

St. Joseph's Grammar School

Scoil Iósaeif



Irish Language Policy

Polasaí Gaeilge na Scoile

Policy Author	Mr P Quinn
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Polasaí Gaeilge na Scoile

An Ghaeilge i Scoil Iósaef

Tá an Ghaeilge ar cheann de na teangacha is sine sa domhan. Tá an litríocht bheo is sine san Eoraip scríofa inti agus in aineoinn blianta trioblóideacha tá sí beo go fóill agus ina seoid luachmhar do mhuintir na hÉireann sa bhaile agus thar lear.

Ní raibh riamh i stair na tíre an méid sin daoine ann a bhfuil léamh agus scríobh na Gaeilge acu. Ar an drochuair, is beag an líon daoine a úsáideann an Ghaeilge ar bhonn laethúil go fóill, ach tá an uimhir sin ag ardú bliain i ndiaidh bliana. Tá breis agus 1.7 milliún duine sa tír seo agus thar lear a bhfuil labhairt na Gaeilge acu, níl le déanamh againn ach iad a chur ag caint lena chéile.

Is iontach na deiseanna fostaíochta atá ann inniu do dhaoine a bhfuil Gaeilge líofa acu. Le hAcht na dTeangacha Oifigiúla agus stádas na Gaeilge mar theanga oifigiúil de chuid an Aontais Eorpaigh, gan trácht ar earnáil na meán Gaeilge, tá buntáiste mór ag daoine a bhfuil Gaeilge acu thar dhaoine nach bhfuil ach an t-aon teanga amháin acu.

Tá fhios againn ar fad go bhfuil an domhan ag athrú. Tá an iliomad teangacha le cloisteáil thart orainn i nDomhnach Mór. Tá an domhan ag éirí beag agus bíonn deiseanna taistil againn nach raibh riamh ann roimhe seo. Tá sé níos tábhachtaí ná riamh dúinn a bheith bródúil as ár dteanga agus as ár gcultúr féin – cad eile a scarann muid ó gach cine eile ar domhan?

Má thig le Spáinnigh Spáinnis a labhairt

Má thig le hIodálaigh Iodáilis a labhairt

Ma thig le Gearmánaigh Gearmáinis a labhairt

Má thig le Francaigh Fraincis a labhairt...

... cén fáth nach dtig le hÉireannaigh Gaeilge a labhairt???

Is é an Béarla príomhtheangach Scoil Iósaef ach tá stádas ar leith ag an Ghaeilge i saol iomlán phobal na scoile. Is scoil dhátheangach í Scoil Iósaef agus baintear úsáid as an tumoideachas chun an teanga a chur chun cinn sa scoil.

Irish Language Policy

Irish language in Scoil Iósaef

Irish is one of the oldest languages in the world. The oldest living Literature in Europe is written in Irish and despite centuries of troubled years, she is still a valuable jewel for the people of Ireland, at home and abroad.

There has never been, in the history of Ireland, so many people who can read and write the language. Unfortunately, there are still few people who use the language on a daily basis, but that number is increasing year on year. There are now 1.7 million people in this country and abroad who can speak Irish, and all we need to do is to get those people speaking with each other.

There are numerous employment opportunities now available for those who can speak Irish fluently. With the Official Languages Act and the Irish language's status as an official EU language, not to mention the extensive Irish language media, people who speak Irish have an advantage over those who only have one language.

The world is changing and there are various languages to be heard spoken around the local area. The world is also becoming more accessible and there are now more opportunities than ever to travel. It is more important now than ever before that we are proud of our own language and culture – what else tells us apart from the rest of the world?

If the Spanish can speak Spanish,

If the Germans can speak German,

If the French can speak French,

Why can't the Irish speak Irish?

English is the main language of Scoil Iósaef but as an Irish Medium School, Irish has a special status throughout the school. Scoil Iósaef is a bilingual school and immersive education is a key part of the promotion of Irish in the school.

Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine

‘Mol an Óige agus Tiocfaidh sí’

Mar mhúinteoirí is maith linn daltaí a mholadh chun féin mhúinín a mhúscailt agus a fhorbairt iontu féin. Le cabhair ó Choiste na Gaeilge tá córas nua curtha i bhfeidhm chun na daltaí a spreagadh chun níos mó suim a léiriú i dteanga iontach, speisialta na tíre seo. Is é teideal an chóras ná ‘*Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine*’ agus táimid tar-éis guth a thabhairt dos na daltaí tré ligint dóibh vóta a chaitheamh gach seachtain dos na daltaí ina rang féin gur dóigh leo atá ag déanamh tréan iarracht an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn sa scoil. Bronnfar dearbhán £10 ar an bhuaiteoir. Is ag na múinteoirí a bheas an focal scoir agus ní ghlacfar ach le ainmniúcháin dhílse.

Dualgaisí:

- Is í an Ghaeilge an teanga chumarsáide i ranganna an tSrutha agus is í a labhraíonn na múinteoirí eatarthu féin agus leis na scoláirí. Labhraíonn na scoláirí an Ghaeilge eatarthu féin agus is í a labhraítear le cuairteoirí chun na scoile fosta, ach amháin sa chás nach bhfuil an Ghaeilge ar a dtail ag na cuairteoirí sin.
- Bítear ag súil go mbainfidh na scoláirí úsáid as an Ghaeilge ag gach imeacht scoile: turais, cluichí, etc. Bítear ag súil fosta go mbainfeadh siad úsáid aisti ar an bhealach chun na scoile, ag am lóin agus ar fhágáil na scoile dóibh tráthnóna le scoláirí eile Scoil Íosaef.
- Déantar gach iarracht comhfhreagras ón scoil a bheith i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla. Thig leis an scoil comhfhreagras dátheangach a chur amach chuig tuismitheoirí a roghnaíonn an Ghaeilge mar ábhar cumarsáide.
- Déanfar iarracht fógraí, nótaí agus páipéarachas eile a chuir amach chuig scoláirí agus múinteoirí i nGaeilge amháin. Leis seo, áirítear miontuairiscí cruinnithe an tSrutha agus dialanna scoile na scoláirí.
- Cuireann an scoil roimpi atmaisféar Gaelach a chruthú sa scoil. Leis seo, áirítear comharthaíocht, póstaer, ceol, cultúr, cúlra, srl.
- Tapóidh an scoil gach aon deis an Ghaeilge agus cultúr na Gaeilge a chur chun cinn.
- Féachfaidh an scoil chuige gan damáiste a dhéanamh d’éiteas na scoile trí bharraíocht aoichainteoirí agus grúpaí seachtracha a thabhairt isteach chun labhairt leis na daltaí sa Sruth as Béarla. Déanfaidh an scoil gach iarracht i gcónaí cainteoirí a lorg a bhfuil Gaeilge acu.

Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine

‘Mol an Óige agus Tiocfaidh sí’

As teachers we try to praise pupils to develop their self-confidence and self-esteem. In conjunction with Coiste na Gaeilge, we have devised a new system to try and encourage pupils to display an active interest in our wonderful, unique and special language. The title of the system is ‘*Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine*’ and we have given the pupils an opportunity to nominate a pupil in their class each week whom they feel is making a conscious effort to promote the language of Irish within the Scoil Íosaef. The winner of ‘*Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine*’ will be awarded a £10 voucher. To avoid it becoming a popularity contest the pupils know that the teachers have the final say and only genuine nominations will be accepted.

Responsibilities:

- Irish is the language of communication in the IMS classrooms and it is used between teachers and between teachers and pupils alike. Students use Irish with each other, and it is spoken with visitors to the school also; except in the case where visitors aren’t fluent in the Irish language.
- We expect that students will use Irish at all Irish Language school events: trips, games etc. The Irish language is the primary language in Scoil Íosaef and we expect the students to speak Irish, not only in Scoil Íosaef classrooms but on the way to school, at break time, lunch time and upon leaving school.
- We will make every effort to have correspondence from school in Irish and in English. The school will send bilingual correspondence to parents who choose Irish as their method of communication.
- We will make every effort to have all notices, notes and administration in Irish for teachers and pupils, as well as the minutes of meetings relating to Sruth na Gaeilge and the pupil diary.
- The school endeavours to create a Gaelic atmosphere and will enhance this through posters, signage, music and culture.
- The school will take every opportunity to promote the Irish language and culture.
- The school will aim to promote the integrity of an Sruth by ensuring that guest speakers and visiting groups, as far as possible, will present to students through Irish in the first instance.

- Eagraítear gach scrúdú d'ábhair an tSrutha trí mheán na Gaeilge ag Eochairchéim a Trí.
- Bainfear úsáid as téacsleabhair Ghaeilge nuair atá siad ar fáil agus ar chaighdeán maith. Sa chás eisceachtúil go mbíonn téacsleabhar Béarla in úsáid, is gá don Oifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge, nótaí cuimsitheacha a chur ar fáil do na scoláirí i nGaeilge.
- Déanfaidh an scoil cinnte de go bhfuil caighdeán sásúil Gaeilge ag foireann na scoile uilig chun a gcuid oibre a dhéanamh trí mheán na Gaeilge.
- Cuirfidh an scoil deiseanna ar fáil go rialta don fhoireann teagaisc i modheolaíochtaí an tumoideachais.
- Moltar do gach scoláire an leagan Gaeilge dá (h)ainm a úsáid.

Spreagadh na Gaeilge

Is iad na múinteoirí príomhfhoinsí Gaeilge na bpáistí ar scoil. Is orthusan a thiteann sé an Ghaeilge a spreagadh i measc na scoláirí. Bíonn an bhéim i gcónaí ar spreagadh dearfach. I measc na modhanna chun an teanga a chur chun cinn i measc na ndaltaí, tá:

- Caint Phoibí
- Drámaíocht
- Díospóireachtaí
- Duaiseanna
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Comórtais idir-ranganna
- Comharthaíocht spreagúil

Is í an Ghaeilge teanga chumarsáide agus teanga teagaisc an tSrutha agus beidh dualgas ar dhaltáí Gaeilge amháin a labhairt le chéile sa Sruth agus ag aon imeachtaí Gaelacha a bhaineann leis an scoil, is cuma cá mbíonn na himeachtaí sin ar siúl.

Tuigimid gurb é an Béarla príomhtheanga na ndaltaí sa bhaile agus dá bhrí sin tá sé mar dhúshlán againn bheith ar ár n-airdeall chun an teanga a fhorbairt. Cuirfear deiseanna ar fáil do dhaltáí maidir le húsáid na Gaeilge i gcomhthéacsanna ilghnéitheacha, mar shampla; turais, aoichainteoirí, díospóireachtaí, cluichí srl.

Iarrfar ar thuismitheoirí roinnt Gaeilge a úsáid lena bpáistí, mar shampla; ag fágáil slán ar maidin agus ag fiafraí cad é mar a bhí an lá scoile. Iarrfar orthu fosta cur ina luí ar a gcuid páistí Gaeilge amháin a

- Each exam for our Sruth students at Key Stage 3 will be in Irish.
- Irish language textbooks will be used when they are available and if they are of a good standard. In the exceptional case that an English language textbook is in use, the Irish Language Development Officer will provide extensive notes for our students in Irish.
- The school will ensure that the staff working within 'An Sruth' will have an acceptably high standard of Irish so that they may carry out their duties at a high standard in Irish.
- The school will regularly provide opportunities for the teaching staff in the methodology of immersive education.
- Each student is encouraged to use the Irish spelling of their name.

Encouraging Irish

The teachers are the primary source of Irish for our students at school. It is their responsibility to inspire the students to speak Irish. The emphasis is always on positive encouragement. Some of the methods we will use to promote the language amongst the students are:

- Public speaking
- Drama
- Debating
- Prizegiving
- Seachtain na Gaeilge
- Interform Competitions
- Encouraging posters and signage

Irish is the language of communication and the language of teaching in the Sruth and the students have a duty to speak Irish to each other in the Sruth, at any Irish language events associated with the school, no matter where those events are taking place.

We understand that English is the main language of our students at home and because of that challenge we need to be vigilant that we are encouraging the language. Opportunities will be available for students to use their language in a variety of contexts, e.g. school trips, with guest speakers, at debates, during games etc.

Parents are encouraged to use any Irish they have with their children, for example, saying 'Slán' to their children as they leave in the morning for school, or asking 'Cad é mar a bhí do lá?' (How

úsáid ar scoil seachas i ranganna na dteangacha eile agus míniú dóibh faoin ról lárnach, tábhachtach atá ag teanga na Gaeilge i saol na scoile.

Míneofar saintearmaíocht na n-ábhar do dhaltáí i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla. Is téacsleabhair i nGaeilge a úsáidfear chomh fada agus is féidir. Is féidir go mbeidh teacht ag daltaí ar leagan Béarla de na téacsleabhair ach iad a bheith mar leabhair thagartha sa bhaile acu mas mian leo.

Ag Eochairchéim a Trí, sna hábhair trí mheán na Gaeilge, is i nGaeilge amháin a bheas na nótaí ranga uilig a thabharfaidh múinteoirí amach dá gcuid daltaí. Is trí mhéan na Gaeilge amháin a bheas obair baile, obair ranga, scrúduithe ranga agus bileoga eolais i rith an ama.

Tá sé de dhualgas ar mhúinteoirí an dea-shampla a léiriú tríd an Ghaeilge a labhairt i gcónaí agus na daltaí a spreagadh chun ard-chaighdeán Gaeilge a labhairt agus cruinneas agus saibhreas teanga a chothú. Coinneoidh Ceann an tSrutha Gaeilge agus na Múinteoirí Ranga súil ar chaighdeán labhartha na Gaeilge.

Cuirfear Riail na Gaeilge i bhfeidhm. Tabharfar aitheantas do na daltaí is mó a léiríonn díograis agus dílseacht don Ghaeilge. Meabhrófar tábhacht na Gaeilge do na daltaí go rialta. Tabharfar cuidiú faoi leith do dhaltáí nach bhfuil líofa sa Ghaeilge

Tá próiseas faoi leith leagtha amach sa Chód Iompair maidir le sárú Riail na Gaeilge.
[Aguisín 1 – Riail na Gaeilge – Faillí a dhéanamh ar an Ghaeilge]

Déanfaidh Ceann an tSrutha Gaeilge, múinteoirí an tsrutha agus Coiste na Gaeilge monatóireacht rialta ar an pholasaí. Tabharfaidh an Bord Bainistíochta, Múinteoirí Sinsearach agus tuismitheoirí tacaíocht don pholasaí.

Dialann Scoile

Beidh an dialann scoile dátheangach agus beidh gach comhfhreagras sa dialann i nGaeilge, ach amháin i gcásanna nuair nach bhfuil an Ghaeilge ar

was your day?). They are asked to remind their child that Irish be their main language in school apart from their classes through English, and to explain the central important role that the Irish has in our school and culturally. Specialist vocabulary will be explained to students in Irish and in English. Irish language textbooks will be used as far as possible. Students may have English copies of the textbooks as a reference point to help them at home.

At Key Stage 3, for those subjects taught through the medium of Irish, all the class notes shared by the teacher will be in Irish. Homework, classwork, class tests and information sheets will be given out in Irish.

Teachers have a responsibility to be positive examples by speaking Irish at all times with the students, so as to inspire a high standard of spoken Irish that is enriched and fluent. The Head of IMS and the Irish teachers will monitor the development and standard of the students' language.

The Irish language rule will be in operation. The students who display the greatest diligence and loyalty to the language will be celebrated. The students will be reminded of the importance of the Irish language regularly. Students who are struggling with their grasp or understanding of the language.

There is a disciplinary procedure in the school's Code of Conduct in relation to breaking the Irish language rule. *[Appendix 1 – Riail na Gaeilge – Being Neglectful of Irish]*

The Head of Irish Medium, Irish Medium teachers and the Pupils' Irish language Committee will continuously monitor the policy. The Board of Governors, Senior Leadership Team, and all parents will support the policy.

School Diary

A bilingual school diary will be provided for Irish Medium students and all correspondence will be in Irish except if parents are not fluent in Irish. In

a dtoil ag tuismitheoirí sa bhaile. Sna cásanna seo beidh an comhfhreagras i mBéarla.

Earcú Foirne

Mar scoil dhátheangach, cuirfear cumas Gaeilge agus toilteanas í a labhairt san áireamh nuair a bheas múinteoirí agus baill eile foirne á gceapadh do Scoil Íosaef. Is í an Ghaeilge a bhéas mar theanga cumarsáide idir foireann/ fostaithe Scoil Íosaef agus idir an fhoireann agus na scoláirí, ní amháin sa tseomra ranga ach ag gach imeacht Gaeilge sa scoil – cluichí, ócáidí sóisialta, turais scoile agus a leithéidí. Cuirfear Polasaí Gaeilge na scoile in iúl do gach ball foirne.

Scrúdaithe Tí

Ag Eochairchéim a Trí, is i nGaeilge a bhéas gach scrúdú ranga nó tí, sna hábhair a theagasctar trí mheán na Gaeilge, a thabharfar do na scoláirí.

Is féidir leagan Béarla den pháipéar a thabhairt má mheasann an múinteoir go mbeadh gá lena leithéid (mar a thugtar ag na scrúdaithe poiblí). Beidh teagasc an tseomra ranga dírithe ar a chinntiú go mbeidh achan scoláire ábalta a gcuid scrúdaithe poiblí a dhéanamh i nGaeilge.

Timpeallacht

Beidh gach comhartha taobh amuigh agus taobh istigh den scoil ina chomhartha dátheangach agus beidh comharthaí taobh istigh de sheomraí an tSrutha i nGaeilge amháin.

Gaeilge i measc Scoláirí

Déanfar achan iarracht cinnte a dhéanamh gurb í an Ghaeilge a bhéas mar theanga chumarsáide idir na scoláirí i seomraí an tSrutha agus ag imeachtaí an tSrutha.

Soláthar Curaclaim

Déantar 50% den churaclam ag Eochairchéim 3 a theagasc trí Ghaeilge. Beidh múinteoir foirme a bhfuil Gaeilge acu ag daltaí i mBliain 8, 9 & 10 chomh maith. Caithfidh gach dalta i mBliain 11 agus 12 GCSE Gaeilge a dhéanamh.

Moltar do gach dalta i mBliain

these circumstances correspondence will be in English.

Recruiting Staff

As a bilingual school, we will take into account Irish language ability and a willingness to use Irish when recruiting other teachers and staff to St Joseph's Grammar School. Irish will be the preferred language of communication between staff and students in the Sruth, not only in the class but at all Irish language events in the school – games, social events, school trips and so on. The school's Irish language policy will be sent to each staff member.

House Exams

At Keystage 3 all of the exams that are taught through Irish will be in Irish.

The teacher may give the students English language versions of the exams if they feel that it is needed (as is given during public exams). The teaching in class will be geared towards ensuring that each student will be able to do their public exams in Irish.

School Environment

Every effort will be made to ensure that signage inside and outside the school will be in Irish and in English and signs in the Irish language classrooms will be in Irish only.

Irish amongst students

All efforts will be made to ensure that Irish will be used amongst the students as their language of communication in the Irish classrooms and at Irish language events.

Curriculum Provision

50% of the curriculum in Keystage 3 is taught through the medium of Irish. Year 8, 9 & 10 students will also have an Irish speaking form-teacher. All students in Year 11 and Year 12 must complete GCSE Gaeilge.

All IMS students in

13/14 ó Shruth na Gaeilge leanstan leis an Ghaeilge ag an leibhéal is airde.

Ranganna Breise Gaeilge

Cuirfear ranganna faoi leith Gaeilge ar fáil do dhaltaí a bhfuil cuidiú breise uathu leis an teanga.

[Aguisín 1]

Riail na Gaeilge

Faillí a dhéanamh ar an Ghaeilge

- Spreagfar na daltaí leis an Ghaeilge a úsáid sa chéad áit – in amanna ní bheidh an Ghaeilge acu ar roinnt rudaí agus sa chás nach bhfuil an focal acu, iniseofar an focal dóibh. **Is fearr moladh ná cáineadh.**
- Má tá dalta ag déanamh faillí ar an Ghaeilge, cuirfear na daltaí i dtreo pholasaí na Gaeilge – Is í seo ár dteanga náisiúnta agus ár gcultúr féin – Iarrfar ar dhaltaí bheith bródúil aisti.
- Caithfear meas a léiriú don teanga agus don chultúr Gaelach, óir is í sin cultúr na scoile fosta.
- Cuirfear comharthaí/póstaeir timpeall na scoile leis na daltaí a spreagadh leis an Ghaeilge a labhairt.
- Má leanann aon dalta leis an fhaillí ar an Ghaeilge, glacfar chuig ceannaire an tSrutha/ chuig an Phríomhoide iad.
- Iarraimid go mbeidh tacaíocht na dtuismitheoirí ag an scoil ón chéad lá – síneofar foirm a léiríonn gurb í an Ghaeilge teanga na scoile agus glacfar leis go gcaithfidh na daltaí í a úsáid sa chéad áit.
- Foghlaimeoidh na daltaí faoi stair na Gaeilge agus an fáth a bhfuil sí san áit a bhfuil sí anois, le hiad a spreagadh bheith bródúil go bhfuil an teanga acu.

Cuireadh an polasaí athbhreithnithe seo faoi bhráid Bhord Gobharnóirí Scoil Iósaef ar an _____ agus tá athbhreithniú le déanamh air i _____

Síniú: _____

Cathaoirleach Bhord na nGobharnóirí

Year 13/14 are encouraged to continue advanced study of Irish.

Extra classes in Irish

Extra Irish language classes will be available to students who need extra help with the language.

[Appendix 1]

Riail na Gaeilge

Being Neglectful of Irish

- Students are encouraged to use Irish in the first instance – sometimes they will not have the Irish for certain things and in this case, they should be told the word. **Praise is better than criticism.**
- If a student is being neglectful of their Irish, they will be directed to the Irish language policy – This is our native language and our very own culture – we ask our students to be proud of it.
- Respect must be shown to the Irish language and culture, as that is also the culture of the school.
- Posters and signage around the school will also be in Irish to encourage our students to speak Irish.
- If any student in Sruth na Gaeilge continues to neglect their Irish, they will have to speak to Head of Irish/Principal
- We will ask parents to support us from the very first day – they will sign a form that acknowledges that Irish is the main language of the school for our Sruth students and that they must speak Irish to each other and to their Irish teachers.
- The students will learn about the history of the Irish language and why the language is where it is today. We will endeavour to inspire the students to be proud of their native language.

This revised policy will be shown to the Board of Governors of St Joseph's Grammar School on the _____ and will be reviewed again on the _____

Signed: _____

Chairperson of the Board of Governors