

Policy for the placement of children in classes

Children applying to junior infants are not allocated to classes until after the introductory meeting held in the school. Information provided on the pink forms as well as the observations by members of the LSP team contribute to the decisions made in relation to how children are allocated to classes. .

Children coming to the school during the school year.

Children who are granted places at the applications committee during the year are allocated places based on the criteria below.

The size of the particular class will be the first criteria when placing children in classes. Other considerations outlined above will be taken into account in the event of there being two classes the same size. If there is any one factor which ought to be considered then a child may be placed in a class that has bigger numbers.

The deputy principal places children in classes; The following are considered.

- An average age for applicants available at the closing date will be calculated. Children will be placed in classes to ensure that each class is as close to the average age as possible.
- There will be a mix of children in each class from each residential estate in the area.
- There will be gender balance in each class in proportion to the number of boys and girls who are to be allocated places.
- Where parents submit four names of children with whom they would like to have their child places then the Board will undertake, in so far as it is feasible, to place the child in a class with one of those names.
- After places are allocated, only in very exceptional circumstances and after due consideration will children be changed from one class to another.
- A process of consultation will take place between the principal and the class teacher who knows the children best before placing the children in the appropriate class. Consideration will be given to the child's needs. Factors which will be taken account of will be

The child's capacity to take the consequences of a change of class or teacher.
Emotional and physical well being of individual children and the relative health and Well being of all the children in a group.
Whether or not the children have moved into the school or class in the recent past.
The relative ability of the children in a class.
The friendship groups in the class