



St. Mogue's College

EAL POLICY

Introduction.

This policy was formulated to address the language issues of a growing number of pupils attending St. Mogue's College. Currently our enrolment stands at 297 pupils (as of September 30th 2023) with circa 2% having little or no exposure to the English language outside of the school setting. The school has not been able to access the services EAL teachers; the provision of support is reviewed by the AEN coordinator and the AEN team and allocation of support where needed on basis of student assessment, teacher feedback and observation. Since 2020 the school has seen a sharp rise in newcomer children from the Ukraine, Eastern Europe and Spain. Some of these children will have had little or no exposure to English and may enter St. Mogue's College in any class in line with school enrolment policy. Given that the number of pupils requiring EAL intervention has increased year on year with the upward movement in school enrolment, it has become necessary to revise our EAL policy regularly to address the increasing needs of our pupils.

Rationale.

The staff and Board of management of St. Mogue's College are well aware of the ethnic diversity inherent in our school and respect the rights of all pupils to communicate and to socialise in their native language where appropriate. However, given that the medium of instruction in St. Mogue's College is predominantly that of the English language, we have a duty to ensure that all of our pupils will reach a standard of English appropriate to the enhancement of their academic progress and more pertinent to allow them to effectively communicate with all other students. This entails effectively ensuring that the children's standard of English at the end of their term in school is of a spoken and written standard that will allow the students to effectively access the secondary school syllabus.

Aims of EAL Provision.

- To introduce children to the English language and to promote and enhance its attainment among the children.
- To attempt to bridge the fluency gap between those pupils requiring EAL intervention and their counterparts for whom English is their first language.

Assessment.

All children requiring EAL assistance will undergo formal testing annually, usually in May where their current level of English competence will be ascertained. Teacher designed assessment will be ongoing throughout the year. Parents will receive ongoing verbal reports from the class teachers as well as at the formal Parent Teacher consultations.

Review of EAL Policy

The policy will be reviewed as necessary annually.

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on 12/10/2023.

Signed:



Chairperson Board of Management

12/10/2023

Principal