

## **Admission Policy of St Patrick's N.S.**

**School Address:  
Diswellstown Lawn  
Castleknock  
Dublin 15  
D15PH21**

**Roll number:  
20130B**

**School Patron:  
Dermot Farrell, Archbishop of Dublin**

### **1. Introduction**

This Admission Policy complies with the requirements of the Education Act 1998, the Education (Admissions to Schools) Act 2018 and Admissions of 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 09 February 2023. 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 St. Patrick's National School'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 also be made available in hardcopy on request to any person who requests it.

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

St Patrick's National School is a co-educational primary school with a Catholic ethos under the patronage of the Catholic Archbishop of Dublin. It caters for children from junior infants to sixth class.

"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, including the intellectual, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual aspects; and
- b. a living relationship with God and with other people; and
- c. a philosophy of life inspired by belief in God and in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus;
- d. the formation of the pupils in the Catholic faith, and
- e. 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 St. Patrick's National School 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.

The mission of St. Patrick's National School is to provide a well-ordered, caring, happy and secure atmosphere where the intellectual, spiritual, physical, moral and cultural needs of the pupils are identified and met.

## **3. Admission Statement**

St. Patrick's National School 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 ground', '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.

St. Patrick's N.S. 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.

St. Patrick's N.S. 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.

St. Patrick's National School is a school whose objective is to provide education in an environment which promotes Roman Catholic 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.

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

St. Patrick's National School is a mainstream school. It currently does not host a special class because of space constraints. Children with a wide range of special educational needs are enrolled in the school which does not discriminate on the grounds of special educational needs.

#### **5 Admission of Students**

This school shall admit each student seeking admission except where –

- a. the school is oversubscribed (see section 6 for further details).
- b. a parent/ guardian 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.

Saint Patrick's National School is a Roman Catholic school and may refuse to admit as a student a person who is not of the Roman Catholic denomination where it is proved that the refusal is essential to maintain the ethos of the school.

## **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:

Category 1- Siblings and step siblings of children already enrolled in the school and children resident in the parish (See Appendix A) in order of age, priority to the eldest.

Category 2 – Children of staff in order of age, priority to the eldest.

Category 3 - Children living outside the parish (See Appendix A) in order of age, priority to the eldest.

A full list of parish addresses is attached at Appendix 1

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:-

If two applicants have the same date of birth, then a lottery will apply with an independent party present.

## **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 to the intake group or when placing a student on a waiting list for admission to the intake group of the school:

- a. a student's prior attendance at a preschool or pre-school service, including naíonraí;
- 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/guardians;
- 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;

- 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).

**8. Decisions on applications**

All decisions on applications for admission to St. Patrick's National School will be based on the following:

- Our school's admission policy
- The school's annual admission notice (where applicable).  
(This is attached at Appendix 2).
- 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 he/ she was 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 St. Patrick's National School, parents/ guardians must indicate

- 1) 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
- 2) whether or not you have applied for and are 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.

**Please note:** Under the Admission to Schools Act 2018 (section 7. I. iv), an offer of school place may not be made or may be withdrawn if this information above is not provided on acceptance of a place (see section 11 below)

#### **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 St. Patrick's National School 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 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. This is in line with GDPR guidelines.

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—

- 1) an application for admission to the school has been received,
- 2) an offer of admission to the school has been made, or
- 3) an offer of admission to the school has been accepted.

The list may include any or all of the following:

- 1) the date on which an application for admission was received by the school
- 2) the date on which an offer of admission was made by the school;
- 3) the date on which an offer of admission was accepted by an applicant;

- 4) 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 St. Patrick's National School 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 St. Patrick's N.S. 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 a 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, prior to the commencement of the school year, of students who are not already admitted to the school to classes or years other than the school's intake group are as follows:

The Board of Management admits 26 students per class.

St. Patrick's National School will admit all students seeking admission, except where the school is oversubscribed.

The school will, when deciding on applications for admission, apply the following criteria in the order listed:

1. Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in the school and children resident in the parish. (See Appendix A) who do not have any school place.
2. Children of staff who do not have any school place.
3. Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in the school and children resident in the parish (See Appendix A) and children of staff who do not have a school place in a school in Dublin 15.
4. Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in the school and children resident in the parish (See Appendix A) and children of staff who are already attending one of the other schools in Dublin 15.
5. All other applicants.

In the event that there are more applications than available places in the year concerned, a waiting list of students will be compiled and will remain valid for the school year in which admission is being sought.

Applications for each class will be placed in the categories listed above in date of receipt order.

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:

1. Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in the school and children resident in the parish. (See Appendix A) who do not have any school place.



2. Children of staff who do not have any school place.
3. Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in the school and children resident in the parish (See Appendix A) and children of staff who do not have a school place in a school in Dublin 15.
4. Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in the school and children resident in the parish (See Appendix A) and children of staff who are already attending one of the other schools in Dublin 15.
5. All other applicants.

Fully completed application forms together with required documents as outlined on the forms will be accepted at any time during the school year.

In the event that there are more applications than available places in the year concerned, a waiting list of students will be compiled and will remain valid for the school year in which admission is being sought.

Applications for each class will be placed in the categories listed above in date of receipt order.

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

This rule applies to all schools.

The Board of St. Patrick's National School 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**

The following are the school's arrangements for students, where the parent(s) has/ have 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:

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

#### **18. Reviews/Appeals**

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

The parent of a 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, 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)

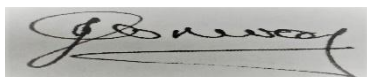
Where an applicant has been refused admission due to a reason other than the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **may request a review** of that decision by the board of management prior to making an appeal under section 29 of the Education Act 1998. (see Review of decisions by the Board of Management)

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.

This policy is subject to periodic review by the Board of Management.  
Ratified and signed on behalf of the Board of Management of St. Patrick's National School.



John Conway Chairperson

Date: \_\_09/2/2023\_\_



Séamus Mac Conámha Principal

Date: \_\_09/2/2023\_\_

### Appendix A - Catchment Area ,Parish of St.Mochta ,Porterstown

List of addresses in the parish of Saint Mochta Porterstown	
Aldermere	Outfarm Lane
Allendale Square	Park Manor
Annfield	Portersfield Apartments
Barberstown	Portersgate
Barnhill	Porterstown Road
Bracken	Riverwood
Bramley (Avenue, Court, Crescent, Garth, Heath, Park, Way)	Rugged Lane
Burnell	Sandholes
Carpenterstown Manor	Sandpits
Carpenterstown Road	Shelerin Road 1 - 5
Clonsilla Road (sections within the parish boundary )	Somerton (Golf Course)
College Gate	Somerton Lane
Cottonwood	St. Joseph's
Diswellstown Cottages	St. Mochta's Estate
Diswellstown Manor	Stationcourt
Fernleigh	Station View
Fottrell Hall	Strawberry Beds
Hamilton Park	The Beeches

Homeleigh	The Courtyard
Kellystown Road	The Meadows
Lambourn	The Orchard
Larch Grove	The Village
Luttrell Park	Warren
Luttrellstown	Weavers Hall
Manor Court	Weavers Row
Mount Symon	Weavers Walk
Mountain View Cottages	Windemere
Mulberry	Windmill
Oldfarm	Woodberry
Orchard Avenue	Woodbrook