



Scoil Chaitríona Junior

SPECIAL CLASS POLICY
MODERATE GENERAL LEARNING DISABILITY

Education for Persons with SEN Act 2004

“..... all those whose disabilities and/or circumstances prevent or hinder them from benefiting adequately the education which is normally provided for pupils of the same age, or for whom the education which can generally be provided in an ordinary classroom is not sufficient”

(Report of the Special Education Review Committee p.18)

Enrolment

Pupils are recommended for the special class as a result of psychological testing at pre-school level.

Admissions Criteria

- A psychologist will have professionally assessed and classified such pupils as having a Moderate Learning Disability
- The pupil's full scale IQ will have been assessed in the range 35 – 49
- A psychologist will have recommended a placement in the Special Class as the most suitable placement for the pupil
- The placement is the parent's choice for their child

Transfers from Other National Schools

The above criteria apply on application.

Transfers are accepted at the beginning of the school year (September), on application.

Pupils moving into the area, mid-term / year are accepted on the above criteria.

Aims

- To develop life and social skills through participation in various social activities suited to the students needs.
- To enable the pupils to participate in the Special Needs Curriculum (Pupil with mild or moderate learning difficulties) and the school curriculum.
- Integration of pupils in mainstream classes for play session, art, religion and physical education and paired reading.

Monitoring Progress

Psychological testing

Structured Observation

Checklists

Rating scales

Document/Report analysis and interviews with multidisciplinary teams.

Record Keeping

Each pupil has a file where all records, test assessment and profiles are kept in a secure filing cabinet.

Role of the Principal

- Assume overall responsibility for the development and implementation of the schools policy regarding special class
- Monitor the implementation of the school plan on resources on an ongoing basis.

Role of Board of Management

- The Board of Management ensures adequate classroom accommodation and teaching resources are provided.
- The Board of Management provides a secure facility for storage of records.
- If it becomes apparent to either/both the teachers and parents that the placement of an individual child in the Special Class is unsuitable for his/her need the Board of Management reserves the right to review the enrolment of the individual child.

Role of Class Teacher

- The class teacher will be a central in drawing up Pupil Profile and Individual Educational Plan (IEP) for each pupil based on relevant reports and input from multidisciplinary team, parents and school assessment.
- The teacher will evaluate the IEP and update accordingly
- Liaise with outside agencies, Health Boards, Psychologists and other professionals.
- Collaborates with mainstream teachers thereby assisting in the differentiation of the curriculum.
- Arranging for provision of suitable resources

School Transport

All children in the Special class are entitled to free transport. The schools transport service facilitates the children attending other Special classes/schools. The school has responsibility for application for this service and distribution of tickets.

Professional Development of Staff

Staff are encouraged to train in the Special Education field and are facilitated to attend relevant training programmes, seminars and conferences.

Evaluation and Review

The Board of Management will monitor the implementation of this policy and it will be reviewed in line with the school enrolment policy in order to maintain effective management of the admissions process.

Communication and Ratification

This policy was reviewed in and ratified by the Board of Management in September 2017. It is communicated to parents via the school website, www.renmorejuniorschool.com. Copies are available for viewing in the Principal's office.

Signature of Principal: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of Chairperson: _____ **Date:** _____