



Lanesboro Community College

Policy on Irish Exemption

Introduction:

This policy was drafted by staff and Board of Management in response to changes in Special Educational Provisions. The policy is in keeping with the Mission Statement of the school which strives to enhance the self-esteem of all pupils through providing for the intellectual, physical, moral and cultural needs of all. This policy document should be read in conjunction with Circular 0055/2022 attached.

Aims:

- To enhance inclusively within the school
- To enable children of all abilities to access the curriculum in a learner friendly manner.
- To ensure that parents have the information they need to make an informed decision for their child/children.

It is the policy of Lanesborough Community College to encourage all students to study Irish and achieve a level of personal proficiency that is appropriate to their ability. It should therefore be noted that all children are expected to be part of the Irish class. We believe that those who may be exempt from Irish may also be included in Irish lessons when possible.

However, in exceptional circumstance an exemption from Irish may be considered.

Circular 0055/2022 outlines the categories of pupil who may be entitled to an exemption from the study of Irish.

The decision to grant an exemption from the study of Irish is made by the principal and such a decision can only be considered in the circumstances set out in section 2.2 of Circular 0055/2022.

Summary of procedure for seeking/granting exemption:

- The school requires a written application for exemption from the parents/guardians of the particular child. It must be accompanied by documentary evidence such as age, previous schooling etc. and a psychologist's report (if relevant). No exemption can be provided without the relevant documentation and it should be noted that a psychologist's report must not be more than two years old at date of application.
- The Principal, following detailed discussion with the student's parent/guardian, the Irish teacher, Support teachers and the student will consider granting an exemption in line with section 2.2 of circular letter 0055/2022.
- If an exemption is granted, a certificate of exemption will be provided.
- A copy of the certificate of exemption will be retained in the "Irish Exemption" file in the Principal's office.
- If an exemption is not granted, the Principal will explain the reasons to the parents.

This policy was formulated in November 2021 and was updated in November 2023.

Ratification

Signed Willie Denny 6-3-24

Chairperson

Date 6/3/24

Signed Angel Annon
Principal