



Introductory Statement:

This enrolment policy for Bunscoil Chríost Rí has been developed in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act 1998, the Education Welfare Act 2000, the relevant Health and Safety legislation and Equality legislation, and in keeping with the directives of the Patron. Bunscoil Chríost Rí is a Catholic co-educational school under the patronage of the Bishop of Cork and Ross.

Our Aims

We aim to offer a positive meaningful educational experience, which allows the child to develop to his/her full learning potential in an environment that offers clarity, predictability and calm. Our ASD class offers an autism specific learning environment within a mainstream co-educational national school. This setting facilitates optimum inclusion in mainstream education as part of the school community as appropriate, with regard to levels of general learning disability, resources and suitability for such inclusion. We wish to provide a broad curriculum which focuses on the abilities and strengths of each child while supporting their areas of need.

Enrolment/Selection Criteria:

Bunscoil Chríost Rí does not operate a waiting list for admission to the ASD class. Applications are only accepted through the Admissions Process, starting with the Admissions Notice on our school website every September/October. Applications are also accepted when there are vacancies. Parents/guardians who wish to apply to enrol children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder are required to call to or contact the school for an Enrolment Application Form for Special Class(ASD) or download from the school website www.criostri.ie .

- The Enrolment Application Form provided by the school must be fully completed by the parents/guardians on behalf of the child.
- The Enrolment Application must be accompanied by all of the following supporting documentation supplied by parents:
- Original birth certificate.



ENROLMENT POLICY FOR SPECIAL CLASS(ASD)

- A report from a multi-disciplinary team on unilateral disciplines. A multi-disciplinary team may consist of a Clinical Psychologist, Occupational Therapist, Speech & Language Therapist, Social Worker and a Physiotherapist. Any assessment /report must be dated within one year prior to the Application being submitted. Please note all reports in operation on a child should be provided to the school for assessment by the Admissions Team.
- Parents/Guardians of prospective candidates must meet Principal and Admissions Team as part of the application process.
- The child must have a primary diagnosis of Autism / Autistic Spectrum Disorder made using the DSM-IV/V or ICD 10 by the psychologist or team.
- If the child also presents with a general learning disability, it must fall within the MILD range. This diagnosis must also be made using professionally recognised clinical and psychological assessment procedures.
- There must be a recommendation by the relevant professionals in the report that a special class placement in a mainstream school only is both necessary and suitable for the child. In this regard it should be noted that the academic ability of the child will be taken into account when considering an application and will be subject to continuous assessment and review.
- The parents may be requested by the school to consent to a visit by the staff to a child's pre-school setting to observe and discuss the child.
- The Board of Management has the final decision on enrolment.

It is hoped that children enrolled in the ASD class experience meaningful integration with their typically developing peers. The goal must be that the child should be able to integrate with his/her mainstream class for at least part of the school day. The provision of integration is dependent on resources and



accommodation. The school will have control over what it deems appropriate integration.

In the event that the number of children that apply for a place is greater than the number of places, such places will be filled on review of Enrolment Applications received in the following order of priority:

1. Children already enrolled in Bunscoil Chríost Rí Mainstream
2. Siblings of current pupils of the school
3. Children of the Bunscoil Chríost Rí Preschool
4. Children living within the parishes of Turner's Cross and South Parish
5. Children for a suitably sized peer group for integration. Children for a ASD Junior Class must be 4 years old before the September 1st or can be no older than 6 years at the start of the relevant enrolment year. Children should be integrated with their most age appropriate class grouping.
6. Children living at an address closest to the school as per a direct line on the Ordnance Survey map.

Offer of Placement:

Parents who are offered a place must complete and return the Enrolment Registration Form within two weeks of the letter of offer to accept a placement. If the school does not receive the Registration Form within the two week period, the place will be offered to the next child on the Placement List for that school year.

The school reserves the right to refuse enrolment to any student where either:-

1. The student has special educational needs such that even with additional resources available from the Department of Education & Skills and the Department of Health the school cannot meet such needs and/or provide the student with an education in line with the assessments, recommendations and needs analysis received, and the Individual Educational Profile drawn up by the school.



2. In the opinion of the Board of Management the student poses a risk to the health and safety of the other students, to school Staff or to school property.

Monitoring and Review

Placement Review: The school reserves the right to review the child's progress from time to time whether during or after each year to recommend whether this is indeed an appropriate school placement for the child. Occasionally, concerns regarding the suitability of a child continued attendance at the school may arise. In such circumstances, a review of the school's ability to continue to meet the child's needs, safety, and the safety of others may be necessary. Any such review will be undertaken by a committee appointed by the Board of Management, in conjunction with the Principal, the Tusla Education Welfare Officer, the Special Educational Needs Officer and other relevant staff members. Parents/guardians should be kept informed of any concerns that might arise in relation to the child's continued attendance at the school at the earliest opportunity. Parents/guardians will also be given an opportunity to engage in the discussion surrounding the placement and concerns that arise from the case itself. In the event that it is determined that the child is not suitably placed in the school, having regard for the realistic service options available at the time, the BOM may request a multi-disciplinary team assessment be carried out to determine the best options for the specific child.

The Board of Management reserve the right to reduce a child's school day for a period of time, in consultation with parents and the Education Welfare Officer should it be deemed necessary.

Behaviour:

It is acceptable that a child with Special Educational Needs may display difficult, defiant or oppositional behaviours. All efforts will be made by the school to manage such behaviours using various strategies and through the implementation of the child's Individual Education Plan. All pupils are subject to the School Code of Behaviour and Health and Safety Statement. Where a child's behaviour impacts in a negative way on the other children in the ASD class or another mainstream class to the extent that their constitutional right to an education is being interfered with as judged by the BOM of the school,



the school reserves the right to advise parents that a more suitable setting should be found for their child.

Discharge

The onus will be on the parents to negotiate subsequent placement with a suitable secondary school. Bunscoil Chríost Rí will facilitate all transfer of records/reports as well as assist with any information required with regards to the student.

Discharge may also be recommended after the first and/or any subsequent year if following psychological assessments and consultation with the parents/guardians, it is felt that the placement is no longer appropriate and serves the best interest of the child. This discharge may include the full transition of the child to mainstream education. The Board of Management has the right to overrule any decision made in this regard.

Evaluation

The Board of Management will monitor the implementation of all aspects of this policy. This policy will be amended and updated as required.

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on

It is subject to regular review.

Signed: Date: 7/3/2021

Chairperson