

Admission Policy



Scoil Aonghusa Senior
Balrothery, Tallaght, Dublin 24.

19576L

Updated: 22/02/2023

Admission Policy of Scoil Aonghusa Senior

School Address: Balrothery, Tallaght, Dublin 24. D24 PXW8

Roll number: 19576L

School Patron: Archbishop Dermot Farrell

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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 Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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 **22/02/2023**. 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 Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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 Scoil Aonghusa Senior

Scoil Aonghusa Senior is a Catholic primary school with a Catholic ethos under the patronage of the Archbishop of Dublin Dermot Farrell

"*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 child, 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; and
- (d) the formation of the students in the Catholic faith,

and which Scoil Aonghusa Senior provides religious education for the children 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 Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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.

3. Mission Statement: Scoil Aonghusa Senior

- Scoil Aonghusa Senior is a co-educational, Catholic primary school which strives to provide a well-ordered, caring, happy and secure atmosphere where the intellectual, spiritual, physical, moral and cultural needs of the children are identified and addressed.
- While Scoil Aonghusa Senior is a primary school with a Catholic ethos, it also gives due recognition for all other religions and cultures.
- When our children leave us, we hope they will have achieved their potential across all curricular areas and utilise these skills to pursue further learning and become active members in society.
- The children will be enabled to make moral judgements based on their Christian values, human rights and their own conscience that will contribute to a caring, tolerant, accepting society.
- We will foster healthy attitudes to fitness and nutrition and encourage healthy habits that will enable them to reach and maintain their full physical potential.
- We will encourage the involvement of parents through home/ school contacts and through their involvement with the Board of Management.
- Foster an understanding in the children that with every right there is a corresponding responsibility.
- Endeavour to enhance the self-esteem of everyone in the school community.
- Promote gender equity amongst the teachers and children.
- Déanfaimid iarracht Gaeilge a labhairt comh minic agus is féidir go foirmiúil agus go neamhfhoirmiúil sa rang agus i measc pobal na scoile ar fad. Táimid bródúil as an freagracht a glacaimid mar oideachasóirí spreagadh a thabhairt do daltaí dúil a chur ina chuid teanga dhúchais. Tá sé soiléir comh maith go gcuireann an spreadadh seo sa Ghaeilge le féin mheas an dalta. *We will make every effort to speak Irish as often as possible formally and informally in the classroom and in the school community. We also take great pride in the responsibility that we have as educators in fostering a love of the Irish language in the students. It is clear that this encouragement lends itself to the enhancement of the self-esteem of the student.*
- Mana na Scoile: Foghlaim agus Spórt *School Motto: Learning and Sport*

4. Admission Statement

Scoil Aonghusa Senior will not discriminate in its admission of a student to Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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.

Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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.

5. Special Educational Needs

Scoil Aonghusa Senior is an all-inclusive school and accepts children with any Special Needs requirements. Scoil Aonghusa Senior will co-operate 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.

Scoil Aonghusa Senior will comply with any direction served on the patron or the board, as the case may be, under section 37(A) and direction served on the board under section 67(4B) of the Education Act.

6. Admission of Students

Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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."

1. Children of Scoil Aonghusa Junior (eldest first)
2. Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in Scoil Aonghusa Senior and children resident in the parish of St. Aengus Parish, Dominican Community, Balrothery, Tallaght, Dublin 24 (D24 KW9W) will be allocated places in order of age (the eldest child will have priority in this ranking).
3. Children of staff (the eldest child will have priority in this ranking).
4. Children residing outside the parish area of St. Aengus Parish (the eldest child will also have priority).

This school shall admit each student seeking admission except where:

- a) the student has not completed Second Class or its equivalent
- b) the school is oversubscribed (see section 7 below for further details)
- c) 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
- d) Children shall be admitted in accordance with the following categories:
 - Children of Scoil Aonghusa Junior (eldest first)
 - Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in Scoil Aonghusa Senior and children of St. Aengus Parish, Dominican Community, Balrothery, Tallaght, Dublin 24 D24 KW9W will be allocated places in order of age (eldest first).
 - Children living outside the catchment area of St. Aengus Parish (eldest first).

Scoil Aonghusa Senior is a Catholic school and may refuse to admit as a student a person who is not of Catholic religion where it is proved that the refusal is essential to maintain the ethos of the school.

7. 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:

1. Children of Scoil Aonghusa Junior (eldest first)
2. Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in Scoil Aonghusa Senior and children resident in the parish of St. Aengus Parish, Dominican Community, Balrothery, Tallaght, Dublin 24 (D24 KW9W) will be allocated places in order of age (the eldest child will have priority in this ranking).
3. Children of staff (the eldest child will have priority in this ranking).
4. Children residing outside the parish area of St. Aengus Parish (the eldest child will also have priority).

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 for admission at Scoil Aonghusa Senior and where Scoil Aonghusa Senior is in a position to offer further places that become available during the academic year, places will be offered in accordance with the date of birth (oldest to get priority). If two applicants have the same date of birth, then a lottery will apply with an independent party present.

Where Scoil Aonghusa is oversubscribed, any selection criteria not included in this Admissions Policy shall not be considered in determining whether or not a child is admitted to Scoil Aonghusa Senior.

1. Children of Scoil Aonghusa Junior (eldest first)
2. Siblings and stepsiblings of children already enrolled in Scoil Aonghusa Senior and children of St. Aengus Parish, Dominican Community, Balrothery, Tallaght, Dublin 24 D24 KW9W will be allocated places in order of age (eldest first).
3. Children living outside the catchment area of St. Aengus Parish (eldest first).

8. 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 or when placing a student on a waiting list for admission to the school:

- (a) the payment of fees or contributions to the school;
- (b) a student's academic ability, skills or aptitude; the occupation, financial status, academic ability, skills or aptitude of a student's parents;
- (c) a requirement that a student, or his or her parents, attend an interview, open day or other meeting as a condition of admission;
- (d) a student's connection to the school by virtue of a member of his or her family attending or having previously attended the school; *other than, in the case where Scoil Aonghusa wishes to include the selection criteria based on siblings of a student attending or having attended the school*
- (e) 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.

9. Decisions on Applications

All decisions on applications for admission to Scoil Aonghusa Senior will be based on the following:

- Our school's Admission Policy
- The school's Annual Admission Notice
- 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

(See section 16 below in relation to applications received outside of the admissions period and section 17 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.

10. 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 they were 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 20 below for further details).

11. Acceptance of an Offer of a Place by an Applicant

In accepting an offer of admission from Scoil Aonghusa Senior, parents/guardians must indicate:

(i) 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

(ii) whether or not you have applied for and 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.

12. 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 Scoil Aonghusa Senior where:

- (i) it is established that information contained in the application is false or misleading.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) 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
- (iv) an applicant has failed to comply with the requirements of 'acceptance of an offer' as set out in section 11 above.

13. 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. 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:

- (i) an application for admission to the school has been received,
- (ii) an offer of admission to the school has been made, or
- (iii) an offer of admission to the school has been accepted.

The list may include any or all of the following:

- (i) the date on which an application for admission was received by the school;
- (ii) the date on which an offer of admission was made by the school;
- (iii) the date on which an offer of admission was accepted by an applicant;
- (iv) 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).

14. 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 Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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 Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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.

15. 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 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 14.

16. Procedures for Admission of Students to Other Years and During the School Year

New entrants from other schools will be required to provide transfer information along with their enrolment form. Children may transfer to Scoil Aonghusa Senior at any time, subject to available space and school Admissions Policy. It is a requirement of the Board of Management that information concerning attendance and the child's educational progress be communicated between schools under the terms of the Education Welfare Act (2000).

Procedure

- a) Principal will contact former school to discuss transfer.
- b) A transfer form will be sent to the original school stating date of enrolment in Scoil Aonghusa Senior
- c) If class teacher requires additional information they will contact the school by telephone.
- d) Final decisions in relation to applications and transfers will be left to the discretion of the principal, who is guided by the Admissions Policy (see section 9)

17. Declaration in Relation to the Non-Charging of Fees

The Board of Management of Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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.

18. Arrangements Regarding Students not Attending Religious Instruction

The following are the school's arrangements for students, where the parents 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 Scoil Aonghusa Senior. A meeting will then be arranged with the parent(s) to discuss how the request may be accommodated by the school.

19. Reviews/Appeals

17.1 Review of Decisions by the Board of Management

The parent of the student may request the Board of Management 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 of Management 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.

17.2 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 section 14).

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 section 14).

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.

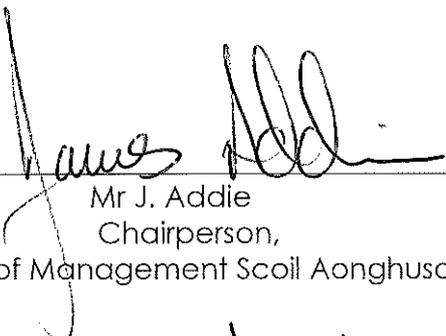
20. Review Procedure

The policy will be reviewed regularly in the light of experience. It will be reviewed by the full staff and Board of Management every three years. Any staff member, board member, parent, guardian or student who is unhappy with the content or the implementation of any school policy may request a review at any time and such a request will be dealt with as quickly as possible.

21. Ratification

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on:

Wednesday 22nd February 2023

Signed  Date 22/02/2023
Mr J. Addie
Chairperson,
Board of Management Scoil Aonghusa Senior

Signed  Date 22/02/2023
Ms. M. Hamilton
Principal/Secretary
Board of Management Scoil Aonghusa Senior

15th February 2023

Mr. Jimmy Addie
Chairperson,
Scoil Aonghusa Senior
Balrothery
Tallaght
Dublin 24.
D24 PXW8

Roll No: 19576L

Dear Patron,

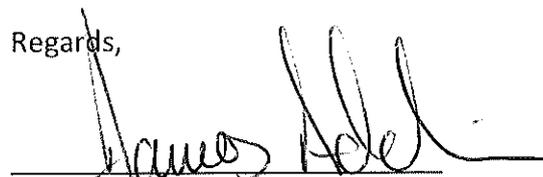
In accordance with Section 62 of the Education (Admissions to Schools Act), the Board of Management of Scoil Aonghusa Senior has included the following text to the school's admissions statement, as required by the Education (provision in respect of children with special educational needs) Act 2022.

- Scoil Aonghusa Senior 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.
- 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.

I can confirm that there has been no additional changes made to the schools admission policy.

I would be obliged if this could be approved by return email: principal@scoilaonghusasnr.ie at your earliest convenience, as this requirement to have this statement as part of the school's Admission Policy has been commenced.

Regards,



Mr. Jimmy Addie
Chairperson,
Scoil Aonghusa Senior