

*Church of Ireland*  
**Dioceses of Dublin & Glendalough**

## **ETHOS OF OUR PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

*(From: A Supplementary Handbook for Primary Schools under Protestant Management)*

1. The Church of Ireland school is a community where all pupils are equally valued and respected – irrespective of sex, social background, family circumstance, educational achievement, physical characteristics or intellectual functioning. Pupils experience a sense of caring and belonging, they are treated fairly and their spiritual, moral and religious development is encouraged as is their intellectual, social and academic achievement.
2. It is a community where moral values such as honesty, truthfulness, justice, fairness, sensitivity to others, and civic responsibility are nurtured and protected. The justification for these qualities is based on Biblical teaching and interpreted by the Church.
3. The Church of Ireland Primary School is a part of the local church community and has strong links with the Parish. This, for example, is shown by the fact that pupils attend services in the local church and the Rector visits the school on a regular basis.
4. The work of the school is conducted in an atmosphere of tolerance and respect for religious differences. The admission policy of schools often allows those of other faiths or none to become pupils.
5. Religious education occupies a central position in the school curriculum and is regarded as a core subject; generally speaking all pupils in the school attend classes in Religious Education. The teaching of religious doctrine is restricted to specific times in the school timetable.
6. The Church of Ireland school is one where the traditions and teaching of that Church inform the position taken in regard to moral issues which arise in the teaching of secular subjects.
7. The school nurtures freedom of thought and a personal relationship with God. This is most evident in the teaching of Religious Education, and in the prayer life of the school community.

**+ John Dublin & Glendalough:  
School Patron**