



SCOIL NIOCLÁS NAOFA

Dunmore, Co. Galway.

093 - 38349 info@dunmorens.com

www.dunmorens.com

Roll No: 197446

Class Split Policy

Introduction:

This policy was the product of whole staff collaboration in consultation with the Board of Management of Scoil Nioclás Naofa.

Rationale:

In schools which contain large class sizes, it may be necessary to have a mixture of straight classes and split classes. This is in the interest of providing the best education for all students in classes which are smaller in size and offer a better pupil teacher ratio.

Aims & Objectives of this Policy:

- To provide a framework for the splitting of classes
- To outline the criteria on which children are selected to be placed in mixed or straight classes.
- To set out the supports which may be used to ensure the best learning outcomes for all children in mixed classes.

Framework for the splitting of classes:

At the time of planning the classes for the coming year, the Principal will look at the overall numbers in each year group and the number of teachers available to teach them. They will decide how best to organise classes with a view to providing the best educational opportunities for all children.



SCOIL NIOCLÁS NAOFA

Dunmore, Co. Galway.

093 - 38349 info@dunmorens.com

www.dunmorens.com

Roll No: 19744G

Criteria for placing children in particular class groups:

We group the children in such a way so as to maximise the learning outcomes for each child. When dividing a class into groups, to be placed in separate classes, there are certain criteria to be taken into consideration:

- It is considered best to form mixed-ability groups
- Distribution of boys/girls in classes
- The dynamics of the class must be considered. Emotional, behavioural and social factors which could upset the dynamic of the new class should be taken into consideration when forming new groupings
- The process of forming new friendships is a life skill which is important to develop.
- A positive and supportive attitude from parents is a key element in achieving a successful outcome in the new groups
- It will seldom be possible to satisfy all demands for groups of friends to be kept together. This decision will lie ultimately with the Principal, who must consider the needs of every child in the class
- Classes may also be split in an open and transparent manner such as alphabetically or by age.

The allocation of teachers to straight/mixed classes:

It is the duty of the Principal, as per Circular 16/73, to assign teaching duties and this policy does not give any direction on the allocation of classes.

Supports which could be made available to children in split classes:

The Principal, the Class Teacher and the Learning Support team will consult on how best to organise the learning support for each class. In some cases, the SET (Special Education



SCOIL NIOCLÁS NAOFA

Dunmore, Co. Galway.

093 - 38349 info@dunmorens.com

www.dunmorens.com

Roll No: 197446

A teacher may work in the classroom with the Class Teacher, in a team-teaching arrangement. It is possible that the SET (Special Education Teacher) may work in the classroom supporting one child or a small group of children, with the Class Teacher doing the main teaching of the lesson. Another arrangement for SET (Special Education Teaching) which may suit the class is for either the Class Teacher or the SET (Special Education Teacher) to withdraw small groups of children. All of these arrangements must be considered on a class-by-class basis, from year to year.

Review:

This policy will be reviewed in September 2027 or as necessary.

Ratification:

This policy was officially ratified by the Board of Management on 23/04/26

Signed:

Albert Comer
Chairperson
Scoil Nioclás Naofa

Fergal O' Doherty
Principal