



Testimonials

It's great to have children from many countries and cultures coming together in our school. The pupils really enjoy the multi-denominational programme. It's not just a subject, but pivotal in everything we do. It really gets their creativity flowing learning about cultures and events such as Christmas, Diwali and Chinese New Year.

Siobhán, former Príomhoide of Gaelscoil an Bhradáin Feasa, Drogheda.

I would really recommend it. There is such diversity in the school. As a multi-denominational school, the children learn all about different religions. It has been a great experience to open up that for the children and for them to make friends with kids from other cultures.

Aoife, Parent from Gaelscoil Shliabh Rua, Dublin 18

An Foras Pátrúnachta schools demonstrate some of the leading practice in multi-faith education. Ongoing professional development for teachers and a comprehensive resource bank ensure that our schools have every opportunity to grow and develop.

Pól, Príomhoide of Gaelscoil Riabhach, Louisa



For more information:

Please contact our
School Ethos & Reconfiguration Officer
01 - 6294110

www.foras.ie

MULTI-D EDUCATION

Everyone together
Gach duine le chéile



Information for parents about
multi-denominational education

Who are An Foras Pátrúnachta?

An Foras Pátrúnachta is a patron of multi-denominational (multi-faith) schools at both primary and secondary level. We are the largest patron of Irish-medium schools and we aim to provide all parents who want multi-denominational Irish-medium education for their children with access to their choice of school in their local area.

Our first school, Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn, was established in 1993 as a multi-denominational school. Since then, we have grown to become a key provider of multi-denominational education for thousands of children throughout the country.



Why choose multi-denominational education?

Equality and inclusion are at the centre of our multi-denominational schools. Our schools welcome all children, regardless of their religious or cultural background. Multi-denominational schools provide a holistic education that celebrates each child's uniqueness and individuality. All beliefs are treated equally, are celebrated and shown respect, and no one belief takes prominence. This ethos, along with the principles of Irish-medium education, is reflected in all aspects of school life.

Croí na Scoile

To promote mutual respect and an understanding of different cultures and traditions, we follow the *Croí na Scoile* programme. This ethical education and multi-faith programme is taught in all classes from Naíonáin - Rang 6. The main elements of *Croí na Scoile* are:

Ethics Education

- Inclusion & Equality
- Values education
- Citizenship
- Rights & Responsibilities

Multi-faith education

- Festivals & Celebrations
- Special Stories
- Religious & Cultural Practices
- Faith leaders
- Reflection

Schools are encouraged to organise whole-school inclusive celebrations such as Friendship Day and participate in national programmes that foster inclusion.



Faith formation

We understand that parents would like for their children to attend a multi-denominational school but may also like their children to receive instruction in a particular faith. Our multi-denominational schools may facilitate optional classes outside school hours. These classes are organised by parent groups in co-operation with local faith communities.

