

Coláiste Chiaráin



Neart le chéile

Admission Policy of Coláiste Chiaráin

Summerhill, Athlone, Co. Roscommon

Roll number: 68325L

School Patron: Bishop of Elphin

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 29/08/2020. 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 Coláiste Chiaráin's 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 published on the school's website and will be made available in hardcopy on request to any person who requests it.

2. Characteristic spirit and general objectives of the school

Coláiste Chiaráin is a Catholic co-educational voluntary secondary school with a Catholic ethos under the trusteeship of the Bishop of Elphin.

“Catholic Ethos” in the context of a Catholic voluntary secondary school means the ethos and characteristic spirit of the Roman Catholic Church, which aims at promoting:

the full and harmonious development of all aspects of the person of the pupil, including the intellectual, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual aspects; and
a living relationship with God and with other people; and
a philosophy of life inspired by belief in God and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus; and
the formation of the pupils in the Catholic faith,

and which school provides religious education 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 Coláiste Chiaráin 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.

Colaiste Chiarain, Athlone will endeavour to:

- Provide students with a Catholic education that has a sound spiritual, faith, academic and practical content.
- Nourish the building up of a personal relationship with God according to catholic wisdom as lived out in the community of the church.
- Respect and facilitate the spiritual/human development of students from all religious traditions or faith stances. To support this, religion is a core subject to Leaving Certificate and all students follow the Junior Certificate Religious Education Syllabus programme.
- Assist students to reach their full potential by encouraging the talents and gifts unique to each one.
- Develop a sense of self-respect and responsibility among students for themselves and for those whom they can serve, and to foster a sense of community within the school.
- Foster an environment which enables staff and students to promote quality teaching and learning in an atmosphere which is enriching for everybody.
- Inspire students to respect and love their cultural and religious heritage and develop as responsible citizens.

3. Admission Statement

Coláiste Chiaráin 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.

Coláiste Chiaráin 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 Catholic and it is proved that the refusal is essential to maintain the ethos of the school.

Coláiste Chiaráin is a school which has established a class, with the approval of the Minister for Education and Skills, which provides an education exclusively for students with

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

Coláiste Chiaráin, with the approval of the Minister for Education and Skills, has established a class to provide an education exclusively for students with Autism

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

Coláiste Chiaráin is a Catholic ethos school and may refuse to admit as a student a person who is not Catholic, where it is proved that the refusal is essential to maintain the ethos of the school.

The special class attached to Coláiste Chiaráin provides an education exclusively for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder and the school may refuse admission to this class, where the student concerned does not have the specified category of special educational needs provided for in this class.

In order to identify the specified category of special educational need of the student, the following is required:

- Each applicant must have a definite diagnosis of Autism and their primary diagnosis is Autism according to the DSM IV/V or ICD 10.
- Applicants must have a professional recommendation by a

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:

Selection criteria

1. Siblings of present or past students of Coláiste Chiaráin
2. Applicants who attend the following feeder primary schools:
Ardkeen National School, Ballybay Central National School, Ballintleva National School, Brideswell National School, Camcloon National School, Carrick National School, Curraghboy, Castlesampson National School, Clonown National School, Cloonakilla National School, Cornafulla National School, Dean Kelly National School, Feevagh National School,
Glanduff National School, Newtown National School, St. Ciaran's National School, Moore, St. Peters National School, St. Ronan's National School, Summerhill National School.
3. Sons and daughters of current staff members.
4. Applicants who attend other primary schools and live in the catchment area*
5. Applicants who do not fall into any of the above categories.

ASD Special Class Selection Criteria

- Current students enrolled in the school.
- Siblings of present or past students of Coláiste Chiaráin.
- Applicants who have attended feeder primary schools at (2) above.
- Sons and daughters of current staff members.
- Applicants who have attended other feeder Primary schools at (4) above.
- All other applicants.

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:

