



GAELSCOIL CHNOC na RÉ

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POLASÁI I LEITH RANGANNA A EAGRÚ AGUS A DHÁILEADH POLICY FOR THE ORGANISATION AND ALLOCATION OF CLASSES

Réamhrá / Introduction

This policy has been put in place to inform and provide clarity to staff, parents and pupils on the procedures used in Gaelscoil Chnoc na Ré where it is necessary to mix and/or split class groupings to facilitate the distribution of pupils amongst the teaching staff. It was put together following consultation involving Board members, parents and staff and ratified by the Board of Management on 25/6/2007

Sainmhínte / Definitions

For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions will apply:

- **Single Class:** a class containing one class grouping (e.g. Rang 4)
- **Mixed (Consecutive) Class:** a combination of two or more consecutive class groupings in one classroom with one teacher (e.g. Rang 4&5)
- **Split Class:** where a class grouping is split between two separate classes. This may consist of
 - two mixed (consecutive) classes e.g. Rang 3&4 agus Rang 4&5, or
 - a mixed (consecutive) class and a single class e.g. Rang 3&4 agus Rang 4, or
 - two single classes e.g. Rang 6 agus Rang 6.

Ranganna a Eagrú agus a Dháileadh / Organisation And Allocation Of Classes

The principal teacher, in consultation with the staff, has the responsibility for the promotion and organisation of pupils for teaching purposes. The principal *'should arrange a fair distribution of teaching duties among the staff, taking into account the needs of the pupils and the abilities, experience, personality and preferences of each teacher.'* (DES Circular 16/73)

Curaclam / Curriculum

The vast majority of children in the country are educated in mixed classes and the Revised Primary Curriculum is designed to cater for mixed class groupings throughout a school. Ultimately the aim of the every class teacher is to provide a full program of work for children to best meet their individual educational needs. Where it is necessary to split a class grouping, the children from that class grouping in both cases will follow the same core curriculum.

Ranganna Meascaithe (Leantacha) / Mixed (Consecutive) Classes

On occasion it may be necessary to put children into a mixed class. This may arise due to one or more of the following reasons:

- The overall pupil teacher ratio is such that the school cannot accommodate single stream classes at all levels.
- In order to keep within Department of Education and Science guidelines on class size.

When deciding which class groupings will be combined to form a mixed class the following criteria will apply:

1. The school will endeavour, where possible, to adhere to the mixed class groupings as laid out in the Revised Primary curriculum (e.g. *Naíonáin*, *Ranganna 1&2*, *Ranganna 3&4*, *Ranganna 5&6*)
2. The school will endeavour to ensure that the mixed class is the smallest possible combination of class groupings.

Ranganna Scoilte /Split Classes:

On occasion it may be necessary to split class groupings to form multiple mixed classes. When class groupings need to be split the following is the procedure used:

1. **Numbers:** The class is split numerically to ensure that the mixed classes are as similar in size to each other as possible.
2. **Gender:** Boys and girls are then split in proportion to the numerical division.
3. **Age:** the children are then split by age, with the younger children joining the junior class and the older children joining with the senior class.

Sampla / Example:

It is necessary to combine Rang 4 (16 pupils), Rang 5 (24 pupils) and Rang 6 (12 pupils) to form two mixed classes, Rang 4&5 and Rang 5&6.

Numbers: *There are 52 pupils, therefore two classes of 26 will be created. 10 from Rang 4 join with Rang 5 and 14 from Rang 6 join with Rang 5.*

Gender: *There are 9 girls and 15 boys in Rang 4- therefore 4 girls and 6 boys go to Rang 4&5 and 5 girls and 9 boys go to Rang 5&6.*

Age: *the 4 youngest girls and 6 youngest boys join Rang 4&5, and the older children join Rang 5&6.*

Fógra / Notification:

It is intended that the organisation and allocation of classes will be communicated to teachers, pupils and parents not later than the end of June each year.

Athbhreithniú / Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years or earlier if necessary.