



## Polasaí agus Cleachtas don Chéad Fhaoistin agus don Chéad Comaoineach

### Réamhrá agus Reasúnaíocht

Chuireamar an polasaí seo le chéile idir Mí an Mheithimh 2008 agus Mí Eanáir 2009. Rinneadh plé faoi ghnéithe áirithe den pholasaí idir na múinteoirí, an Bord agus tuismitheoirí ar dtús.

Is scoil idirchreidmheach muid rud a chiallaíonn go bhfuilimid ag múineadh an dá chreidimh Chríostaí taobh le taobh. Ba mhór linn go mbeidh polasaí láidir Céad Comaoineach Idirchreidmheach againn sa scoil a chinntínn go gceiliúraimid tábhacht na sacraiminte do pháistí agus do thuístí an dá chreidimh.

Is gnách do Chaitlicigh tabhairt faoin gCéad Comaoineach a dhéanamh ag Rang a 2 agus is gnách do Phrodastúnaigh tabhairt faoin gCéad Comaoineach a dhéanamh i Rang 5/6.

Beidh rang a dó sa scoil go luath agus is gá dúinn pleanáil a dhéanamh don Chéad Comaoineach agus don Chéad Fhaoistin (Caitliceach) mar gheall nach ndéanadh na páistí a réitiú do na saicriméidí go dtí seo. Ag druidim le ceilúradh na sacraiminte san eaglais Prodstúnigh, tá sé i gceist againn go naiseofar breis pointí eolais ag pobal na scoile chun an ócáid sin a phleanáil.

Is gá sainmheoin idirchreidmheach na scoile a chleachtadh agus a chosaint go hiomlán agus an scoil a tabhairt faoi réitiú agus céiliúradh na saicrimintí. Leanfar dea chleachtas Gaelscoileanna eile, treoracha an easpaig, treoracha an Foras Patrúnachta na Scoileanna Lán Ghaeilge agus treoracha séipílínigh na scoile.

### Aidhmeanna

Is ócáidí an-speisialta agus spiorádáilte iad na saicriminte seo  
i saol an pháiste  
i saol a dteaghlaigh  
i saol na scoile; mar sin

Is mian linn sa pholasaí seo a chinntiú go dtuigfidh gach duine cleachtais na scoile seo maidir lena hocáidí seo agus ba mhór linn sa scoil go mbeidh an bhéim i gónaí curtha ar an ullmhúchán spioradálte thar aon ní eile.

Is mian linn a chinntiú go bhfuil an cleachtas ag claí le sainmheoin idirchreidmheach na scoile.

Is mian linn pleanáil a dhéanamh sa chúig gur féidir linn na céimeanna a thógáil chun cinntiú go mbeidh céiliúradh tairbheach agus taitneamhach ag na páistí agus a dteaghlaigh.

Is mian linn go mbeadh an polasaí seo ar fáil do thuismitheoirí nuair a chláraítear an bpáistí sa scoil don chéad uair agus gur ghá é a thuiscint sular nglactar leis an bpáistí sa scoil.

# **Stráitéis na Scoile**

## **Go Ginearálta**

Beidh céiliúradh an Chéad Comaoineach agus an Chéad Fhaoistin trí mheán na Gaeilge.

Déanfar na páistí a réitiú do na saicrimintí i rith am scoile le linn an ceacht Teagasc Chríostaí (i Rang 2, Rang 5/6).

Is gá treoracha an séipilíneach a leanúint agus coinníollaca na heaglaise a chomhlíonadh e.g. teastas báiste a bheith ag an bpáiste.

Is gnó na scoile é, i dteannta le muintir an bhaile agus an pharóiste, na páistí a réitiú dona saicrimintí spioradáilte seo. Tá gá leis an bhfocas a choimeád ar an ullmhúcháin spioradáilte.

## **Ullmhúchán**

1. Nuair atá an páiste i Rang a dó (Caitliceach) nó Rang 5/6 (Prodistúnach) agus má tá an páiste ag dul faoin saicrimintí, síneoidh na páistí agus Tuismitheoirí teastas clárú i mí Meán Fhómhar.
2. Leanfaidh na páistí an clár mar atá leagtha amach sa chúrsa “Beo go Deo”/ “Tar Liom”.
3. Beidh cruinniú eolais ann do thuismitheoirí sa chéad téarma.
4. Beidh na múinteoirí ag súil le comhoibriú Tuismitheoirí i dtaobh paidreacha a chleachtadh le páistí sa bhaile, páiste a thabhairt ar an Aifreann/Seirbhísí agus cómhrá a dhéanamh leis an bpáiste faoi thábhacht na saicriminte.
5. Beidh cóipleabhar dár teideal ‘Mo Chéad Fhaoistin agus Comaoineach’ á dhéanamh ag gach páiste (ag an rang grúpa cuí).
6. Is gá don scoil coinníollacha maidir le dátaí dona seirbhísí, ionad atá leagtha amach ag an bparóiste/ ag Coiste Eaglais na hÉireann a chomhlíonadh.
7. Glacfaidh an scoil/tuistí páirt sa chlár ullmhúcháin Caitliceach “Déanaigí é seo i gCuimhne Ormsa” agus in aon chlár ullmhúcháin de chuid Eaglais na hÉireann.

## **Céilúradh an Chéad Fhaoistin**

1. Beidh fáilte roimh an teaghlach ar fad ag an gcéiliúradh seo.
2. Suífidh na páistí lena dteaghlach.
3. Caithfidh na páistí éadaigh scoile ag an ócáid seo.
4. Tar éis na Sacraiminte seo, ceannóidh an scoil siombail spioradáilte beag dona páistí mar bhronntanas agus le caitheamh ag ócáid an Chéad Chomaoinigh.

## **Céiliúradh an Chéad Comaoineach**

1. Beidh fáilte roimh an teaghlach ar fad ag an gcéiliúradh seo.
2. Suífidh na páistí leis an rang.
3. Maidir le éadaí don lá tugann an Bord freagracht d’ár Tuismitheoirí éadaí agus feisteas cuí don Sacraimint a roghnú.
4. Ní bheidh cead grianghraf/dvd a ghlacadh ach i ndiaidh na seirbhís sa séipéal/san eaglais. (de réir rialacha an sagairt). Cuirfear dvd oifigiúil ar fáil do thuistí.

## **An Sainmheoin Idirchreidmheach a Chur chun Cinn**

1. Tá ceiliúradh na Sacraiminte sa dá Chreidimh chomh luachmahr agus speisialta céanna sa scoil.
2. Déanfar an cleachtas a bhaineann le céiliúradh an Comaoineach sa dá sainchreideamh a iniúchadh agus a mhúineadh.
3. Leanfar ar aghaidh ag déanamh freastal ar an dá sainchreideamh le linn an rang Teagasc Chríostaí.
4. Cuirfear in iúl do na páistí go bhfuil maithiúnas agus an Súipéar Deireanach comónta don dá sainchreideamh.
5. Le cead tuismitheoirí, tabharfar cuireadh d'aon pháiste nach bhfuil ag glacadh leis na saicrimintí, páirt a ghlacadh san ócáid (e.g. paidir a rá, léacht a léamh) agus freastal ar aon céiliúradh scoile (e.g. cóisir, griangraf ranga srl.)
6. Leanfaidh foireann na scoile aon treoracha a thugann an reachtaire nó cléir eile a bhaineann leis an sainchreideamh Protastúnach.

## **Céiliúradh Scoile**

1. Beidh cóisir beag ann do na páistí i ndiaidh an Chéad Fhaoistin.
2. Beidh cóisir ann do na páistí agus a dteaghlaigh ar lá an Chéad Comaoinigh. Beimid ag súil go mbeidh Tuismitheoirí an rang faoi (ie rang 1 nó rang 4) sásta cabhrú leis an gcóisir seo sa chaoi go mbeidh cóisir taitneamhach ag Tuismitheoirí na bpáistí atá ag dul faoi sacraiminte.
3. Bronnfar teastas Céad Comaoineach ar na páistí sa scoil.
4. Tiocfaidh griangrafadóir ag an scoil. Le cead tuismitheora, glacfaidh sé pictiúr do gach páiste, bíodh an Comaoineach déanta nó gan a bheith déanta.



## **Policy and Practices for First Confession and First Communion**

### **Introduction and Rationale**

This policy was put together between June 2008 and January 2009 in consultation with parents, Board of Management and staff.

We are an Interdenominational school, which means we teach the both main Christian religions side by side (Protestant and Catholic). We wish to have a strong Interdenominational First Communion Policy in the school to ensure we celebrate the importance of the celebration of the Sacrament for children and parents of both religions.

Usually, children of the Catholic religion would receive the sacrament in Rang 2 and children of the Protestant religion would receive the sacrament in Rang5/6.

Children of the Catholic Religion in Rang 2 will be making their First Holy Communion and First Confession this school year (2008/2009) and as this is the first time for the school, we need to make plans for these important events. When the time of the celebration of the Sacrament for children of the Protestant religion is nearer, we will issue plans for the celebration to our school community.

In doing so, we want to make sure we safeguard and practice well our interdenominational ethos. Policies of other Gaelscoileanna, directions of the bishop, guidance from our Patron and our local chaplain will guide this policy.

### **Aims**

The Sacraments of Communion and Confession are very special events in the life of the children, in the life of the family, and in the life of the school; and so

We wish to make sure that everyone knows our practices around these occasions and we want make sure that the emphasis is always kept on the spiritual aspects of the preparation above all else.

We wish to safeguard our Interdenominational ethos.

We wish to take all the necessary steps to ensure that everyone can really enjoy the celebrations on these days.

We wish to make this policy available for acceptance to all new parents when they enrol their children.

# **Strategies of the School**

## **In general:**

The celebrations of First Confession and First Communion will be held through Irish.

The children will prepare for the Sacraments during the religion lessons taught during school hours.(ie. Rang 2/ Rang 5/6)

Guidelines and conditions of the chaplain / Church will be followed .i.e. prior submission of a copy of the baptismal certificate.

The School, Families, and the Parish have a role in preparing the children for these Sacraments and at all times and above all else, we want to keep the focus on the spiritual aspects of the preparation.

## **Preparation**

1. When the child reaches Rang 2 (Catholic) or Rang 5/6 (Protestant) and if the child intends to receive the sacraments, the children and their parents will sign a certificate of enrolment in September.
2. The children will follow the course as laid out in the Alive O/ Follow Me programme.
3. An information meeting will be held with parents during the first term.
4. The teachers may expect the full cooperation of parents with regards to practicing the prayers at home, bringing their children to mass/service and engaging with them about the importance of the Sacrament.
5. Each child will have a copy entitled “Mo Chéad Fhaoistin agus Comaoineach”.(in the appropriate class)
6. The school will fulfil the conditions set by the Parish/Church of Ireland committee as regards time/date of ceremonies.
7. The school, parents and children will take part in the parish preparation programme “Do this in memory of me” and in any preparation programme organised by the Church of Ireland.

## **Celebration of First Confession**

1. All family members will be welcome at this ceremony.
2. Children will sit with their class.
3. The children will wear the school uniform for this ceremony.
4. Following the Sacrament, the school will present the children with a small spiritual symbol as a present and to be worn on the occasion of their First Holy Communion.

## **Celebration of First Holy Communion**

1. All family members will be welcome at this ceremony.

2. Children will sit with their families.
3. Regarding clothes for this day, the Board of Management confer responsibility on the parents of the school to choose suitable clothes for their children appropriate to the Sacrament.
4. Use of cameras/video cameras will not be permitted in the Church until after the ceremony. An official DVD of the day will be made and made available to parents.

### **Promoting our Interdenominational Ethos**

1. Both celebrations of the Sacrament will be celebrated in the school with equal special value and importance.
2. Both Christian religions will continue to be taught during religion time in school.
3. The practices surrounding the celebration of the Sacraments in both Christian religions will be explored.
4. Children will be taught that the concept of forgiveness and the Last supper are common to both Christian religions.
5. With the permission of parents, children who are not receiving the Sacrament (when in Rang 2 or when in Rang 5/6) will be invited to partake in the ceremony (i.e. say a prayer, reading) and be invited to any school celebration (party/photographs).
6. The staff of the school will follow guidance given by the local Reverend / other clergy regarding the Protestant religion.

### **School Celebration**

1. There will be a small party in the school following the First Confession.
2. There will be a party for children and their families in the school on the day of the First Communion. We hope to create a tradition where parents from the class below (Rang 1 or Rang 4) will help host this party so that Communion parents can be free to enjoy their family day. The school will award a certificate to the children at this party.
3. A school photographer will come to the school and with permission from parents will take pictures of children in Rang 2 or Rang 5/6 (even if they have not received the Sacrament).