



Polasaí Roinnt Ranganna *Policy on the Splitting of Classes*

Réamhrá *Introduction*

Cuireadh an polasaí seo le chéile trí phróiséal comhoibrithe idir foireann múinteoireachta na scoile, an Bord Bainistíochta agus Coiste na dTuismitheoirí. Cuireadh le chéile é chun eolas a thabhairt faoi chúrsaí roinnt ranganna i nGaelscoil an Chuilinn.

- *This policy was formulated through a process of collaboration between the teaching staff of the school, an Bord Bainistíochta agus Coiste na dTuismitheoirí. It was created in order to provide information regarding class-splitting procedures in Gaelscoil an Chuilinn.*

Dá mba rud é go bhfuil difríocht idir a bhfuil scríofa as Gaeilge agus as Béarla sa pholasaí seo, glactar leis an leagan Gaeilge mar an leagan cruinn agus an leagan Béarla mar aistriúchán.

- *Should there be any discrepancy between the Irish and English in this policy, it is accepted that the Irish is the correct version and the English is provided as a translation.*

Réasúnaíocht *Rationale*

De réir mar a fhásann Gaelscoil an Chuilinn, ar mhaithe le hard chaighdeán oideachais a chur ar fáil, beidh gá, ó am go ham, ranganna a roinnt nó a chur le chéile i rang-grupaí measctha chun coibheas dalta-oide níos fearr a chur ar fáil.

As Gaelscoil an Chuilinn grows, it may be necessary to have a mixture of straight classes and split classes to meet the yearly demand until the school meets full capacity. This is in the interest of providing the best education for all students in classes which are smaller in size and offer a better pupil-teacher ratio.

Aidhmeanna agus Sainchuspóirí *Aims and Objectives*

- Chun struchtúr a chur ar conas rang a roinnt
- Chun na critéir a úsáidfear chun páistí a roghnú don ranganna a liostáil
- *To provide a framework for the splitting of classes*
- *To outline the criteria on which children are selected to be placed in mixed or straight classes*

Tuiscint ar Ranganna Roinnte *Split Classes Explained*

Tugann an Roinn Oideachais múinteoir amháin do gach 28 dalta sa scoil faoi láthair. Tugtar an cóimheas múinteoir-dalta ar seo. Cinnte, ‘sé an suíomh is fearr do pháistí ná rang aon-sruthach le 20 páiste sa rang. Faraor, ní thugann an córas oideachais atá againn faoi láthair cead dúinn é sin a dhéanamh agus is dualgais an príomhoide é na ranganna a roinnt i mbealach cothrom nach mbeidh ranganna áirithe ró-mhór sa scoil. Socraíonn an Roinn Oideachais go bliantiúil cén cóimheas múinteoirí-daltaí a bheas ann don bhliain úd. Níl aon smacht ag na scoileanna ar an gcóimheas seo. Beidh sé de dhualgais ar an múinteoir ranga a chinntiú go mbeidh aon rang faoina gcúram ag baint amach na spriocanna agus cuspóirí de réir an churaclam náisiúnta.

The Dept. of Education (DES) allots one teacher to each group of 28 pupils at present. This is known as the pupil-teacher ratio. The ideal situation for teacher and pupil would be a single stream class at all class levels with no more than 20 pupils per class. However, the current system does not allow for this and the principal has overall responsibility for grouping or splitting the classes where numbers would otherwise be too big or too small in one class. The DES’ objective is that class size should be as equitable as possible across all class levels. The pupil-teacher ratio is dictated annually by the government budget and schools have no control over this. However, the teacher will ensure that each pupil in each class will be working on the set of skills from the national curriculum for the correct class.

Critéir i leith Rang Measctha *Framework for the Splitting of Classes*

Agus an Príomhoide ag tabhairt faoi ranganna agus dáileadh na múinteoirí don chéad scoilbhliain eile, déanfaidh sé/sí cinneadh ar eagrúchán na ranganna bunaithe ar an deis oideachais is fearr don pháistí uilig sa scoil. Agus rang á roinnt déanfaidh an príomhoide an rang a scagadh bunaithe ar aois ar dtús. Ina dhiadh sin– agus é/í ag tabhairt faoi pháistí a chur i grúpaí illeibhéil, smaoinfeofar ar na rudaí seo a leanas:

- **Aois:** Creidtear gurb scagadh na ndaltaí de réir aoise ceann go na bealaí is cothrom chun ranganna a scaradh. Bheadh sé i gceist go mbeadh meascán aoise sa dá rang agus an mean-aois chomh cothrom agus is féidir eatarthu.

- **Inscne:** Déanfar aird a thabhairt ar seo ach uaireanta athraíonn an méid buachaillí agus cailíní atá sa rang go bliaintiúil.
- **Ábaltacht:** Meastar go bhfuil sé níos fearr grúpaí ilábaltacht a chruthú
- **Cairdeas:** is scil saol-théarmach é scil an chairdis agus tá dearcadh dearfach agus tacaíochta ó thuismitheoirí rí-thábhachtach chun cairdis sna grúpaí nua-déanta a spreagadh/a chothú. Is annamh a bheidh an scoil in ann freastal ar gach grúpa cairde a choiméad le chéile.
- **Rothlú:** Creidtear gurb sheo'd an bealach is cothrom chun ranganna a roinnt.
- Dinimic an ranga, Fachtóirí mothúchánach, iompair, sóisialta a chuireadh isteach ar rang grúpa nua
- Cumas acadúil, scileanna sóisialta, aibíocht sóisialta an pháiste
- Barúil acadúil & proifisiúnta faoina bpáistí
- An raibh an páiste cheana féin i ngrúpa illeibhéil
- An cothromaíocht idir cáilíní agus buachaillí sa rang
- An bhfuil deartháir/deirfiúr ag an bpáistí sa rang.

Tá meon dearfach agus tacaíocht ó thuistí riachtanach chun an polasaí seo a chur i bhfeidhm. Nuair a dhéantar na páistí a roinnt, fanann said sna ranganna siúd don scoilbhliain úd. Ag deireadh an lae, is ag an bpríomhoide atá an gcinneadh dheireannach i roinnt na ranganna.

At the time of planning the classes for the coming year, the Principal will look at the overall numbers in each year group and the number of teachers available to teach them. If the enrolment size of a class dictates that a split will be necessary, then an initial split, based on the children's date of birth, will be made by the Principal. Thereafter the following criteria shall be considered:

- *Age is considered the fairest and most transparent way to divide the pupils to form class groups. It is best practice to have a similar average age range in both classes.*
- *Gender should be kept in mind but not be a deciding factor as from year to year the gender make-up of classes will vary.*
- *Ability as a determining criterion is not considered appropriate as performance will vary from year to year and this may be seen to put pressure on children to "earn" a place in either a straight or split class.*
- *Friendship groups are seen as difficult to operate and subject to change from year to year. Making new friends is a lifelong skill and parents have a central role in helping their children make new friends.*
- *Rotation is considered to be the fairest method for splitting the classes*
- *Children who have special learning, behavioural or social needs may be exempted from the above process, as the school will determine the appropriate class for them.*
- *The ratio of boys and girls in the class and whether pupils have siblings in the split class shall also be taken into consideration.*
- *In the following year, those who have been in a split class will return to the single stream class and those in the single stream class will be divided in order to form the*

next split class. This should ensure that each child in a class year has a similar number of straight and split class experiences during his/her primary school life.

- *As the constitution of individual classes may change over the eight years of Primary school splits may be introduced to classes which have not been split before, as the need arises. The above criteria will be used for this process.*

A positive and supportive attitude from parents is a key element in achieving a successful outcome in the new groups formed by this split-class policy. Once the pupils are split into their respective classes, they remain there for that academic year. The final decision on class placements will lie ultimately with the Principal, who must consider the needs of every child in the class.

Múinteoirí sna Ranganna

The Allocation of Teachers to Straight/Mixed Classes

Is cinneadh don phríomhoide é dualgaisí múinteoireachta a dháileadh sa scoil (Ciorclán 16/73)

It is the duty of the Principal as per Circular 16/73 to assign teaching duties and this policy does not give any direction on the allocation of classes to teachers.

Athbhreithniú (Review)

Déanfar athbhreithniú ar an bpolasaí seo gach triú bliain nó mar is gá.

This policy will be reviewed every third year or earlier if the need arises.

Daingniú agus Cumarsáid (Ratification and Communication)

Dhaingnigh an Bord Bainistíochta an polasaí ar an 20ú Samhain 2018.

Cuirfear cóip den pholasaí ar fáil do gach ball foirne agus do gach tuismitheoir nuair a dhaingnítear é.

This policy was updated by the Board of Management on the 20th of November 2018.

A copy of the policy will be made available to each member of staff and each parent on our school website www.gsch.ie

Sínithe: _____

Cathaoirleach

Dáta: _____