

St. Paul's S.N.S. Whole School Plan



Enrolment Policy Specific Learning Disability Class (SLD)

Enrolment Policy for Specific Learning Disability Class (SLD)

The Board of Management of St. Paul's S.N.S. has set out this policy in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act of 1998, the Education Welfare Act 2000, the Equal Status Act 2000 and the Disabilities Act 2002. The Board trusts that by so doing, parents will be assisted in relation to enrolment, and that furthermore, the chairperson of the Board, Mr. Peter Darcy, and the principal Teacher will assist as necessary.

General Information:

Name of School: St. Paul's S.N. S
Address: Rathmullen, Drogheda, Co. Louth,
Telephone: 041-9833681
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Peter Darcy is Chairperson of the Board of Management and is willing to clarify the position pertaining to the Enrolment of the SLD class should this be necessary.

The SLD class is funded and resourced by the Department of Education and Skills. This school policy is in regard to the funding, resources, services and space available.

Registration process begins with a referral from the NEPS Psychologist, a telephone call or a visit from the parents. Applications, incorporating date of application, date of birth, address and telephone number are entered in the Applications Book. Applications will only be processed on the basis of a diagnostic or psychological report and a recommendation for placement in an SLD class. Once this process has been completed the applicant secures a place on the list of applicants to enrol.

SLD class maximum size is 9 pupils.

If the number of children on the list of applicants to enrol exceeds the number of places available, the following criteria will apply in priority order.

- Existing pupils within the school
- Pupils within the Junior School - St. John's school
- Brothers and sisters of past pupils of St. Paul's SNS
- Applications in order of the date enrolment forms were completed during the school year.

The first year will be used to:

- Assess the child's educational needs
- Develop an I.E.P. to address identified needs
- Target specific areas of literacy/numeracy in an effort to raise the literacy/numeracy achievements of the child
- Use appropriate tests to find specific areas of weakness

Taking into account the Department regulations and programmes, the rights of the Patron as set out in the Education Act, and the funding available, the school supports the principles of:

- Inclusiveness, particularly with reference to the enrolment of children with a disability or other special education need
- Equality of access and participation in the school
- Parental choice in relation to enrolment
- Respect for the diversity of values, beliefs, traditions, languages and ways of life in society

Enrolment Policy for Specific Learning Disability Class (SLD) *continues*

The Board of Management will not refuse a child on the basis of ethnicity, disability, traveller status, refugee status, political beliefs or family or social circumstances, provided they fulfil the enrolment criteria. Fulfilling the enrolment criteria does not necessarily ensure enrolment if;

- Necessary resources pertaining to the enrolment are not available
- Sufficient classroom space is not available
- The Admissions Team decide that the school is unable to adequately meet the needs of the child

Taking all of the above into account, and based on the advice of the enrolment teams for the SLD, the Board of Management reserves the right of admission.

Aims and Objectives

- To provide a quality driven, appropriate educational service to all children in the class, within the requirements of all recent legislation pertaining to Special Needs Education
- To strive towards the integration of children in the class into mainstream education, having regard for levels of disability, available resources and suitability for such integration
- To enhance the educational and social skills of the children in the class and to work on raising the levels of literacy and numeracy of each child.

Once a child has secured a place in the SLD it is considered best practice to give the child a two-year term in the class and at the end of this term in consultation with the parents/guardians the child may be discharged or given an extended period in the class if it is agreed that this is in the best interest of the child at this time. The final decision remains with the school who will take all aspects of the situation into account.

The Board of Management will monitor the implementation of all aspects of this policy. The policy will be amended and updated as required.

Ratified by Board of Management:

Date: 9/3/22

Signed by Chairperson:

Peter Darcy

Mr. Peter Darcy

Signed by Principal:

A. Carthy

Ms. Áine Carthy