by the 24/11/2023

Mother's signature: _____ Father's signature: _____

Failure to sign this registration form implies that:

- (a) You are not accepting enrolment and/ or
- (b) Your child will not be enrolling in Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir
- (c)

A copy of your child's *Birth/adoption certificate* **and** *baptismal certificate* (if applicable) must be returned to the school with this registration form.

Privacy Notice to Parents/Guardians

1. Introduction

By enrolling your child(ren) in and by your child(ren) attending Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir you acknowledge that your and your child's/children's personal data (including special category personal data) shall be processed by Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir

This Privacy Notice gives you some helpful information about the personal data which the school collects about you and your child(ren), why we collect that data, who we share it with and why, how long we keep it and your rights.

If you need more information, please see our Data Protection Policy available at [insert website] or on request from the school.

2. Who we are

The address of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir is Ballingarry, Limerick and telephone number is 069-68402.

We provide primary education to children from junior infants to 6th class.

For further information, see the school's website at www.ballingarryns.com

1. The information we collect about you/your child(ren)

When your child(ren) is a pupil in [insert name of school], the school collects and uses your personal data and that of your child(ren).

The personal data we collect **about you** can include:

- name, address and contact details;
- details of any special arrangements with regard to guardianship, custody or access;
- religious belief;
- nationality;
- whether you are medical card holders;
- Correspondence and documents with other agencies under mandatory reporting legislation; and
- Correspondence with you in relation to your child/children.

The personal data we collect about **your child(ren)** can include:

- name, address and contact details, PPS number;

- date and place of birth;
- religious belief;
- nationality;
- whether they are medical card holders;
- whether English is the pupil's first language and/or whether the pupil requires English language support;
- any relevant special conditions (e.g. special educational needs, health issues etc.) which may apply;
- Information on previous academic record (including reports, assessments and other records from any previous school(s) attended by the pupil);
- Psychological, psychiatric and/or medical assessments;
- Attendance records;
- Photographs and recorded images of pupils (including at school events and noting achievements);
- Academic record – class assignments, standardised testing results and results as recorded on official School reports;
- Records of significant achievements;
- Whether the pupil is exempt from studying Irish;
- Records of disciplinary issues/investigations and/or sanctions imposed;
- Other records e.g. records of any serious injuries/accidents etc.;
- Records of any reports the school (or its employees) have made in respect of the pupil to State departments and/or other agencies under mandatory reporting legislation and/or child safeguarding guidelines (subject to the DES Child Protection Procedures).

2. How we use your information and the legal basis

We use your and your child(ren)'s personal data for certain purposes including:

*Your child'/children's application for enrolment;
to provide your child(ren) with appropriate education and support;
to monitor your child's/children's academic progress;
to care for your child's/children's health and well-being;
to process grant applications, where relevant;
to coordinate, evaluate, fund and organise educational programmes;
to comply with our legal obligations as an education body;
to comply with our monitoring and reporting obligations to Government bodies,
to process appeals, resolve disputes, and defend litigation.*

For further information on what data we collect, why we collect it, how we use it, and the legal basis for same, please see our Data Protection Policy.

3. Who we share your information with

We share your child's/children's personal data with third parties, including other Government bodies.

This includes the Department of Education and Skills, NCSE, TUSLA, An Garda Síochána, HSE, the Department of Social Protection and the Revenue Commissioners.

The level of sharing and the nature of what is shared depends on various factors. The Government bodies to which we transfer your child's/children's personal data will use that data for their own purposes (including: to verify

other information they already hold about your child/children) and they may aggregate it with other information they already hold about your child(ren). We also share your child's/children's personal data with other third parties including our insurance company and other service providers (including IT providers, security providers, legal advisors). We are legally required to provide certain records relating to the progress of a pupil (under 18 years) in his education to the student's parents/guardians, including results of examinations. For further information on who we share your data with, when and in what circumstances, and why, please see our Data Protection Policy available on our website. We do not transfer your personal data to a third country or international organisations. We do not engage in automated decision making/profiling.

4. How long we hold your data

Some personal data is only kept for a short period (e.g. We will destroy at the end of an academic year because it is no longer needed). Some data we retain for a longer period (e.g. retained after your child(ren) leaves. For further information, see the school's Data Retention Policy which is available on the school's website.

5. You have the following statutory rights that can be exercised at any time:

- (a) Right to complain to supervisory authority.
- (b) Right of access.
- (c) Right to rectification.
- (d) Right to be forgotten.
- (e) Right to restrict processing.
- (f) Right to data portability.
- (g) Right to object and automated decision making/profiling.

APPENDIX (3)

Primary Online Database

POD

Department of Education & Skills

Under new guidelines from the Department of Education & Skills all children enrolling must now have the following information recorded on POD (Primary Online Database). The department requests & holds this information & the school must comply. They have requested this additional information.

Pupil Forename: _____

Pupil Surname _____

Birth Cert Forename: _____ (If different from above)

Birth Cert Surname: _____ (If different from above)

PPSN: _____

Nationality: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____

"Is one of the pupil's mother tongues (i.e. language spoken at home) Irish or English"?

Yes No

Both Religion and ethnic cultural background are considered sensitive personal categories under Data Protection Legislation.

You have the following two options:

a) You can consent to answer these 2 questions by ticking the appropriate box.

OR

b) You can choose not to consent by ticking the "No Consent" Box.

Question 1

	✓		✓		✓
White Irish		Irish Traveller		Roma	
Any other White Background		Black African		Any other Black Background	

Chinese		Any other Asian Background		Other (inc. mixed background)	
No Consent					

Question 2

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Roman Catholic		Church of Ireland (incl. Protestant)		Presbyterian	
Methodist, Wesleyan		Jewish		Muslim (Islamic)	
Orthodox (Greek, Coptic, Russian)		Apostolic or Pentecostal		Hindu	
Buddhist		Jehovah's Witness		Lutheran	
Mormon		Atheist		Baptist	
Agnostic		Other Religions		No Religion	
No Consent					

Signed: _____

Parents/Guardians

Date: _____

**Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir,
20094A
Code of Behaviour Policy**



INTRODUCTION

In compliance with Section 23 of the Education (Welfare) Act 2000, the Board of Management of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir has prepared and made available a Code of Behaviour for its Pupils, Staff and Parents.

The Code of Behaviour details:

1. The standards of behaviour that shall be observed by each pupil attending the school;
2. The whole school approach in promoting positive behaviour;

3. The measures that shall be taken when a pupil fails or refuses to observe those standards;
4. The procedures to be followed before a pupil may be suspended or expelled from the school concerned;
5. The grounds for removing a suspension imposed in relation to a pupil
6. The school's Anti-Bullying Policy; and
7. The procedures to be followed in relation to a child's absence from school.

The Code of Behaviour of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir has been developed in accordance with *'Developing a Code of Behaviour: Guidelines for Schools'*, National Educational Welfare Board, 2008.

AIMS & OBJECTIVES OF THE CODE

The aims and objectives of the code are:

- To allow the school to function in an orderly way where children can make progress in all aspects of their development
- To create an atmosphere of respect, tolerance and consideration for others
- To promote positive behaviour and self-discipline, recognising the differences between children and the need to accommodate these differences
- To ensure the safety and well being of all members of the school community
- To assist school staff, parents and pupils in understanding the systems and procedures that form part of the code of behaviour and to seek their co-operation in the application of these procedures
- To ensure that the system of rules, rewards, and sanctions are implemented in a fair and consistent manner throughout the school.

WHOLE SCHOOL APPROACH

The Board of Management recognises the importance of creating consistent values, policies, practices and relationships that support the Code of Behaviour. Such an environment may only be formed by involving the entire school community and in this respect the Board acknowledges the importance of the roles played by, the principal, teachers, ancillary staff and parents in the review and operation of the Code.

STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

Pupils

General Behaviour

Each pupil is expected to:

- be well behaved and to show consideration for other children and adults
- show respect for the property of, the school, other children and their own belongings
- attend school on a regular basis and to be punctual
- Do his/her best both in school and for homework.

Classroom Behaviour

Each pupil is expected to:

- listen – to the teacher and other pupils if they are speaking
- work – to the best of his/her ability
- Value – school property and the belongings of fellow pupils.
- follow – the direction of his/her teacher
- obtain – his/her teachers permission to leave the classroom
- Respect – the teacher, other pupils and visitors to the classroom.

Playground (Playing Pitches) Behaviour

Each pupil is expected to:

- play – safely avoiding any games or play that are rough or dangerous
- follow – the directions of the playground supervisor(s)
- remain – on school grounds at all times
- obtain – permission before re-entering the school building during break periods
- respect – the yard supervisor and fellow pupils
- avoid – swearing, fighting or name calling

Behaviour in other School Areas

Each pupil is expected to:

- walk – in the school corridors
- respect rules of good behaviour
- remain the their designated areas

Behaviour during School Outings/Activities

Each pupil is expected to:

- follow – his/her teacher's directions at all times
- remain – with the teacher/supervisors and group of pupils at all times
- behave – politely towards those they meet on such trips
- observe – the rules of general good behaviour

Staff

It is the Principal's responsibility to ensure the school's Code of Behaviour is administered in a manner that is consistent and fair to all pupils. However each staff member has responsibility for the maintenance of discipline within common areas of the school.

Teaching staff are specifically responsible for the management of behaviour within their own class. They will:

- Discuss the Code of Behaviour with their class in an age appropriate manner at the beginning of the school year.
- Ensure the rules are displayed in the classroom.
- Encourage self-discipline and positive Behaviour.
- Ensure there is an appropriate level of supervision at all times.
- Implement the reward/sanction scheme in a fair and consistent manner.
- Keep a written record of all incidents of continued, serious or gross misconduct. This record will indicate the advice and/or warnings given to the child on the misbehaviour and, the consequences of its repetition. Each teacher will have a BLUE book to record such incidents.
- Inform pupils when instances of misbehaviour on their part are being recorded.
- Report repeated instances of serious misbehaviour to the Principal.
-

Parents/Guardians

Parents/guardians play a crucial role in shaping attitudes in their children which produce positive behaviour in school. Parents/guardians can assist the school by encouraging

their children to abide by the school rules, encouraging punctuality and regular attendance and by ensuring that homework is given due time and effort.

Should a parent/guardian be concerned about any aspect of their child's behaviour they are welcome to make an appointment to discuss their concerns.

In cases of an identified pattern of misbehaviour parents will be invited to participate in the intervention process.

PROMOTING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

As a general rule the school will endeavor to create an environment where positive behaviour is reinforced through praise and reward. School staff will use encouraging language and gestures, both in class and around the school, so that positive behaviour is instantly recognised and positively rewarded. Special attention will be paid to pupils who have previously been associated with poor behaviour so that not only good behaviour but also improvement in behaviour is acknowledged.

A reward scheme for promoting positive Behaviour will be used. Such rewards will include;

- Verbal recognition for good and improved behavior throughout the school day.
- Reward systems that are age appropriate to each class, such as star charts, stickers, tokens' for booklets or building up of good credits.
- Wall of Honour for each class. These will be highlighted through the school website (ballingarryns.com) on a weekly basis.
- Certificates to be sent to parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Personalised letters to parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Special privileges such as extra PE/ computer time etc.
- Good work/ behaviour is acknowledged and praised within the child's own classroom, other classrooms or brought to the principal'/school's attention.
- School assemblies will be used to congratulate children's positive efforts and good behavior.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR

In order to establish a common understanding and consistent response, the Code of Behaviour classifies misbehaviour into three levels based on the degree of disruption

caused by the misconduct. The Code also specifies the disciplinary actions and supportive interventions that will be employed.

Level One

Level 1: Behaviours

Level 1 behaviours are those that interfere with the orderly learning environment of the school, classroom, and common areas. Students learn through their mistakes. To this extent, responses to the daily behaviours, which occur in school, will be developmentally appropriate, instructive and positive. Children will be taught what is expected and how they should behave. Listed below are some examples of the types of behaviour that are included in Level 1. Please note the list is not exhaustive.

- Failure to prepare for class, as defined by individual teachers
- Running in the hallways
- Disturbing the work or play of others
- Disrespectful language, tone, or manner
- Ignoring staff requests

Level 1: Disciplinary Actions

Consequences for Level 1 behaviour are dependent upon the severity and frequency of the specific behaviour. Teachers will discipline students at level 1. Some examples of Level 1 responses are:

- Verbal reprimand/reminder(s)
- Reinforcement of alternative positive behaviour
- Temporary separation from peers, friends or others (eg. Time out in the classroom)
- Prescribing additional work
- Loss of privileges
- Recording of incidents in the teachers own record book.
- Parent contact
- Behaviour contract

Level 1 Supportive Interventions

Listed below are some examples of Level 1 supportive actions:

- Classroom-based interventions, such as Open Circle or class meetings, with the option of informal consultation, (e.g. with parent(s)/guardian(s) or staff members)
- Discussion of behaviour with the child
- Discussion of behaviour with the child and parents/guardians in attendance
- Informal notes regarding incident/intervention/date. This information would be useful should a problem persist.

Level Two

Level 2: Behaviours

Level 2 behaviours are those that seriously interfere with the orderly environment of the school and are potentially dangerous to the safety and well being of the students and staff. Listed below are some examples of the types of behaviour that are included in Level 2. Please note the list is not exhaustive.

- Repeated instances of Level 1 behaviour which have not been modified by intervention
- Behaviour which is dangerous to self or others (e.g. shoving, pushing, hitting)
- Intentionally damaging school or personal property
- Stealing
- Cheating
- Use of profanity
- Derogatory reference to another person's race, gender, religion, physical condition, disability or ethnic origin
- Disrespectful language or behaviour toward an adult
- The posting of derogatory remarks on social media about another student or staff member will not be tolerated.
- The posting or sharing of distasteful or vulgar material on social media is against school policy.
- Possession or use of dangerous toys or sporting equipment (e.g. bow and arrows, any kind of knives, etc.)
- Students are not allowed to possess or consume illegal substances while attending school.

Level 2: Disciplinary Actions

The disciplining of students for Level 2 behaviour is dependent upon the severity and frequency of the specific behaviour and developmentally appropriate levels. The disciplinary actions at Level 2 are administered by the Principal, and include the formal notification of parents, either through a meeting or written documentation. Some examples of Level 2 responses are:

- More level 1 responses sanctioned by the teacher and Principal
- In school supervised detention
- Report submitted to the Board of Management
- Meeting with parent(s)/guardian(s) and the child
- Suspension from school of one to five days, depending on the severity of the Behaviour
- Implementation of extensive Behaviour management plan

Level 2: Supportive Interventions

Listed below are some examples of Level 2 supportive actions:

- Team conference to include classroom teacher, other involved staff, Assistant Principal or Principal.
- Request for assistance from external agencies such as the National Educational Psychological Service, Health Service Executive Community Services, the National Behavioural Support Service, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, National Council for Special Education.
- Referral of a Child displaying behavioural problems for psychological assessment (with the parent(s)/guardian(s) consent).

Level Three

Level 3: Behaviours

Level 3 behaviours are considered the most serious violations. These behaviours endanger the immediate health, safety and personal well being of the pupils and staff of the school. They represent a direct threat to the orderly operation of the school environment. Situations, which include illegal activity, may result in contact with the Garda Síochána after parental involvement. Listed below are some examples of the

types of behaviour that are included in Level 3. Please note that the list is not exhaustive.

- Repeated or serious instances of Level 2 behaviour which have not been modified by intervention
- Setting fires
- Intentional possession or use of weapons
- Violent fighting or intentionally causing physical harm to others
- Discriminatory or prejudicial activities or actions toward another person or group involving race, gender, religion, physical condition, handicap, or ethnic origin

Level 3: Disciplinary Actions

Behaviour at Level 3 may involve suspension from school. The length of the suspension will depend upon the severity and frequency of the specific behaviour. Specific information about due process and procedures in respect of the issuing of a suspension is contained in this document. Level 3 responses:

- **Suspension from school for one to five days:**

This response will occur with the first incidence of Level 3 behaviour or Level 2 behaviour of significant severity. The Principal following due process and procedure, can issue a suspension.

- **Suspension from school for five to ten days:**

This response will occur with the repeated incidence of Level 3 behaviour or a severe expression of this Behaviour. A suspension of this magnitude will only be issued with the approval of the Board of Management.

- **Expulsion:**

Repeated incidents of Level 3 behaviour can result in a pupil being expelled.

PROCEDURES FOR SUSPENSIONS & EXPULSIONS

Suspension

Definition of Suspension:

‘Requiring the student to absent himself/herself from the school for a specified, limited period of school days’

Developing a Code of Behaviour: Guidelines for Schools, National Educational Welfare Board

Authority to Suspend:

The Board of Management of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir has formally and in writing delegated the authority to impose an ‘Immediate Suspension’ to the Principal Teacher. An ‘Immediate Suspension’ may be for a period of one to three school days depending on the severity of the specific behaviour, in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Chairperson of the Board, the suspension may be for a longer period but in any event will not exceed 5 school days.

Furthermore, the Board of Management has formally and in writing delegated to the Principal Teacher the authority to impose an ‘Automatic Suspension’ for named behaviours detailed in this policy. An Automatic Suspension may be for a period of one to three school days depending on the severity of the specific behaviour, in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Chairperson of the Board the suspension may be for a longer period but in any event will not exceed 5 school days.

The Board retains its authority to suspend a student in all other cases/circumstances.

Immediate Suspension and Automatic Suspension

An ‘Immediate Suspension’ will be deemed to be necessary where after a preliminary investigation the Principal reaches the determination that the continued presence of the pupil in the school at the time would represent a serious threat to the safety and wellbeing of pupils or staff of the school. An ‘Immediate Suspension’ may be for a period of one to three school days depending on the severity of the specific behaviour, in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Chairperson of the Board the suspension may be for a longer period but in any event will not exceed 5 school days.

An ‘Automatic Suspension’ is a suspension imposed for named behaviours. The Board of Management of Christ the Saviour NS, having given due consideration to its duty of care as prescribed by Health & Safety Legislation, has determined that the following named behaviours will incur ‘Automatic Suspension’ as a sanction;

- Physical assault/violence resulting in bodily harm to a pupil or member of staff
- Or
- Physical violence resulting in serious damage to school property

An Automatic Suspension may be for a period of one to three school days depending on the severity of the specific Behaviour, in exceptional circumstances and with the approval of the Chairperson of the Board the suspension may be for a longer period but in any event will not exceed 5 school days.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s) will be informed of an Immediate or Automatic Suspension by telephone, and arrangements will be made with them for the pupil to be collected. In no circumstance will a student be sent home from school prior to his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) being notified. Formal written notification of the suspension will issue in due course, but no later than 2 school days after the imposition of the suspension. Such a notification will detail:

- the duration of the suspension and the dates on which the suspension will begin and end
- the reasons for the suspension
- any study programme to be followed
- The arrangements for returning to school, including any commitments to be entered into by the pupil and the parent(s)/guardian(s).

The Board of Management acknowledges that the decision to impose either an Immediate or Automatic Suspension does not remove the duty to follow due process and fair procedures. In this regard, and following a formal investigation, to be completed no later than 2 school days after the incident the Board will invite the pupil and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) to a meeting to discuss;

- the circumstances surrounding the suspension,
- Interventions to prevent a reoccurrence of such misconduct.

The Board of Management of Christ the Saviour NS acknowledges the fundamental importance of impartiality in the investigation process. In this regard the following undertaking is given;

- i. No person with a vested interest or personal involvement in the matter will be involved in the organisation or implementation of the investigation procedure.

Procedures in Respect of Other Suspensions:

In cases other than those of Immediate or Automatic Suspension the following procedures will apply;

Where a preliminary assessment of the fact confirms serious misbehaviour that could warrant suspension, the Board of Management of Christ the Saviour NS will initiate a formal investigation of the matter.

The following procedures will be observed;

A written letter containing the following information will issue to Parent(s)/guardian(s);

- i. Details of the alleged misbehaviour, details of the impending investigation process, and notification that the allegation could result in suspension.
- ii. An invitation to a meeting, to be scheduled no later than 5 school days from the date of the letter, where parent(s)/guardian(s) are provided with an opportunity to respond before a decision is made or a sanction imposed.

The Board of Management of Christ the Saviour NS acknowledges the fundamental importance of impartiality in the investigation and decision-making process. In this regard the following undertakings are given;

- ii. No person with a vested interest or personal involvement in the matter will be involved in the organisation or implementation of the investigation procedure, nor will such a person be involved in the decision-making process.
- iii. The person(s) involved in the investigation process will on presentation of a full report of the facts absent himself/herself/themselves from the decision-making process.

Where a decision to suspend has been made the Chairperson of the Board of Management will provide written notification to the parent(s)/guardian(s) and the pupil of the decision. The letter will confirm:

- the duration of the suspension and the dates on which the suspension will begin and end
- the reasons for the suspension
- any study programme to be followed
- the arrangements for returning to school, including any commitments to be entered into by the pupil and the parent(s)/guardian(s)
- The provision for an appeal to the Board of Management.

Where a suspension brings the total number of days for which the pupil has been suspended in the current school year to twenty days the parent(s)/guardian(s) will be

informed of their right to appeal to the Secretary General of the Department of Education and Science under Section 29 or the Education Act 1998 and will be provide with information on the submission of such an appeal.

Expulsion

Definition of Expulsion:

'A student is expelled from a school when a Board of Management makes a decision to permanently exclude him or her from the school, having complied with the provisions of section 24 of the Education (Welfare) Act 2000.'

Developing a Code of Behaviour: Guidelines for Schools, National Educational Welfare Board

Authority to Suspend:

The authority to expel a pupil is reserved by the Board of Management.

Procedures in Respect of Expulsion:

Where a preliminary assessment of the facts confirms serious misbehaviour that could warrant expulsion the following procedures will apply:

- a) A detailed investigation will be carried out under the direction of the Principal (or a Nominee of the Board if required)

As part of the investigation a written letter containing the following information will issue to parent(s)/guardian(s);

- iii. Details of the alleged misbehaviour, details of the impending investigation process, and notification that the allegation could result in expulsion.
- iv. An invitation to a meeting, to be scheduled no later than 5 school days from the date of the letter, where parent(s)/guardian(s) are provided with an opportunity to respond

b) The Principal (or BoM Nominee) will make a recommendation to the Board of Management

Where the Principal (or nominee) forms a view, based on the investigation of the alleged misbehaviour, that expulsion may be warranted, the Principal (or nominee) makes a recommendation to the Board of Management to consider expulsion.

In this event the Principal (or nominee) will:

- i. inform the parent(s)/guardian(s) that the Board of Management is being asked to consider expulsion
- ii. ensure that parent(s)/guardians have records of: the allegations against the student; the investigation; and written notice of the grounds on which the Board of Management is being asked to consider expulsion
- iii. provide the Board of Management with the same comprehensive records as are given to parent(s)/guardian(s)

c) Consideration by the Board of Management of the Principal's (or BOM's Nominee) Recommendations & the Holding of a Hearing

If, having considered the Principal's report, the Board of Management decides to consider expelling a student a hearing will be scheduled.

The parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified in writing

- i. as to the date, location and time of the hearing
- ii. of their right to make a written and oral submission to the Board of Management
- iii. that they may if they so choose be accompanied at the hearing

The Board of Management undertakes that the timing of such written notification will ensure that parent(s)/guardian(s) have enough notice to allow them to prepare for the hearing.

In respect of the expulsion hearing the Board gives an undertaking that;

- i. the meeting will be properly conducted in accordance with Board procedures
- ii. the principal (or BoM nominee) and parent(s)/guardian(s) will present their case to the Board in each other's presence
- iii. each party will be given the opportunity to directly question the evidence of the other party
- iv. the parent(s)/guardian(s) may make a case for a lesser sanction if they so choose

d) Board of Management Deliberations & Actions following the Hearing

Where the Board of Management, having considered all the facts of the case, is of the opinion that the pupil should be expelled the Board

- i. Will notify the Educational Welfare Officer in writing by registered post of its opinion, and the reasons for this opinion.
- ii. Will not expel the student before the passage of 20 school days from the date on which the Educational Welfare Officer receives this written notification
- iii. Will in writing notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of their decision and inform them that the Educational Welfare Officer is being contacted
- iv. Will be represented at the consultation to be organized by the Educational Welfare Officer
- v. Will suspend the student, if it is deemed likely that the continued presence of the student during this time will seriously disrupt the learning of others, or represent a threat to the safety of other pupils or staff.

e) Confirmation of the Decision to Expel

Where the twenty-day period following notification to the Educational Welfare Officer has elapsed,

And where the Board of Management remains of the view that the student should be expelled, the

Board of Management will formally confirm the decision to expel.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified in writing that the expulsion will now proceed. They will also be informed of their right to appeal to the Secretary General of the Department of Education and Science under Section 29 or the Education Act 1998 and will be provide with information on the submission of such an appeal.

The Board of Management of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir acknowledges the fundamental importance of impartiality in the investigation and decision-making process. In this regard the following undertakings are given;

- i. No person with a vested interest or personal involvement in the matter will be involved in the organisation or implementation of the investigation procedure, nor will such a person be involved in the decision-making process.

- ii. The person(s) involved in the investigation process will on presentation of a full report of the facts absent himself/herself/themselves from the decision-making process.

RECORDS

A standardised record system will be used to track an individual pupil's behaviour. Such records will contain;

- Incidents of misbehaviour,
- interventions used to improve behaviour, including contact with parent(s)/guardian(s) or referral to other agencies
- Evidence of improved behaviour
- Any sanctions imposed, and the reasons they were imposed

Pupils will be told when a record is being made about their behaviour, and the reasons for keeping a record will be explained.

All records will be kept in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1988 and the Data Protection (Amendment) Act 2003.

POLICY RATIFICATION

The policy was ratified by the Board of Management of Scoil Chríost an Slánaitheoir at its meeting held on 26/09/2023.

Signed:

Donal McGoey
Chairperson, Board of Management

Rebecca Cleary
Principal

