

SCOIL EOIN BAISTE CAILÍNÍ NAOIDH

ENGLISH AS AN ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE POLICY (EAL)

Introduction

Scoil Eoin Baiste Cailíní Naoidh acknowledges the right of children to communicate and socialise in the language of their home. The school respects the variety and diversity of the languages that the children bring to school.

Aims of the Programme

The aim of the school's EAL programme is:

- To develop the oral, reading and writing English language competency of the identified children, to a standard that is comparable to that of children for whom English is their sole language of communication and in keeping with the capability of the child.
- To facilitate the child on English language competence to assist in her integration into the life of the school and the English language community of her locality.
- To develop the child's sense of self-esteem and to encourage creativity in the child.
- To use the programme as an effective means of home-school liaison.
- To develop the staff competencies in teaching children for whom English is not their first language.

Assessment of Pupils' Needs

The class teacher will, over the first half-term of the child being in the school, pay particular attention to making a formal and informal assessment of the child's English language capabilities and competencies. Assessment may be done in co-operation with the school's Learning Support Teacher.

Informal interviews will be conducted with the parents/guardians to determine the language spoken at home and also the parents/guardians' competencies in English.

Details of the Programme

The provision of EAL support will depend year on year on the needs of the pupils and the resources available within the school. A member of the Learning Support staff will hope to provide the support required from the GAM hours that have been allocated to the school by the DES. This teacher will work with the class teacher when planning work to be covered and will help to provide additional support on specific curricular areas where needed. Work with the child may take place in the classroom in a small group or on an individual basis depending on the needs of the child. Language stations, including costumes and props, will be set up in Tír na nÓg. The *Up and Away Programme* may be used in the planning of work.

Review

The provision for EAL needs will be reviewed annually and revised according to future needs. This policy will be reviewed in October 2017.

SIGNED: _____

Chairperson, Board of Management

DATE: 18 October 2016