



# **POLICY FOR ADMISSION TO SCHOOL YEAR 2023/2024**

## **Greystones Community National School**

Charlesland, Greystones, Co Wicklow, A63 HH94

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**Roll no:** 20473i

A decision on an application for admission will be based on the implementation of this Policy, the information set out in the annual Admission Notice of the school and the information provided by the Applicant in the application for admission, once received before the closing date set out in the annual admission notice. The Principal of Greystones CNS is responsible for the implementation of this Admission Policy.

# INTRODUCTION TO GREYSTONES CNS

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Greystones CNS is a developing school which was established in 2015 with an enrolment of 20 Junior Infants. Those first 20 families who enrolled with Greystones CNS played an important role in the establishment and development of our school and are celebrated in the form of the 20 apples on our school crest.

As of September 2022, Greystones CNS will have an enrolment of approx. 380 children from Junior Infants to 6<sup>th</sup> Class. We also have an ASD Class, which we refer to as The Reef.

At the beginning of 2021/22 we moved into our brand new building at Charlesland, Greystones Co. Wicklow.

## **Vision for Greystones Community National School**

Greystones Community National School is a co-educational, multid denominational primary school which was established by the Department of Education and Skills in 2015 under the patronage of Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board.

As a school, every day we strive to provide a happy, safe school for every member of our school community. We do this by valuing each individual, maintaining a positive environment, working together, celebrating uniqueness, respecting ourselves and others and living the ethos of Community National Schools.

## **Mission Statement for Greystones Community National School**

The Mission of Greystones CNS, is for each member of our school community to embody the core values of community national schools every day in supporting each other to become the best we can be:

### **Equality**

We welcome and celebrate every member of our school community

### **Respect**

We are respectful in all that we do

### **Care**

We care about our own wellbeing and the wellbeing of others

We help each other

We care for the environment

### **Excellence in Education**

We aim high in all that we do

### **Community**

We are active members of our communities

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# **PART A**

## ***General Information for All Applicants***

- 1. Glossary of terms***
- 2. Admission Statement***
- 3. Legal Framework***
- 4. General Admission Provisions (for all Applicants)***

## 1. GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**‘Applicant’** means the parent / guardian of a Child who has made an application for admission to Greystones CNS.

**‘Child’** means the person in respect of whom the application is being made.

**‘Student’** means the person in respect of whom an offer of admission by the school has been accepted on behalf of the Child.

**‘Gender’**, in line with the definition of “*the gender ground*” in the Equal Status Act 2000, is such that “*one is male and the other is female*”. This does not prejudice any Child who is Intersex or identifies as Androgynous/Androgyne, Bigender, Demigender, Gender Fluid, Genderqueer, Multigender, Neutrois, Non-binary, Transgender, Transsexual or otherwise.

**‘Catchment Area’** refers to the designated residential area for application to Greystones CNS in respect of the person on whose behalf the application is being made.

**‘Parent’** has the same meaning as in the Education Act 1998 and includes a foster parent and a guardian appointed under the Guardianship of Children Acts, 1964 to 1997.

**‘Early Start Pre-Schools’** refer to the 40 classes established in some designated disadvantaged schools through the form of a one-year intervention scheme for children between the ages of 3 years and 5 years, who are at risk of not reaching their full potential within the school system. The early start classes are offered in the September prior to the Child starting Junior Infants and are designated in a list published by the Minister for Education and Skills. Participation in the ‘Free Pre-School’ year through the ECCE scheme or an independent pre-school/creche does not qualify as participation in an Early Start Pre-School Class.

**‘Early Intervention Classes’** refer to special education classes established in schools which are available for children aged 3 years – 5 years with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). A small number of Early Intervention Classes are available for children who are deaf/hard of hearing and children with physical disabilities.

**‘Special Class’** means a class that has, with the approval of the Minister of Education and Skills, been established by a school to provide an education exclusively for Students with a category or categories of special educational needs specified by the Minister of Education and Skills. Greystones CNS has a Special Class, established to cater for special educational needs of Students with Autism/Autistic Spectrum Disorders,

**‘Junior Infants’** means the intake group of Students for the most junior class in a school, but does not include the Early Start Pre-Schools/Early Intervention Classes or any crèche or pre-school groups facilitated on site.

## 2. ADMISSION STATEMENT

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ETB schools are state, multid denominational, co-educational schools underpinned by the core values of:

- Excellence in Education;
- Care;
- Equality;
- Community and
- Respect.



As the State provider of education, the ETB sector defines a ‘multidenominational’ school in the following way:

In ETB schools, all students are given equal opportunities for enrolment in line with the Education (Admissions to School) Act 2018. Once enrolled, our schools strive to provide all students with equal opportunities to engage with the curriculum and school life. In all aspects of school life all members of our school communities are treated equitably regardless of their race, gender, religion/belief, age, family status, civil status, membership of the Traveller community, sexual orientation, ability or socio-economic status.

Our schools provide a safe physical and social environment that reinforces a sense of belonging to the school community and wider society. They strive to enable every student to realise their full potential regardless of any aspect of their identity or background. Our schools promote a fully inclusive education that recognises the plurality of identities, beliefs and values held by students, parents and staff. We prepare open-minded, culturally sensitive and responsible citizens with a strong sense of shared values.

In ETB schools, students of all religions and beliefs are treated equally. The school environment and activities do not privilege any particular group over another whilst at the same time acknowledging and facilitating students of all religions and beliefs.

Accordingly, Greystones CNS shall not discriminate in its admission of a Child based on the following grounds:

- 2.1. Gender of the Child or Applicant.
- 2.2. Civil status of the Applicant;
- 2.3. Family status of the Child or Applicant;
- 2.4. Sexual orientation of the Child or Applicant;
- 2.5. Religion of the Child or Applicant;
- 2.6. Disability of the Child or Applicant;
- 2.7. Race of the Child or Applicant;
- 2.8. The Child's or Applicant's membership of the Traveller community;
- 2.9. Special educational needs of the Child or Applicant. However, where the school provides education exclusively for a category or categories of special educational need(s) in a Special Class, it is not discriminatory to refuse to admit to that class a Child who does not have the specified special educational need(s).

Greystones CNS shall not charge fees or payments or seek contributions as a condition of admission or continued enrolment of a Child.

### **3. LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

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KWETB was established under the Education and Training Board Act 2013 which sets out the functions of all ETBs, including to establish and maintain recognised schools, centres for education and education and training facilities in each ETB's functional area.

The board of management of Greystones CNS is a committee established under section 44 of the Education and Training Board Act 2013 and also constitutes a board of management within the meaning of the Education Act 1998.

The Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018 and the Education (Welfare) Act 2000 place a duty on all recognised schools to prepare and publish an Admission Policy.

The Education Act, 1998 provides for an appeal process in the event of a refusal to enrol. The appeal process is set out in section 5.2 in respect of applications made to the Junior Infant group and in section 6.2 in respect of applications made to all classes other than the Junior Infant group.

Section 62(7)(n) of the Education Act 1998 requires each school to set out in its Admission Policy the arrangements it has in place where a parent requests their child to opt-out of religious instruction. Where Community National Schools do not provide religious instruction within the school day, the need to make alternative arrangements does not arise. Community National Schools deliver a 'multi-belief and values education' curriculum called 'Goodness Me! Goodness You!' (GMGY). This curriculum is designed to cater for children of all religions and beliefs attending the school.

However, if a parent wishes to opt their child out of GMGY, the parent/guardian must make a written request to the Principal in the first instance. The request should outline the reasons that s/he is seeking an opt-out. The Principal will then arrange to meet with the parent(s) to discuss the request. If after that meeting the parent still wishes to opt-out of the subject, the school will facilitate this in the following way:

where possible, the child will join in with a peer level class for the duration of the lesson.

## 4. GENERAL ADMISSION PROVISIONS

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A decision on an application for admission shall be based on:

- the implementation of this Admission Policy,
- the annual Admission Notice of the school, and the
- information provided by the Applicant in the application for admission.

In processing an application Greystones CNS **shall not consider:**

- 4.1 The payment of fees or contributions to the school;
- 4.2 A Child's academic ability, skills or aptitude; unless:
  - it is necessary to ascertain whether or not the Child has the category of special educational needs concerned for admission to a school approved by the Minister of Education and Skills providing education exclusively to Students with a specified category of special educational needs or a Special Class;
- 4.3 The occupation, financial status, academic ability, skills or aptitude of a Child's Parent(s);
- 4.4 A Child's prior attendance at a pre-school or pre-school service, other than in relation to a Child's prior attendance at an Early Intervention class or an Early Start Pre-School, which classes and schools are specified in a list published by the Minister.
- 4.5 A requirement that a Child or his or her Parent(s), attend an interview, open day or other meeting as a condition of admission;
- 4.6 A Child's connection to the school due to a member of his or her family attending or having previously attended the school, unless the connection is a sibling of the Child concerned attending, or having attended the school.

4.7 The date and time on which an application for admission was received by the school as long as it is received during the period specified for receiving applications set out in the annual admissions notice for that academic year.

**Greystones CNS will consider** the offer of a place to every Child seeking admission to the school, **unless one of the following applies:**

4.8 The Parent fails to confirm in writing that s/he accepts the Student Code of Behaviour and shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure compliance with such code by the Child if the Child becomes a Student in the school;

4.9 The Child seeking admission to a Special Class in the school does not have the category of special educational needs specified by the Minister of Education and Skills in respect of that class.

Where Greystones CNS considers an application, each Child shall receive a place, unless the school is oversubscribed, in which case, selection criteria will be applied to each application.

Section 5 of this Policy addresses the selection criteria and other matters related to the admission provisions for the Junior Infant Group.

Section 6 of this Policy addresses the selection criteria and other matters related to the admission provisions for all classes other than Junior Infants.

Section 7 of this Policy addresses the selection criteria and other matters related to the admission provisions for the Special Class.

# **PART B**

## ***Information for Specific Categories of Applicants***

- 5. Application to the Junior Infant Group***
- 6. Application to All Classes Other Than Junior Infants***
- 7. Application to the Special Class***

# **SECTION 5**

## **APPLICATION TO THE JUNIOR INFANT GROUP**

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### **5. APPLICATION TO THE JUNIOR INFANT GROUP**

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#### **5.1 Admission Provisions (Junior Infant Group)**

- 5.1.1. Oversubscription
- 5.1.2. Selection criteria in order of priority
- 5.1.3. Selection process
- 5.1.4. Late Applications
- 5.1.5. Second/third-round offers of a place
- 5.1.6. Acceptance of a place
- 5.1.7. Refusal
- 5.1.8. Withdrawal of an offer

#### **5.2 Appeals**

- 5.2.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription
- 5.2.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription
- 5.2.3. Basis for appeal

## **5.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS (JUNIOR INFANT GROUP)**

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Where Greystones CNS is not oversubscribed, all Children will be offered a school place, subject to section(s) 4.8 and 4.9.

A Child applying for the Junior Infant Group but seeking admission to the Special Class should see section 7 of this Admissions Policy.

### **5.1.1 Oversubscription**

When the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, the published selection criteria as set out at section 5.1.2 below will apply and a waiting list shall be compiled which shall remain valid **only for the school year in respect of which the applications are made**. Where Greystones CNS is in a position to offer further school places that become available for and during that academic year, places will be offered in accordance with the order of priority in which Children have been placed on the waiting list.

For the avoidance of doubt, if a Child does not receive a place in the school for a given academic year, but s/he wishes to be considered for admission to the same class group in the following academic year, a new application must be made on behalf of that Child during the dates specified by the school as being the period when it will accept applications to all classes other than the Junior Infants Group.

Where the school is oversubscribed, any selection criteria that are not included in this Admission Policy shall not be considered in determining whether or not a Child is admitted to the school.

### **5.1.2 Selection criteria in order of priority**

Greystones CNS will apply the following criteria for admission to the Junior Infant Group:

- 5.1.2.1 If the Child has a parent working in Greystones CNS at the time of enrolment;
- 5.1.2.2 If the Child has siblings (including adoptive, fostered, step and half-siblings) attending Greystones CNS at the time of enrolment;
- 5.1.2.3 If the Child resides in the Catchment Area with priority given to the oldest children;

5.1.2.4 If the Child resides outside the catchment area with priority given to the oldest children;

5.1.2.5 If the Child applied late;

Note: See section 7 for selection criteria applicable to admission to the Special Class.

### **5.1.3 Selection process**

Greystones CNS will apply the selection process as follows:

Applications are considered against the published selection criteria. Places will be offered in the first instance to those who meet the first criterion. Subsequently, where the school still has places available, the remaining Applicants are considered in light of the second criterion and those Applicants who meet this criterion will be offered a place within the school. This process is continuously carried out until all available places have been offered and accepted.

Where two or more applications are tied in the foregoing selection process, Greystones CNS will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the school, or on the waiting list, to those applications.

### **5.1.4 Late applications**

An application received by Greystones CNS after the closing date published by the school, and set out in the Admission Notice, is considered a late application for the purposes of this Admission Policy.

Where Greystones CNS is oversubscribed and receives a late application for admission, that application will receive a place on the waiting list beneath Applicants whose applications were received by the school before the closing date for applications. Greystones CNS will record the date and time such late applications were received by the school. The school's selection criteria will be applied to the late applications and subsequently Greystones CNS will assign places on the waiting list for each criteria according to date and time applications were received by the school.

Where Greystones CNS is not oversubscribed and it receives a late application, the Child seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within the school, subject to sections 4.8

and 4.9 and the same process as applies to Applicants whose applications were received before the closing date will be applied *i.e.* an Acceptance Form will be issued to the Applicant for completion and return to the school within 2 weeks of issue.

#### **5.1.5 Second/third-round offers of a place**

Where a Child is in receipt of an offer of a place within Greystones CNS but does not accept the offer, or fails to accept within the specified time period, or the school withdraws the offer in line with the relevant provisions of this Policy, the place will be offered to the next Child on the waiting list in a second-round of offers. This process will continue throughout third and fourth rounds *etc.* until all places within the school have been filled.

#### **5.1.6 Acceptance of a place**

If the Child in respect of whom the application is made is offered a place, the Applicant will be issued with an Acceptance Form by the school.

The Applicant shall indicate acceptance of an offer by fully completing and returning the Acceptance Form by the date set out in the School Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer. This includes indicating whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer of admission from another school.

Failure to fully complete and return the Acceptance Form to the school by the date set out in the School Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer, may result in withdrawal of an offer, in line with the grounds for refusal as set out below.

#### **5.1.7 Refusal**

Where a Child in respect of whom an application is being sought has not been offered a school place, the Applicant will be provided in writing with:

- 5.1.7.1. The reasons that the Child was not offered a place in Greystones CNS;
- 5.1.7.2. Details of the Child's ranking against the published selection criteria, if the class-group to which the Applicant is applying is oversubscribed;
- 5.1.7.3. Details of the Child's place on the waiting list, if applicable; and

5.1.7.4. Details of the Applicant's right to appeal the decision.

### **5.1.8 Withdrawal of an offer**

An offer of admission may be withdrawn where:

- 5.1.8.1. The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect, or
- 5.1.8.2. The Applicant fails to confirm acceptance of an offer of admission on or before the date set out in the annual Admission Notice of the school for the academic year for which s/he is applying, or in the case of a late application, or second/third-round offer, within 2 weeks, or
- 5.1.8.3. An Applicant has not indicated:
  - (i) whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer from another school(s) and if so, the details of the school(s);  
and
  - (ii) whether or not s/he has accepted an offer of admission from another school(s) and if so, the details of the offer(s).

If an offer of a place is withdrawn by the school, the Child on whose behalf the application was made shall lose his/her place on the admission list or waiting list for that academic year and any subsequent applications for the same academic year on behalf of that Child shall be treated as a late application in line with section 5.1.4 above.

## **5.2 APPEALS**

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### **5.2.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription:**

An Applicant who was refused admission because the school is oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision must submit his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Greystones CNS send FAO Secretary Board of Management, Greystones CNS, Charlesland, Greystones, Co Wicklow or via email to [greystonescns@kwetb.ie](mailto:greystonescns@kwetb.ie) with the subject line Section 29 Appeal. Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant of the school's decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

If an Applicant is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, or the board of management is not in a position to review the decision to refuse admission, the Applicant may apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

### **5.2.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription:**

An Applicant who was refused admission to Greystones CNS for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may choose to put his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Greystones CNS send FAO Secretary Board of Management, Greystones CNS, Charlesland, Greystones, Co Wicklow or via email to [greystonescns@kwetb.ie](mailto:greystonescns@kwetb.ie) with the subject line Section 29 Appeal. Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant of the school's decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

If an Applicant who chooses to appeal to the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, the Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

**5.2.3. Basis for appeal:**

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, an application to appeal must be based on the implementation of this Admission Policy, the content of the school's Admission Notice and also set out the grounds of the request to appeal the decision.

# **SECTION 6**

## **APPLICATION TO ALL CLASSES OTHER THAN JUNIOR INFANTS**

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### **6 APPLICATION TO ALL CLASSES OTHER THAN JUNIOR INFANTS**

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#### **6.1 Admission Provisions (other than Junior Infants)**

- 6.1.1. Oversubscription
- 6.1.2. Selection criteria in order of priority
- 6.1.3. Selection process
- 6.1.4. Late Applications
- 6.1.5. Second/third-round offers of a place
- 6.1.6. Acceptance of a place
- 6.1.7. Refusal
- 6.1.8. Withdrawal of an offer

#### **6.2 Appeals**

- 6.2.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription
- 6.2.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription
- 6.2.3. Basis for appeal

## **6.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS (OTHER THAN JUNIOR INFANTS)**

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Where Greystones CNS is not oversubscribed, all Children will be offered a school place, subject to sections 4.8 and 4.9.

A Child applying for admission to a class other than Junior Infants but seeking admission to the Special Class should see section 7 of this Admissions Policy.

### **6.1.1 Oversubscription**

When the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, the published selection criteria as set out at section 6.1.2 below will apply and a waiting list shall be compiled which shall remain valid only for the school year in respect of which the applications are made. Where Greystones CNS is in a position to offer further school places that become available for and during that academic year, places will be offered in accordance with the order of priority in which Children have been placed on the waiting list.

For the avoidance of doubt, if a Child does not receive a place in the school for a given academic year, but s/he wishes to be considered for admission to the same class group in the following academic year, a new application must be made on behalf of that Child during the dates specified by the school as being the period when it will accept applications to all classes other than the Junior Infants Group.

Where the school is oversubscribed, any selection criteria that are not included in this Admission Policy shall not be considered in determining whether or not a Child is admitted to the school.

### **6.1.2 Selection criteria in order of priority**

Greystones CNS will apply the following criteria for admission to all classes other than Junior Infants:

- 6.1.2.1 If the Child has a parent working in Greystones CNS at the time of enrolment;
- 6.1.2.2 If the Child has siblings (including adoptive, fostered, step and half-siblings) attending Greystones CNS at the time of enrolment;
- 6.1.2.3 If the Child resides in the Catchment Area;

6.1.2.4 If the Child resides outside the catchment area;

6.1.2.5 If the Child applied late;

See section 7 for selection criteria applicable to admission to the Special Class

Any selection criteria that are not included in this Admission Policy shall not be considered in determining whether or not an Applicant is admitted.

### **6.1.3 Selection process**

Greystones CNS will apply the selection process as follows:

Applications are considered against the published selection criteria. Places will be offered in the first instance to those who meet the first criterion. Subsequently, where the school still has places available, the remaining Applicants are considered in light of the second criterion and those Applicants who meet this criterion will be offered a place within the school. This process is continuously carried out until all available places have been offered and accepted.

Where two or more applications are tied in the foregoing selection process, Greystones CNS will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the school, or on the waiting list, to those applications.

### **6.1.4 Late applications:**

An application received by Greystones CNS after the closing date published by the school, and set out in the Admission Notice, is considered a late application for the purposes of this Admission Policy.

Where Greystones CNS is oversubscribed and receives a late application for admission, that application will receive a place on the waiting list beneath Applicants whose applications were received by the school **before** the closing date for applications. Greystones CNS will record the date and time such late applications were received by the school. **When a place becomes available,** the school's selection criteria will be applied to the late applications and subsequently Greystones CNS will assign places on the waiting list for each criteria according to date and time applications were received by the school.

Where Greystones CNS is not oversubscribed and it receives a late application, the Child seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within the school, subject to sections 4.8 and 4.9 and the same process as applies to Applicants whose applications were received before the closing date will be applied *i.e.* an Acceptance Form will be issued to the Applicant for completion and return to the school within 2 weeks of issue.

#### **6.1.5 Second/third-round offers of a place**

Where a Child is in receipt of an offer of a place within Greystones CNS but does not accept the offer, or fails to accept within the specified time period, or the school withdraws the offer in line with the relevant provisions of this Policy, the place will be offered to the next Child on the waiting list in a second-round of offers. This process will continue throughout third and fourth rounds *etc.* until all places within the school have been filled.

#### **6.1.6 Acceptance of a place:**

If the Child in respect of whom the application is made is offered a place, the Applicant will be issued with an Acceptance Form by the school.

The Applicant shall indicate acceptance of an offer by fully completing and returning the Acceptance Form by the date set out in the school's Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer. This includes indicating whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer of admission from another school.

Failure to fully complete and return the Acceptance Form to the school by the date set out in the school's Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer, may result in withdrawal of an offer, in line with the grounds for refusal as set out below.

#### **6.1.7 Refusal:**

Where a Child in respect of whom an application is being sought has not been offered a school place, the Applicant will be provided in writing with:

- 6.1.7.1. The reasons that the Child was not offered a place in Greystones CNS;
- 6.1.7.2. Details of the Child's ranking against the published selection criteria at the time of application, if the class-group to which the Applicant is applying is oversubscribed;
- 6.1.7.3. Details of the Child's place on the waiting list, if applicable; and
- 6.1.7.4. Details of the Applicant's right to appeal the decision.

### **6.1.8 Withdrawal of an offer**

An offer of admission may be withdrawn where:

- 6.1.7.5. The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect, or
- 6.1.7.6. The Applicant fails to confirm acceptance of an offer of admission on or before the date set out in the annual Admission Notice of the school for the academic year for which s/he is applying, or in the case of a late application, or second/third-round offer, within 2 weeks, or
- 6.1.7.7. An Applicant has not indicated:
  - (i) whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer from another school(s) and if so, the details of the school(s);  
and
  - (ii) whether or not s/he has accepted an offer of admission from another school(s) and if so, the details of the offer(s).

If an offer of a place is withdrawn by the school, the Child on whose behalf the application was made shall lose his/her place on the admission list or waiting list for that academic year and any subsequent applications for the same academic year on behalf of that Child shall be treated as a late application in line with section 6.1.4 above.

## 6.2 APPEALS

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### **6.2.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription:**

An Applicant who was refused admission because the school is oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision must submit his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Greystones CNS send FAO Secretary Board of Management, Greystones CNS, Charlesland, Greystones, Co Wicklow or via email to [greystonescns@kwetb.ie](mailto:greystonescns@kwetb.ie) with the subject line Section 29 Appeal. Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant of the school's decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education and Skills after the publication of this Admission Policy, same shall apply instead.

If an Applicant is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, or the board of management is not in a position to review the decision to refuse admission, the Applicant may apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

### **6.2.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription:**

An Applicant who was refused admission to Greystones CNS for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may choose to put his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Greystones CNS send FAO Secretary Board of Management, Greystones CNS, Charlesland, Greystones, Co Wicklow or via email to [greystonescns@kwetb.ie](mailto:greystonescns@kwetb.ie) with the subject line Section 29 Appeal . Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant of the school's decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

If an Applicant who chooses to appeal to the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, the Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

**6.2.3. Basis for appeal:**

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, an application to appeal must be based on the implementation of this Admission Policy, the content of the school's Admission Notice and also set out the grounds of the request to appeal the decision.

# SECTION 7

## APPLICATION TO THE SPECIAL CLASS

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### **7 APPLICATION TO THE SPECIAL CLASS**

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#### **7.1 Admission Provisions for the Special Class**

- 7.1.1. Oversubscription
- 7.1.2. Selection criteria in order of priority
- 7.1.3. Selection process
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## **7.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS FOR THE SPECIAL CLASS**

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Greystones CNS has a Special Class, called the Reef, established to cater for the special educational needs of Students with Autism/Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

Only applications in respect of Children whose needs fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the Special Class and meet the eligibility for admission as per the NCSE will be considered.

Where the Special Class in Greystones CNS is not oversubscribed, all Children whose needs fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the Special Class and meet the eligibility for admission as per the NCSE will be offered a place in the Special Class, subject to sections 4.8 and 4.9.

In line with section 4.9, where the Special Class in Greystones CNS is not oversubscribed, all Children whose needs fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the Special Class will be offered a place in the Special Class, subject to section 4.8.

### **7.1.1 Oversubscription:**

When the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, the published selection criteria as set out at section 7.1.2 below will apply and a waiting list shall be compiled which shall remain valid only for the school year in respect of which the applications are made. Where Greystones CNS is in a position to offer further school places that become available for and during that academic year, places will be offered in accordance with the order of priority in which Children have been placed on the waiting list.

For the avoidance of doubt, if a Child does not receive a place in the school for a given academic year, but s/he wishes to be considered for admission to the same class group in the following academic year, a new application must be made on behalf of that Child during the dates specified by the school as being the period when it will accept applications to all classes other than the Junior Infants Group.

Where the school is oversubscribed, any selection criteria that are not included in this Admission Policy shall not be considered in determining whether or not a Child is admitted to the school.

#### **7.1.2 Selection criteria in order of priority:**

Applications to the Special Class will only be considered if the Child's needs fall within the specified category of special educational needs provided for by this class and the Child has a report dated within 24 months at the time of enrolment. Subject to this requirement, in the event of oversubscription, the following criteria for admission to the Special Class will apply:

- 7.1.2.1** If the Child had previously attended the ASD Class in Greystones CNS and is still attending Greystones CNS;
- 7.1.2.2** If the Child is already attending Greystones CNS;
- 7.1.2.3** If the Child has a sibling attending Greystones CNS at the time of enrolment
- 7.1.2.4** The greatest need, as determined by the Principal in consultation with the Reef Teachers, the NCSE and/or NEPS, having considered the Relevant Report in respect of the Child;
- 7.1.2.5** If the Child resides in the catchment area with priority given to children who have attended an Early Intervention Class;
- 7.1.2.6** If the Child resides outside the catchment area;
- 7.1.2.7** If the Child applied late;

#### **7.1.3 Selection process:**

Greystones CNS will apply the selection process as follows:

Having met the criteria for admission to the Special Class, applications are considered against the published selection criteria. Places will be offered in the first instance to those who meet the first criterion. Subsequently, where the school still has places available the remaining Applicants are considered against the second criterion and those Applicants who meet this criterion will be offered a place within the school. This process is continuously carried out until all available places have been offered and accepted.

Where two or more applications are tied in the foregoing selection process, Greystones CNS will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the school, or on the waiting list, to those applications.

#### **7.1.4 Late applications:**

An application received by Greystones CNS after the closing date published by the school, and set out in the Admission Notice, is considered a late application for the purposes of this Admission Policy.

Where Greystones CNS is oversubscribed and receives a late application for admission, that application will receive a place on the waiting list beneath Applicants whose applications were received by the school before the closing date for applications. Greystones CNS will record the date and time such late applications were received by the school. The school's selection criteria will be applied to the late applications and subsequently Greystones CNS will assign places on the waiting list for each criteria according to date and time applications were received by the school.

Where Greystones CNS is not oversubscribed and it receives a late application, the Child seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within the school, subject to sections 4.8 and 4.9 the same process as applies to Applicants whose applications were received before the closing date will be operated *i.e.* an Acceptance Form will be issued to the Applicant for completion and return to the school within 2 weeks of issue.

#### **7.1.5 Second/third-round offers of a place**

Where a Child is in receipt of an offer of a place within Greystones CNS but does not accept the offer, or fails to accept within the specified time period, or the school withdraws the offer in line with the relevant provisions of this Policy, the place will be offered to the next Child on the waiting list in a second-round of offers. This process will continue throughout third and fourth rounds *etc.* until all places within the school have been filled.

#### **7.1.6 Acceptance of a place:**

If the Student in respect of whom the application is made is offered a place, the Applicant will be issued with an Acceptance Form by the school.

The Applicant shall indicate acceptance of an offer by fully completing and returning the Acceptance Form by the date set out in the school's Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer. This includes indicating whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer of admission from another school.

Failure to fully complete and return the Acceptance Form to the school by the date set out in the school's Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer, may result in withdrawal of an offer, in line with the grounds for refusal as set out below.

#### **7.1.7 Refusal:**

Where a Student in respect of whom an application is being sought has not been offered a school place, the Applicant will be provided in writing with:

- 7.1.7.1 The reasons that the Student was not offered a place in Greystones CNS;
- 7.1.7.2 Details of the Student's ranking against the published selection criteria, if the class-group to which the Applicant is applying is oversubscribed;
- 7.1.7.3 Details of the Student's place on the waiting list, if applicable, and
- 7.1.7.4 Details of the Applicant's right to appeal the decision

#### **7.1.8 Withdrawal of an offer**

An offer of admission may be withdrawn where:

- 7.1.8.1. The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect, or
- 7.1.8.2. The Applicant fails to confirm acceptance of an offer of admission on or before the date set out in the annual Admission Notice of the school for the academic year for which s/he is applying, or in the case of a late application, or second/third-round offer, within 2 weeks, or
- 7.1.8.3. An Applicant has not indicated:

- (i) whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer from another school(s) and if so, the details of the school(s);  
and
- (ii) whether or not or s/he has accepted an offer of admission from another school(s) and if so, the details of the offer(s).

If an offer of a place is withdrawn by the school, the Child on whose behalf the application was made shall lose his/her place on the admission list or waiting list for that academic year and any subsequent applications for the same academic year on behalf of that Child shall be treated as a late application in line with section 7.1.4 above.

## 7.2 APPEALS

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### **7.2.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription:**

An Applicant who was refused admission because the school is oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision must submit his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Greystones CNS send FAO Secretary Board of Management, Greystones CNS, Charlesland, Greystones, Co Wicklow or via email to [greystonescns@kwetb.ie](mailto:greystonescns@kwetb.ie) with the subject line Section 29 Appeal. Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant of the school's decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

If an Applicant is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, or the board of management is not in a position to review the decision to refuse admission, the Applicant may apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

### **7.2.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription:**

An Applicant who was refused admission Greystones CNS for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may choose to put his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Greystones CNS send FAO Secretary Board of Management, Greystones CNS, Charlesland, Greystones, Co Wicklow or via email to [greystonescns@kwetb.ie](mailto:greystonescns@kwetb.ie) with the subject line Section 29 Appeal. Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant of the school's decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

If an Applicant who chooses to appeal to the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, the Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

**7.2.3. Basis for appeal:**

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, an application to appeal must be based on the implementation of this Admission Policy, the content of the school's Admission Notice and also set out the grounds of the request to appeal the decision.