



## Equality Policy

The school policy is governed by the DES publication of '*Schools and the Equal Status Act*'

*Staff to refer to personal copy, as provided by the school, of this publication.*

- a. **Gender**
- b. **Race**
- c. **Religion**
- d. **Special Needs**

### a. **Gender**

Boys and girls are treated equally and are afforded the same opportunities in the school. Boys and girls are expected to participate fully in all curricular areas. All school documents are 'gender proofed'. The Board of Management is an equal opportunities employer.

### b. **Race**

Children of all races are welcome in our school and are enrolled subject to our Intake Policy.

### c. **Religion**

An Mhodscoil is a non-denominational school under the patronage of the Minister of Education and Science

No child is discriminated against on the basis of religion. Non-Catholic children are not required to participate in the Religion Class, which is allocated 30 minutes per day, and the teacher allows them to undertake other schoolwork. If, however, parents do not wish their child to be present during the religion class they may be accommodated by:

- Doing work in the class while religion is being taught
- Scheduling religion at different times in two adjoining classrooms.

The Revised Curriculum states 'In seeing to develop the full potential of the individual the curriculum takes into account the child's affective, aesthetic, spiritual, moral and religious needs. The spiritual dimension is a fundamental aspect of individual experience, and its religious and cultural expression is an inextricable part of Irish culture and history'. Religion in our school is cross curricular.

### d. **Special Needs**

Children with special needs will be educated in accordance with the level of resources provided by the Department of Education and Science to the Board of Management. Notwithstanding the availability of such resources parents who are dissatisfied with the level of educational provision in our school are advised to consider a Special School, which is designed and resources to cater specifically for children with special needs.

*References: Education Act 1998*

*Equal Status Act 2000*