

NEW Junior Infant Co-educational Class

Through the medium of Irish

Bunscoil Sancta Maria Sráid Synge

Meán Fómhair 2017

Some of these questions were amongst those that were asked at the recent public meeting on the 7th February 2017. More questions and answers will be posted in due course. Further meetings are proposed and will be announced via social media and via this website. Please check back frequently or keep in contact with other parents and or the school.

Q1. Will the co-ed class only speak Irish?

A1. Yes the teacher will only speak Irish to the children and this is called the Immersion Model of Language Education. Children pick it up very quickly.

Q2. Do I need to be an Irish speaker?

A2. No. all that is required is that you are willing to support your child's learning through the medium of Irish as best as you can.

Q3. What will happen to the pupils who are already in the school?

A3. The school will continue to enrol boys from Second to Sixth classes just as before.

Q4. What will happen in 2018?

A4. A new Junior Infant class will be enrolled and then there will be two classes, one Junior Infant and now one Senior Infant class and so on through the years until they reach sixth class and move on to Secondary school.

Q5. Must the children be of the Catholic faith?

A5. No. The school has a Catholic ethos, in the tradition of the Edmund Rice Trust, which is welcoming to children of all faiths and none. Children whose parents wish them to receive religious instruction and preparation for the Sacraments (in the Catholic faith) will take part in religion lessons. Children of other faiths and none will take part in other activities. It is our intention to be as inclusive and as respectful as possible of all traditions.

Q6. What will be the uniform?

A6. No decision has been made by the Board of Management regarding uniforms. As this is the first year it is likely that whatever is decided will be as economical and as practical as possible.

Q7. What are the opening and closing times for this new class?

A7. This has not been decided as yet. It can be expected to be similar to local times and with regard to the convenience of as many as possible.

Q8. Will there be two schools?

A8. No. The same school as heretofore will continue but there will be two streams, one that speaks and learns through Irish the full day and the existing group of pupils who will continue to learn mostly through English but also will have Irish lessons as now.

Q9. What curriculum will the Junior Infants follow?

A9. They will follow the exact same curriculum as laid down by the Department of Education and Science that is in every National school.

Q10. When will I know if my child has been given a place in the new Junior Infants class?

A10. Parents will be informed as soon as possible after the Applications Deadline of March 31st 2017.