

Ballinakill NS



Roll No. 17273G

Admissions and Participation Policy

General Introduction

The enrolment policy of Ballinakill NS is set out in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act (1998). The Board of Management trusts that by so doing parents will be assisted in relation to enrolment matters. The Chairperson of the Board of Management, Fr. Pat Conroy and the School Principal Gerard Fahy will be happy to clarify any further matters arising from this policy.

Ballinakill NS is a Catholic National School for boys and girls under the patronage of the Catholic Bishop of Clonfert.

The school aims to promote the full and harmonious development of all pupils: cognitive, intellectual, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual, including a living relationship with God and other people and promotes a Christian philosophy of life.

There are three teachers including principal in the school at present. The school caters for boys and girls from Junior Infants to Sixth Class.

The school depends on grants and teacher resources provided by the Department of Education and Science and operates within the rules and regulations laid down from time to time by the Department of Education and Science. This enrolment policy will have regard to available funding and resources. The school is subject to The Education Act (1998), The Education Welfare Act (2000), The Education for Persons with Special Education Needs Act (2004) and all relevant equality legislation. Ballinakill NS follows the curricular programmes laid down by the Department of Education and Science which may be amended from time to time in accordance with Sections 9 and 30 of the Education Act (1998).

Within the context and parameters of Department of Education and Science regulations and programmes, the rights of the Patron as set out in the Education Act (1998) and the funding and resources available the enrolment policy of Ballinakill N.S supports the principles of: -

- *inclusiveness*, particularly with reference to the enrolment of children with a disability or other special educational need;
- *equality* of access and participation in the school;
- *parental choice* in relation to enrolment and

- *respect for the diversity* of values, beliefs, traditions, languages and ways of life in society.

Therefore, no child will be refused access to Ballinakill NS for reasons of ethnicity, special educational needs, disability, accent, language, traveller status, asylum seeker/refugee status, religious or political beliefs or values, family or social circumstances.

Procedures

As a general principle and insofar as practicable having regard to the enrolment policy of Ballinakill NS, children will be enrolled on application provided there is space available.

Application Procedure

The Board of Management has determined that the school principal will accept written applications for enrolment. Each April the school principal will communicate generally to the school community through school newsletters, Parish Newsletters and any other appropriate media that applications are being accepted.

Parents looking to enrol their child must contact the school for an enrolment form. An original copy of the child's Birth/Adoption Certificate and a Baptismal Certificate where relevant will be required.

A copy of the school's rules will accompany each Enrolment Form. Parents must sign and return the Enrolment form and confirm that they accept the terms set out in our policies.

Infants children will be invited to an Open day in Spring each year.

Provision of Key Information by Parents

Applications will only be accepted on the basis of a **fully completed Enrolment Form**. In determining enrolment the Board of Management shall take into account Department of Education and Science regulations regarding staffing provisions, maximum class size and maximum class average and any other relevant requirements concerning accommodation such as physical space, the educational needs and rights of children already enrolled, multi-grade classes and the presence of children with special educational/behavioural needs.

The Board of Management shall at all times have regard for the Health, Safety and Welfare of pupils and teachers and others who work in the school.

The Board of Management is bound by the Department of Education and Science's Rules for National Schools which provides that pupils may only be enrolled from the ages of 4 years of age upwards although compulsory attendance does not apply until the age of 6 years.

Enrolment of Pupils with Special Needs

In relation to applications for the enrolment of children with special needs the school will request a copy of any relevant medical or psychological reports as are available. The purpose of the assessment is to establish the educational needs of the child relevant to his disability/special needs and to profile the support services required.

Following receipt of such a report the Board of Management shall assess how Ballinakill

NS, can meet the needs specified in the report. If further resources are required the Board of Management will, prior to enrolment, request the Department of Education and Science to provide the required resources. These may include any combination of the following visiting teacher service, resource teacher for special needs, special needs assistant, specialised equipment or furniture, transport or other services.

Transfer of Pupils

Pupils who are newly resident in the area may transfer to Ballinakill NS, from another school at any time during the school year subject to school policy, available space, the provisions of the Education Welfare Act (2000) and in some cases the approval of the Department of Education and Science.

Code of Behaviour

Children enrolled in Ballinakill NS, are required to co-operate with the school's Code of Behaviour and other policies on curriculum, organisation and management.

Parents/guardians are responsible for ensuring that their child co-operate with these policies in an age-appropriate way.

*This policy was reviewed and ratified by the
Board of Management of Ballinakill N.S,
on April 9th 2019*

Signed : _____

Chairperson (BOM)

Signed: _____

Principal

Date: _____

Date: _____

Date of next review: June 2025