

POLASAÍ UM EITEAS SCOILE  
AGUS OIDEACHAIS  
REILIGIÚNACH

SCHOOL ETHOS AND RELIGIOUS  
EDUCATION POLICY

Gaelscoil Raifteirí,  
Faiche an Aonaigh,  
Caisleán a' Bharraigh,  
Co. Mhaigh Eo  
Uimhir Rolla: 19832D



## Polasaí um Éiteas Scoile agus Oideachais Reiligiúnach

Is bunscoil Chaitliceach comhoideachais í Gaelscoil Raifteirí faoi phátrúnacht Easpag Thuama. Déanann an scoil fealsúnacht saoil a mhúnlú agus a chur chun cinn, spreagtha lena gcreideamh i nDia agus i saol Íosa Críost. Léiríonn ár n-éiteas Caitliceach na noirm iompair a tháinig chun cinn agus atá ag teacht chun cinn de réir a chéile ó na hidirghníomhaíochtaí agus na caidrimh arís agus arís eile idir daoine i bpobal na scoile. Cé gur scoil í Ghaelscoil Raifteirí le héiteas Caitliceach, tá aitheantas cuí aici do dhaltaí creidimh eile nó gan aon chreideamh.

Léirítear ár n-éiteas Caitliceach trí luachanna cúraim ár scoile agus trínár ngníomhartha, ár ndearcadh agus ár gcleachtais:

Is mian le foireann na scoile seo atmasféar a chruthú maidir le sábháilteacht fhisiciúil, mhothúchánach, shóisialta agus intleachtúil do mhic léinn, do mhúinteoirí agus do thuismitheoirí ionas gur féidir le teagasc agus foghlaim tarlú laistigh de chaidrimh a léiríonn luach agus meas ar a chéile.

- Agus é sin san áireamh, creideann múinteoirí na scoile, ní hamháin go gcuireann an t-oideachas eolas agus scileanna ar fáil do dhaltaí ach go bhfuil sé ag soláthar chomh maith d'fhorbairt mhothúchánach, shóisialta, fhisiciúil agus spioradálta na micléinn.
- Sa scoil seo is mian linn go mbeadh mic léinn féin-spreagtha agus a bheith sona iontú féin, le daoine eile agus leis an domhan. Chun na mianta seo a bhaint amach ag an scoil, ní mór cabhair agus comhoibriú na mic léinn, múinteoirí agus thuismitheoirí.

### Oideachas Reiligiúnach agus Forbairt Creidimh

Cuireann Gaelscoil Raifteirí oideachas reiligiúnach chun cinn do na daltaí de réir fhoirceadal, cleachtais agus traidisiúin na hEaglaise Caitlicí agus cuireann sé bunú na ndaltaí sa chreideamh Caitliceach chun cinn. Taispeántar íogaireacht i gcónaí do dhaltaí gach creidimh. Áfach, ní féidir leis an scoil, tabhairt faoi oideachas a chur ar pháistí creidimh eile ina gcreideamh féin, agus ní féidir léi maoirseacht a sholáthar le linn na tréimhse oideachais reiligiúnaigh seachas an rang. Cuirtear maoirseacht ar fáil sa scoil do pháistí creidimh eile d'aifrin scoile a tharlaíonn le linn an lae scoile.

Tá an clár caiticeasmach I nGrá Dé in úsáid i nGaelscoil Raifteirí. Tá an clár atá seo ceadaithe agus molta ag an bpátrún scoile le húsáid i scoileanna Caitliceacha. Go hiondúil déantar an clár a chur i gcrích gach lá ar feadh leathuair an chloig. Bíonn lorg an éiteas críostaí le brath tríd an lae ar scoil agus trí saol na scoile. Tá *spiorad na paidreoireachta* sa scoil. Déantar na féastaí móra Caitliceacha agus áitiúla a cheiliúradh. Reáchtáiltear ceiliúradh liotúirgeach ar ócáidí agus ceiliúrann an scoil iomlán sacraimintí an na hAithrí, an Chéad Chomaoineach Naofa gach bliain agus an Cóineartú gach dara bliain.

Tá spiorad na paidreoireachta sa scoil ní hamháin a fhorchuirtear ar na páistí, ach feictear go bhfuil sé ina luach ag na múinteoirí. I ngach seomra ranga tá atmaisféar oscailteachta, maithiúnas agus tuisceana ann. Forbraítear tuisceant agus iontas ar mhaitheas, áilleacht agus grá Dé sna páistí.

Tá deilbhíní bríocha, pictiúir agus saothair ealaíne ar taispeánt ar fud fhoirgneamh na scoile. Déantar na féastaí móra Caitliceacha agus áitiúla a cheiliúradh. Tá siad marcáilte le cabhair chomharthaí agus siombailí a thaispeántar tríd na scoile:

- Aidbhint - Fleasc na hAidbhinte agus na Coinneal daite
- Crann Nollag agus Máinséar
- Féile Naomh Bríd agus croiseanna tradisiúnta
- Féasta Naomh Pádraig – léiriú ar an scéal agus seamróg
- An Carghas - siombail aithrí agus luathreach
- An Cháisc - siombail beatha nua agus Aiséirí
- An Chincís - Léiriú ar theacht an Spioraid Naoimh

Tionóltar ceiliúradh liotúirgeach ar ócáidí áirithe m.sh.

- Aifreann bronnadh céime rang a sé ag deireadh na scoilbhliana
- Seirbhís Carúil um Nollaig
- Ag amanna tráma nó géarchéime agus le haghaidh ócáidí eile a mheastar a bheith oiriúnach le ceiliúradh nó marcáil.
- Ionchorpraithe i dtionóil scoile

Glacann daltaí na scoile páirt:

- Ag ceiliúradh an Chéad Chomaoineach agus Cóineartú
- Ag an gCéad Fhaoistín i rith na scoilbhliana
- Ceiliúradh Liotúirgeach eile i gcomhar leis an bparóiste m.sh. Seachtain na Scoileanna Caitliceacha; Aifreann na scoile I tséipéal n pharóiste uair sa téarma; Freastalaithe Scoile ó R.5 agus R.6

### **Ag nascadh lenár bParóiste**

Tairgtear oideachas Caitliceach i nGaelscoil Raifteirí i gcomhar le tuismitheoirí na bpáistí agus leis an bparóiste áitiúil. Feicimid go bhfuil ár ról ag tacú le ról na dtuismitheoirí agus an pharóiste. Tugann na sagairt áitiúla cuairt go rialta ar seomraí ranga. Bíonn deiseanna ar fáil chun:

- Luathreach a dháileadh ar Chéadaoin na Luathre
- Éisteacht le faoistíní daltaí
- Ceachtanna neamhfhoirmiúla agus cainteanna le daltaí ar fhorbairt creidimh
- Guí le daltaí

### **Foirmiú Spioradálta Múinteoirí**

Tuigeann an Bord Bainistíochta go bhfuil cothú spioradálta na múinteoirí mar chuid lárnach den chlár oideachais reiligiúnaigh atá á cur i gcrích ag an scoil.

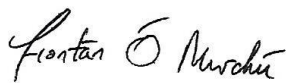
## Modheolaíochtaí Teagaisc a úsáidtear chun aidhmeanna a bhaint amach

- Staidéar ar Threoir an Mhúinteora an chláir i nGrá Dé
- Foghlaim Idirghníomhach
- Eispéiris paidreoireachta a thabhairt do na páistí atá fiúntach.
- Liotúirgí atá sacraimintiúil agus neamhshacraimintiúil
- Seirbhís urnaí sa seomra ranga
- Drámaíocht agus rólghlacadh ar théama na luachanna Críostaí
- Ceisteanna agus freagraí ag cabhrú le páistí a gcuid focal féin a úsáid
- Paidir ghutha

## Ainmníochtaí Reiligiúnacha eile

Faoi réir théarmaí an pholasaí clárúcháin agus iontrála, cláraítear daltaí le creidimh eile nó gan aon chreideamh sa scoil agus tugtar meas cuí ar a gcreideamh agus a gcleachtas. Tarlaíonn comhairliúchán le tuismitheoirí na ndaltaí seo ar chlárú. Tá fáilte roimh gach páiste freastal ar an gClár Oideachais Reiligiúnach Caitliceach agus tairbhe a bhaint as. Má bhíonn deacracht ag tuismitheoirí leis seo buailfidh an príomhoide leo le teacht ar chóiríocht éigin. Tá fáilte roimh thuismitheoirí féachaint ar an gclár reiligiúnach a mhúintear - is é atá i gcroílár an clár na an t-aithne – “Gráigh don Tiarna Dia agus gráigh do chomharsa”

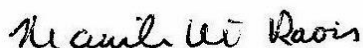
Taispeántar íogaireacht i gcónaí nuair nach féidir le daltaí páirt a ghlacadh i gceiliúradh liotúirgeach. Ní féidir leis an scoil, áfach, tabhairt faoi oideachas a chur ar pháistí creidimh eile ina gcreideamh féin, agus ní féidir leis an scoil maoirseacht a sholáthar i dtimpeallacht ranga ar leith le linn na tréimhse oideachais reiligiúnaigh. Tabharfar obair le déanamh sa seomra ranga ar feadh ré an ranga.



Sínte:

Dáta: 04ú Bealtaine 2023

Cathaoirleach an Bhoird Banistíochta



Sínte:

Dáta: 04ú Bealtaine 2023

Príomhoide / Rúnaí an Bhoird Banistíochta

## **School Ethos and Religious Education Policy**

Gaelscoil Raifteirí is a co-educational Catholic primary school under the patronage of the Bishop of Tuam. The school models and promotes a philosophy of life inspired by belief in God and in the life of Jesus Christ. Our Catholic ethos represents the norms of behaviour which have emerged and continue to emerge gradually from the repeated interactions and relationships between people in the school community. While Gaelscoil Raifteirí is a school with a Catholic ethos, it has due recognition for pupils of other faiths or no faith.

Our Catholic ethos finds expression through the care values of our school and through our actions, attitudes and practices:

- The staff of this school want to create a climate of physical, emotional, social, and intellectual safety for students, teachers and parents so that teaching and learning can occur within relationships of mutual valuing and respect.
- With this in mind, the teachers of the school see education not just as providing students with knowledge and skills but also as providing for the emotional, social, physical and spiritual development of students.
- In this school we want students to be self-motivated and to be at peace with themselves, others and the world. Achievement of these aspirations by the school requires the help and co-operation of students, teachers and parents.

### **Religious Education and Faith Development**

Gaelscoil Raifteirí promotes Religious Education for the pupils in accordance with the doctrines, practices and traditions of the Catholic Church and promotes the formation of the pupils in the Catholic Faith. Sensitivity is always shown to pupils of all faiths. The school cannot, however undertake to educate children of other faiths in their own faith, nor can it provide supervision during the religious education period apart from the class. Supervision is offered in school for children of other faiths for school Masses which take place during the school day.

Gaelscoil Raifteirí has adopted the Grow in Love catechetical programme approved and recommended by the School Patron for use in Catholic Schools. The programme is normally timetabled each day for one half-hour. A Christian ethos permeates the school day and the life of the school. There is a spirit of prayer in the school. The major Catholic and local feasts are celebrated. Liturgical celebrations are held on occasions and the whole school celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Holy Communion annually and Confirmation every second year.

There is a spirit of prayer in the school not just imposed on the children, but is seen to be a value for the teachers. In each classroom there is an atmosphere of openness, forgiveness, and understanding. A sense of awe and wonder at the goodness, beauty and love of God is developed in the children.

Meaningful icons, pictures and artworks are on display throughout the school building. The major Catholic and local feasts are celebrated. They are marked with the aid of signs and symbols displayed throughout the school:

- Advent — the Advent wreath and Jesse tree
- Christmas tree and crib
  
- Feast of St. Brigid traditional crosses
- Feast of St. Patrick depiction of story and shamrock
- Lent — symbols of repentance and ashes
- Easter — symbols of the new life of resurrection
- Pentecost — artistic depiction of the coming of the Holy Spirit

Liturgical celebrations are held on some occasions e.g.

- 6<sup>th</sup> class Graduation mass at the closing of the school year
- Carol service at Christmas
- Times of trauma or crisis and for other occasions which from time to time are considered appropriate to celebrate or to mark.
- Incorporated into school assemblies

The pupils of the school join in:

- At the celebration of First Communion and Confirmation
- At Confession during the school year
- Other liturgical celebrations in cooperation with the parish e.g. Catholic Schools Week; school mass in the church once a term; school servers from 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> class

### **Connecting with our Parish**

The Catholic education offered in Gaelscoil Raifteirí is conducted in collaboration with the children's parents and the local parish. We see our role as being supportive of the role of parents and parish. The local priests regularly visit classrooms. Opportunities are provided for:

- Distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday
- Hearing of pupil confessions
- Informal lessons and talks to pupils on faith development
- Praying with pupils

## Spiritual Formation of Teachers

The spiritual nourishment of teachers IS understood by the Board of Management to be an integral part of the religious education programme undertaken by the school.

## Teaching Methodologies Used to Achieve Aims

- Study of the Grow in Love Teacher's Guide
- Interactive learning
- Giving children prayer experiences that are meaningful
- Sacramental and non-sacramental liturgies  
Classroom prayer service
- Drama and role play on the theme of Christian Values
- Questions and answers helping children to use their own words
- Vocal prayer

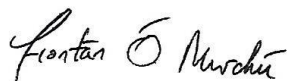
## Other Religious Denominations

Subject to the terms of the enrolment and admission policy, we enrol pupils of other faiths or no faith in the school and accord due respect for their beliefs and practices.

Consultation with parents of these pupils takes place on enrolment. Each child is welcome to attend and benefit from the Catholic religious education programme. If parents have difficulty with this the Principal shall meet with them to see if an accommodation can be reached. Parents are welcome to view the religious programme taught — at its core is the commandment 'Love God and love your neighbour.'

Sensitivity is always shown when pupils cannot participate in liturgical celebrations. The school cannot, however, undertake to educate children of other faiths in their own faith, nor can it provide supervision in a separate class environment during the religious education period. Children of other faiths who do not wish to participate in the RE class of the day or in meditation will be assigned work to do in the classroom for the duration of the class.

Signed:



Date: 04ú Bealtaine 2023

Chairperson Board of Management

Signed:



Date: 04ú Bealtaine 2023

Principal / Secretary Board of Management