



# **POLICY FOR ADMISSION TO SCHOOL YEAR 2022/2023**

**Coláiste Pobail Naomh Mhuire**

**Post-Primary School**

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 Coláiste Pobail Naomh Mhuire is responsible for the implementation of this Admission Policy.

# **Introduction to Coláiste Pobail Naomh Mhuire**

Coláiste Pobail Naomh Mhuire is a Co-educational, Designated Community College under the joint trusteeship of Cork ETB and the Diocese of Cloyne. Coláiste Pobail Naomh Mhuire was established in 1997 following a decision by the Mercy Order to discontinue their long-standing provision of post primary education in Buttevant.

## ***VISION***

*Our vision is to enrich the educational and personal development of students in an inclusive, caring and Christian community.*

The past 6 years have marked a new chapter in the life of Coláiste Mhuire as we moved into our newly developed school campus in January 2016. The realisation of this campus has brought with it, great excitement and a huge sense of opportunity for our school community. Such state of the art facilities support teachers and students as we strive to further build upon our long standing tradition of quality education and care.

It is important to us that each and every student feels welcome, secure and cared for within the school. We are a medium sized school with approximately 500 students. The personal nature with which we carry out our daily business is the cornerstone upon which our school community is built. We place a strong emphasis upon developing positive interaction between teachers and pupils and between home and school. An inclusive and caring approach is central to the everyday culture and atmosphere of the school. We want our students to leave school with self-respect and respect for others. We strive to make our school a safe and secure place where each student is accepted unconditionally.

We have an outstanding reputation for academic excellence. Such high standards are achieved and maintained through a sustained focus on excellence in teaching and learning and a constant commitment to the continuous professional development of our teaching staff. Coláiste Mhuire students have excelled in State Examinations and subsequently, various walks of life over the years and our aim is that the school continues to play its part in this excellence of achievement.

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# **PART A**

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

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- 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 Student, or, in the case of a Student who has reached the age of 18 years, the Student, who has made an application for admission to Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant.

**‘Student’** means the person in respect of whom the application is being made. All uses of the word throughout this Policy therefore imply ‘prospective’ as part of the interpretation. That is, the use of the word ‘Student’ does not mean that the application or acceptance of offer makes him/her a student of Coláiste Mhuire; a person is only regarded as a student of Coláiste Mhuire once s/he is enrolled on his/her first day of attendance.

**‘Enrolled’** means attending the school as a registered student, in line with section 20(2) of the Education (Welfare) Act 2000.

**‘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 Student who is Intersex or identifies as Androgynous/Androgyne, Bigender, Demigender, Gender Fluid, Genderqueer, Multigender, Neutrois, Non-binary, Transgender, Transsexual or otherwise.

**‘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.

**‘Feeder Primary Schools’** refers to the primary schools of preference for application to Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant. The feeder primary schools for Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant are:

- 1.1. Ballyclough National School, Ballyclough
- 1.2. Ballyhea National School, Ballyhea
- 1.3. Baltydaniel National School, Newtownpothouse
- 1.4. Churchtown National School, Churchtown
- 1.5. Lisscarroll National School, Lisscarroll

- 1.6. Lisgriffin National School, Lisgriffin
- 1.7. Scoil Mhuire na Trocaire, Buttevant

For the purpose of the selection criterion relating to the student having a sibling who previously attended the school, '**Sibling**' refers to full siblings, half-siblings, foster-siblings and step-siblings.

For the purpose of the selection criterion relating to the student having a sibling currently enrolled in the school, '**Sibling**' refers to full siblings, half-siblings, foster-siblings, step-siblings and students who reside in the same household.

**[Note:** the wider definition of sibling in the second of the two paragraphs immediately above is for the purpose of facilitating families who are required to do more than one drop-off and/or collection to/from the school.]

'**Special Class**' means a class that has, with the approval of the Minister of Education, 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. Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant has a Special Class, established to cater for special educational needs of Students with Autism/Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

'**Relevant Report**', as advised by the Department of Education and Skills and the National Council for Special Education (NCSE), means a written report based on an assessment by a relevant professional who makes a recommendation for a Special Class placement. The relevant professional may include an educational psychologist, psychologist, other relevant health professionals, HSE disability services or HSE multi-disciplinary team staff, in line with guidance issued by the NCSE on this point.

'**First-Year**' means the intake group of Students for the most junior class or year in a school.

## 2ADMISSION STATEMENT

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Coláiste Mhuire is a designated Community College. Designated Community Colleges are established by the signing of a model agreement between an ETB and the local Catholic Bishop. Cork ETB is the patron of the school. The model agreement provides for the participation of the Bishop of Cloyne Diocese in the organisation and management of the community college on an ongoing basis.

Colaiste Mhuire was established in 1997 in a spirit of partnership between Cork ETB and Bishop of Cloyne Diocese. Prior to this the school was under the patronage of the Mercy Order. The inherited traditions, values and founding intentions of Cork ETB and Bishop of Cloyne remain enshrined in the characteristic spirit and in the life of our school.

Our school is a state, co-educational, multi-denominational school underpinned by the core values of:

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



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

Coláiste Mhuire provides a safe physical and social environment that reinforces a sense of belonging to the school community and wider society. We strive to enable every student to realise their full potential regardless of any aspect of their identity or background. Our school promotes a fully inclusive education which 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.

Our school is multi-denominational. We welcome, respect and support students of all religions and beliefs. The provision of religious education, religious worship and the work of the Chaplain all combine to reflect the founding intention of the school, the school's mission statement and the needs of the students within the school. The characteristic spirit of the school finds practical expression through the provision of pastoral, liturgical and social outreach activities, as appropriate, for each student.

Accordingly, Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant shall not discriminate in its admission of a Student based on the following grounds:

- 2.1. Gender of the Student or Applicant. However, where a school admits students of one gender only, it is not discriminatory to refuse to admit Students not of that gender;
- 2.2. Civil status of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.3. Family status of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.4. Sexual orientation of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.5. Religion of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.6. Disability of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.7. Race of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.8. The Student's or Applicant's membership of the Traveller community;
- 2.9. Special educational needs of the Student 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 Student who does not have the specified special educational need(s).
- 2.10. Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant shall not charge fees or payments or seek contributions as a condition of admission or continued enrolment of a Student.



### **3LEGAL FRAMEWORK**

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Cork ETB 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 Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant 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 admit a student. The appeal process is set out in section 5.3 in respect of applications made to the First-Year Group and in section 6.3 in respect of applications made to all years other than the First-Year 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, or student over 18 years of age, requests that the student opt-out of religious instruction.

Coláiste Mhuire offers *religious education* in all year groups as it promotes the holistic development of students and can contribute positively to their wellbeing in line with the principles of the Junior Cycle and Senior Cycle Frameworks and the model agreement. It facilitates the intellectual, social, emotional, spiritual values and moral development of students and encourages respect for all members of our school communities. In addition, *religious education* supports the 'multi-denominational' aspect of our school's ethos as it provides opportunities for students to engage with questions around their own religious or nonreligious beliefs and those of their peers.

It is important to understand that our school does not provide '*religious instruction*' and therefore the legal requirement to advise of the option to opt-out of religious

instruction does not arise in this school. It is also important to understand the distinction between ‘*religious instruction*’ and *religious education*’:

- *Religious instruction* is a term used in Ireland to indicate instruction in accordance with the rites, practices and teachings of a **particular** religion or denomination for pupils of that religious tradition.
- *Religious education* is open to all pupils regardless of their commitment to any particular religion or worldview. It seeks to contribute to the spiritual and moral development of all students equally.

As ETB schools are ‘multi-denominational’, Coláiste Mhuire supports the provision of *religious education* that caters for all students regardless of their religious or non-religious beliefs.

Parents or students over the age of 18 who wish to opt-out of *religious education* must make a written submission to the principal in the first instance. The submission should outline reasons why the opt-out is being requested. The principal will then arrange to meet with the parent(s) or student over the age of 18 to discuss the request. If after that meeting the parent or student over the age of 18 still wishes to opt out of *religious education*, the school will work with the parent or student over the age of 18 to ensure appropriate arrangements are made. Any such arrangements must be managed from existing school resources.

## 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 Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant **shall not consider**:

- 4.1 The payment of fees or contributions to the school;
- 4.2 A Student's academic ability, skills or aptitude; unless:
  - it is necessary to ascertain whether or not the Student has the category of special educational needs concerned for admission to a school approved by the Minister of Education 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 Student's Parent(s);
- 4.4 A requirement that a Student or his or her Parent(s), attend an interview, open day or other meeting as a condition of admission;
- 4.5 A Student'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 Student concerned attending, or having attended, the school.
- 4.6 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 Admission Notice for that academic year.

**Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant will consider** the offer of a place to every Student seeking admission to the school, **unless one of the following applies**:

- 4.7 The Parent fails to confirm in writing that s/he accepts the Student Code of Behaviour and he/she shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure compliance with such code by the Student;
- 4.8 The Student seeking admission to a Special Class in the school does not have the category of special educational needs specified by the Minister of Education in respect of that class.
- 4.9 The applicant's relevant subject options are not available (on the curriculum as operating at the time of application, and on the basis that maximum class sizes will not be exceeded)
- 4.10 The students behaviour record in their previous school was unsatisfactory.
- 4.11 The student was expelled from a previous school.

Where Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant considers an application, each Student 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 First-Year Group.

Section 6 of this Policy addresses the selection criteria and other matters related to the admission provisions for all year groups other than First-Year.

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 First-Year Group***
- 6. Application to All Year Groups Other Than First-Year***
- 7. Application to the Special Class***

# SECTION 5

## APPLICATION TO THE FIRST-YEAR GROUP

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### 5 APPLICATION TO THE FIRST-YEAR GROUP

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#### 5.1 Admission Provisions (First-Year Group)

- 5.1.1. Oversubscription
- 5.1.2. Selection criteria in order of priority
- 5.1.3. Selection process
- 5.1.4. Late Applications
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- 5.1.6. Acceptance of a place
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- 5.2.3 Basis for appeal

## **5.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS (FIRST YEAR GROUP)**

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Where Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant is not oversubscribed, all Students will be offered a school place, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 & 4.11.

A Student applying for the First Year Group but seeking admission to the Special Class should see section 7 of this Admission Policy. If the Student is also applying for a place in the mainstream First-Year Group in the event of an unsuccessful application to the Special Class, this section 5 is also applicable.

### **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 Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant 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 Students have been placed on the waiting list, subject to the provisions of section 7.1.1 regarding the Special Class

For the avoidance of doubt, if a Student does not receive a place in the school for a given academic year, but s/he wishes to be considered for admission in the following academic year, a new application must be made on behalf of that Student during the dates specified by the school as being the period when it will accept applications to all year groups other than First-Year.

Where an application is made on behalf of a Student for both the Special Class and a mainstream year group, and his/her application for one but not both is successful, s/he will remain in the same position on the waiting list for the group to which s/he was not successful, regardless of whether the Applicant accepts the place in the group to which the Student was successful.

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 Student is admitted to the school.

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

Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant will apply the following criteria for admission to the First-Year Group:

- 5.1.2.1 If the Student has siblings currently enrolled in the school or if the Student has siblings who were previously enrolled in the school;
- 5.1.2.2 Children of current Coláiste Mhuire Staff;
- 5.1.2.3 Children who attend Buttevant, Lisgriffin, Churchtown or Lisscarroll feeder primary schools.
- 5.1.2.4 Children who are the eldest in the family and attend Ballyhea, Ballyclough and Baltidaniel feeder Primary schools;
- 5.1.2.5 Children who attend Ballyhea, Ballyclough and Baltidaniel feeder primary schools.
- 5.1.2.6 Children who do not attend a feeder primary school but for whom Coláiste Mhuire is the closest post primary school.
- 5.1.2.7 All other applicants.

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

### **5.1.3 Selection process**

Colaiste Mhuire, Buttevant 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, Coláiste Mhuire will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the school, or on the waiting list, to those applications (see appendix A for details of lottery process)



N.B. The number of places available in a year group is subject to reduction in the event that a placement(s) in the Special Class is/are given to Student(s) from that year group, *i.e.* the selection process for the Special Class will be completed before the selection process for the mainstream year group and the number of Students who are offered a place in the Special Class will be the number by which the places in the relevant mainstream year group(s) are reduced<sup>1</sup>.

#### **5.1.4 Late applications**

An application received by Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant 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 Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant 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. Such late applications will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with the date and time they were received by the school subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11.

Where Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant is not oversubscribed and it receives a late application, the Student seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within the school, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 & 4.11. 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 Student is in receipt of an offer of a place within Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant but does not accept the offer, or the school withdraws the offer in line with the relevant

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<sup>1</sup> This approach is based on section 2 of the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs (EPSEN) Act 2004, which requires that: “*A child with special educational needs shall be educated in an inclusive environment with children who do not have such needs unless the nature or degree of those needs of the child is such that to do so would be inconsistent with the best interests of the child as determined in accordance with any assessment carried out ... or the effective provision of education for children with whom the child is to be educated.*”

provisions of this Policy, the place will be offered to the next Student 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 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 withdrawal of an offer, as set out below.

#### **5.1.7 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:

- 5.1.7.1. The reasons that the Student was not offered a place in Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant;
- 5.1.7.2. Details of the Student's ranking against the published selection criteria, if the year-group to which the Applicant is applying is oversubscribed;
- 5.1.7.3. Details of the Student's place on the waiting list, if applicable; and
- 5.1.7.4. Details of the Applicant's right to appeal the decision.

In addition to the conditions for consideration of an application as set out at 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11 an offer of admission may not be made where:

5.1.7.5 The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect.

### **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 Student 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 Student shall be treated as a late application in line with section 5.1.4 above.

### **5.1.9 Appeals**

For information relating to an Applicant's right to appeal a decision of Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant regarding admission to the First-Year Group, see section 5.2.



## **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 first request a review by the board of management in writing, via a BOMR1 Form, available from the school office, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of at Colaiste Pobail Naomh Mhuire. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within twenty-one calendar days 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 after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing [admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie](mailto:admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie).

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 under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a 'Section 29 Appeal Form' and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The 'Section 29 Appeal Form' may be downloaded from the Department's website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department's website. As per the Department of Education's '*Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under section 29*', such an appeal must not be brought until the Applicant has received correspondence from the board of management in relation to the review, or until 42 calendar days have passed since the date of initial refusal and may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission.

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

An Applicant who was refused admission to Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may first choose to request a review by the board of management, via a BOMR1 Form, available from the school office, for it to be reviewed by the Board of Management of

Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within twenty-one calendar days 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 after the publication of this policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing [admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie](mailto:admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie). (An applicant may withdraw a request for review at any time prior to the conclusion of the review by notifying the board of management in writing to that effect.)

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a 'Section 29 Appeal Form' and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The 'Section 29 Appeal Form' may be downloaded from the Department's website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department's website. As per the Department of Education's '*Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under section 29*', such an appeal may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission.

If an Applicant who seeks a review by the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, that Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998, as outlined in the immediately preceding paragraph.

### **5.2.3 Basis for review by the board of management:**

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, any request for the board of management to review a decision of the school to refuse admission 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.

**Note:** Where an applicant has been refused admission due to the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **must request a review** of that decision by the Board of Management prior to making an appeal under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998.

Where an applicant has been refused admission due to a reason other than the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **may request a review** of that decision by the Board of Management prior to making an appeal under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998.

# **SECTION 6**

## **APPLICATION TO ALL YEAR GROUPS OTHER THAN FIRST-YEAR**

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### **6 APPLICATION TO ALL YEAR GROUPS OTHER THAN FIRST-YEAR**

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#### **6.1 Admission Provisions (other than First-Year)**

- 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
- 6.1.9. Appeals

#### **6.3 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 review by the board of management



## **6.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS (OTHER THAN FIRST-YEAR)**

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Where Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant is not oversubscribed, all Students will be offered a school place, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11.

A Student applying for admission to a year-group other than First-Year but seeking admission to the Special Class should see section 7 of this Admission Policy. If the Student is also applying for a place in the mainstream year group other than First-Year in the event of an unsuccessful application to the Special Class, this section 6 is also applicable.

### **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 Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant 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 Students have been placed on the waiting list, subject to the provisions of section 7.1.1 regarding the Special Class.

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

Where an application is made on behalf of a Student for both the Special Class and a mainstream year group, and his/her application for one but not both is successful, s/he will remain in the same position on the waiting list for the group to which s/he was not successful, regardless of whether the Applicant accepts the place in the group to which the Student was successful.

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 Student is admitted to the school.

Where the Transition Year Programme in Coláiste Mhuire is oversubscribed, a Student applying for admission to the programme in the relevant year group, will, subject to this policy, be placed on the appropriate waiting list already compiled (annually) by the school, which list will contain the names of students enrolled in the school who have been placed on an internal waiting list for this programme.

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

Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant will apply the following criteria for admission to a year-group other than First-Year:

- 6.1.2.1 If the Student has siblings currently enrolled in the school or if the Student has siblings who were previously enrolled in the school;
- 6.1.2.2 Children of current Coláiste Mhuire Staff;
- 6.1.2.3 Children who have moved into the area, for whom we are the closest Post Primary School, and as a result of the move have no school place;
- 6.1.2.4 Children who attended Buttevant, Lisgriffin Churchtown or Liscarroll feeder primary schools;
- 6.1.2.5 Children who are the eldest in the family and attended Ballyhea, Ballyclough and Baltidaniel feeder Primary schools;
- 6.1.2.6 Children who attended Ballyhea, Ballyclough and Baltidaniel feeder primary schools.
- 6.1.2.7 All other applicants.

Note: 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**

Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant 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, Coláiste Mhuire will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the school, or on the waiting list, to those applications (see appendix A for details of lottery process) .

N.B. The number of places available in a year group is subject to reduction in the event that a placement(s) in the Special Class is/are given to Student(s) from that year group, *i.e.* the selection process for the Special Class will be completed before the selection process for the mainstream year group and the number of Students who are offered a place in the Special Class will be the number by which the places in the relevant mainstream year group(s) are reduced<sup>2</sup>.

### **6.1.4 Late applications:**

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<sup>2</sup> This approach is based on section 2 of the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs (EPSEN) Act 2004, which requires that: “A *child with special educational needs shall be educated in an inclusive environment with children who do not have such needs unless the nature or degree of those needs of the child is such that to do so would be inconsistent with the best interests of the child as determined in accordance with any assessment carried out ... or the effective provision of education for children with whom the child is to be educated.*”

An application received by Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant after the closing date published by Colaiste Mhuire, Buttevant, and set out in the Admission Notice, is considered a late application for the purposes of this Admission Policy.

Where Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant 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. Such late applications will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with the date and time they were received by the school, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 , 4.10 & 4.11.

Where Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant is not oversubscribed and it receives a late application, the Student seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant , subject to sections 4.7 , 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11 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 Student is in receipt of an offer of a place within Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant but does not accept the offer, or the school withdraws the offer in line with the relevant provisions of this Policy, the place will be offered to the next Student 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 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 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 withdrawal of an offer as set out below.

#### **6.1.7 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:

- 6.1.7.1. The reasons that the Student was not offered a place in Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant,
- 6.1.7.2. Details of the Student's ranking against the published selection criteria, if the year-group to which the Applicant is applying is oversubscribed,
- 6.1.7.3. Details of the Student's place on the waiting list, if applicable, and
- 6.1.7.4. Details of the Applicant's right to appeal the decision.

In addition to the conditions for consideration of an application as set out at 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11 an offer of admission may not be made where:

- 6.1.7.5 The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect.

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

An offer of admission may be withdrawn where:

- 6.1.8.1. The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect, or
- 6.1.8.2. 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
- 6.1.8.3. 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 Student 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 Student shall be treated as a late application in line with section 6.1.4 above.

**6.1.9 Appeals:**

For information relating to an Applicant's right to appeal a decision of Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant regarding admission to a year-group other than First-Year, see section 6.2.

## 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 first request a review by the board of management in writing, via a BOMR1 Form, available from the school office, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Colaiste Pobail Naomh Mhuire. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within twenty-one calendar days 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 after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing [admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie](mailto:admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie).

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 under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a 'Section 29 Appeal Form' and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The 'Section 29 Appeal Form' may be downloaded from the Department's website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department's website. As per the Department of Education's '*Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under section 29*', such an appeal must not be brought until the Applicant has received correspondence from the board of management in relation to the review, or until 42 calendar days have passed since the date of initial refusal and may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission

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

An Applicant who was refused admission to Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may first choose to request a review by the board of management, via a BOMR1 Form, available from the school office, for it to be reviewed by the Board of Management of Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within

twenty-one calendar days 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 after the publication of this policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing [admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie](mailto:admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie). (An applicant may withdraw a request for review at any time prior to the conclusion of the review by notifying the board of management in writing to that effect.)

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a 'Section 29 Appeal Form' and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The 'Section 29 Appeal Form' may be downloaded from the Department's website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department's website. As per the Department of Education's '*Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under section 29*', such an appeal may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission.

If an Applicant who seeks a review by the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, that Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998, as outlined in the immediately preceding paragraph.

### **6.2.3 Basis for appeal:**

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, any request for the board of management to review a decision of the school to refuse admission 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.



**Note:** Where an applicant has been refused admission due to the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **must request a review** of that decision by the Board of Management prior to making an appeal under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998.

Where an applicant has been refused admission due to a reason other than the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **may request a review** of that decision by the Board of Management prior to making an appeal under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998.

# 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
- 7.1.4. Late Applications
- 7.1.5. Second/third-round offers of a place
- 7.1.6. Acceptance of a place
- 7.1.7. Refusal
- 7.1.8. Withdrawal of an offer

#### **7.2 Appeals**

- 7.2.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription
- 7.2.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription
- 7.2.3. Basis for appeal

## **7.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS FOR THE SPECIAL CLASS**

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Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant has a Special Class, established to cater for the special educational needs of Students with Autism/Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

Only applications in respect of Students whose needs fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the Special Class will be considered. In this respect, the school requires that such needs of the Student be verified in a Relevant Report which has been prepared within the 24 months immediately preceding the Student's application to the Special Class.

**Colaiste Mhuire provides a support class that is an open, inclusive and unrestricted environment and setting. This is not a high dependent unit.**

a. The applicant must have an ASD professionals report which clearly specifies a diagnosis of Autism. The diagnosis must be determined by the DSM IV/V, ICD 10 criteria, Gillberg and Gillberg's (1989) or other recognised diagnostic tool acceptable to the ASD Admissions Panel team. The pupil must be recommended for placement in a Special Class or Unit attached to a mainstream secondary school.

**The ASD professionals report must have been completed with a second level mainstream setting in mind.**

b. The applicant should also furnish the school with the following relevant documentation where possible:

- A Clinical Diagnostic report
- A cognitive assessment which includes an estimation of Cognitive Function. (Within the last two years)
- A speech and language assessment (Within the last two years)
- An occupational therapy assessment (Within the last two years)
- A social worker assessment outlining the family's needs strengths and resources.
- All reports and information from any support services involved with the student.

**If necessary, applicants may be asked to supply further information including any additional documentation relevant to the student's needs which would have an impact on educational planning.**

c.

The applicant must have cognitive functioning at or above the range of mild general learning disability and supporting documentation must specify that the student has the adaptive skills to learn in a mainstream environment. The inclusion operates on the understanding that the intellectual ability of students enrolled in the support class would be similar to the profile of the population of students attending the main stream section of the school and the student would have the ability to integrate into mainstream classes according to individual need.

d. The applicant must have accessed mainstream primary education to a level consistent with that expected of students within the Special Class. In line with the policy of mainstream integration, it is envisaged that ASD students must be able to participate at a minimum level of approximately 70% inclusion/integration. Students who are enrolled in this class will follow a Junior and Senior programme.

e. Evidence must be provided that the student is capable of integration and a multidisciplinary team must support this evidence. Each application must be supported by a report from the primary school outlining the student's academic, social, emotional and behavioural needs and outlining the current extent of social inclusion. In certain circumstances and following assessment the school may be unable to meet the needs of an ASD student on the grounds that:

- They are considered a risk to themselves or others.
- Admission of the student would have a serious detrimental effect on the provision of an educational service to other students.

f. Staff from Coláiste will visit the primary school and will interview the principal and any relevant personnel involved in the pupil's education to that

point. They may also meet with the applicant and conduct observations of the student in his/her current educational setting.

g. Admission is subject to a place being available and resources being sanctioned prior to the admission of the students. Admission is subject to the number of places sanctioned by the Department of Education & Skills. The limit in Coláiste Mhuire under Health and Safety guidelines is a maximum of **six** students as sanctioned by the DES. Thereafter, a waiting list will apply. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available the criteria outlined in 7.1.2 will apply.

h. All applications to the ASD Unit will be reviewed by an ASD Admissions Panel which may consist of the following members:

- A NEPS representative
- The SENO
- The Resource/Learning Support Co-ordinator/Guidance Counsellor of Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant.
- A representative of the Board of Management, Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant.

**The ASD Admissions Panel reserves the right to appoint other members to the panel as necessary and to seek the advice of external experts if required.**

The remit of the panel is:

- To review all applications and documentation relevant to a student applying for a place in the facility.
- To verify the facility's suitability in meeting the needs of the applicant.
- To meet with the applicant and their parents/guardians.
- To make recommendations based on these findings to the Principal of Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant.

i. The ASD Admissions Panel will make a recommendation with regard to an application for enrolment to the school principal but the final decision in

respect of all enrolments in Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant are made by the principal who has been delegated this responsibility by the Board of Management.

- l. For applicants who reside outside the catchment area, parents may apply to the NCSE for Special School Transport.
- m. It is the parent's/guardian's responsibility to attend all meetings and reviews pertaining to the child's enrolment.
- n. Once a student has been offered a place in the ASD Class they will be invited to participate in a transition programme. This is essential to ensure the student's smooth transition to their new environment.

While every effort will be made to support each and every pupil if a pupil's Autism evolves into a complex educational need that cannot be met within the schools programme an alternative school placement may be sought, this will be organised in communication with the pupils parents, ASD support team & school Special Education Needs Officer (SENO).

### **Code of Behaviour/School Policies**

**All students enrolled within the ASD programme are required to cooperate with the School/Board of Management's Code of Behaviour as well as all other policies on curriculum, organisation and management.**

Where the Special Class in Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant is not oversubscribed, all Students whose needs fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the Special Class (as outlined above) will be offered a place in the Special Class, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11.

#### **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 Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant is in a position to offer further places that become available in the Special Class for and during that academic year, places will be offered in accordance with the order of priority in which Students have been placed on the waiting list, subject to there being a place in the relevant mainstream year group.

If there is not a place available in the relevant year group, the next person on the waiting list for the Special Class will be considered for the place in question but this will not change the initial Student's place on the waiting list for the Special Class for the remainder of that school year, *i.e.* if another place subsequently became available in the Special Class during that school year, the initial Student at the top of the waiting list would be considered first, but again subject to there being a place in the relevant year group for that Student.

Where an application is made on behalf of a Student for both the Special Class and a mainstream year group, and his/her application for one but not both is successful, s/he will remain in the same position on the waiting list for the group to which s/he was not successful, regardless of whether the Applicant accepts the place in the group to which the Student was successful.

For the avoidance of doubt, if a Student does not receive a place in the Special Class for a given academic year, but s/he wishes to be considered for admission to the Special Class in the following academic year, a new application must be made on behalf of that Student during the dates specified by the school as being the period when it will accept applications for the Special Class.

For clarity, even if a place becomes available in a given mainstream year group, if there is a waiting list for that year group, the Students on that list have first refusal at the place in the year group irrespective of any matters relating to the Special Class.

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 Student 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 Student's needs fall within the specified category of special educational needs provided for by this class. 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 Student has siblings currently enrolled in the school or if the Student has siblings who were previously enrolled in the school;
- 7.1.2.2 Children of Coláiste Mhuire Staff;
- 7.1.2.3 Children who attend Buttevant, Lisgriffin, Churchtown or Liscarroll feeder primary schools.
- 7.1.2.4 Children who are the eldest in the family and attend Ballyhea, Ballyclough and Baltidaniel feeder Primary schools;
- 7.1.2.5 Children who attend Ballyhea, Ballyclough and Baltidaniel feeder primary schools.
- 7.1.2.6 Children who did not attend a feeder primary school but for whom Coláiste Mhuire is now the closest post primary school in distance.
- 7.1.2.7 All other applicants.

### **7.1.3 Selection process:**

Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant 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 Special Class. 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, Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the Special Class, or on the waiting list, to those applications.]

### **7.1.4 Late applications:**



An application received by Coláiste Mhuire Buttevant after the closing date published by Colaiste Mhuire, Buttevant, and set out in the Admission Notice, is considered a late application for the purposes of this Admission Policy.

Where Colaiste Mhuire, Buttevant 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. Such late applications will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with the date and time they were received by the school, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 & 4.11.

Where Colaiste Mhuire, Buttevant is not oversubscribed and it receives a late application, the Student seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within Colaiste Mhuire, Buttevant, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11 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.

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

Where a Student is in receipt of an offer of a place within Colaiste Mhuire, Buttevant but does not accept the offer, or the school withdraws the offer in line with the relevant provisions of this Policy, the place will be offered to the next Student 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 Special Class 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 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 withdrawal of an offer, 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 Colaiste Mhuire, Buttevant;
- 7.1.7.2 Details of the Student's ranking against the published selection criteria, if the year-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

In addition to the conditions for consideration of an application as set out at 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10 and 4.11 an offer of admission may not be made where:

- 7.1.7.5 The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect.

#### **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 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 Student 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 Student 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 first request a review by the board of management in writing, via a BOMR1 Form, available from the school office, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Colaiste Pobail Naomh Mhuire. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within twenty-one calendar days 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 after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing [admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie](mailto:admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie).

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 under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a 'Section 29 Appeal Form' and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The 'Section 29 Appeal Form' may be downloaded from the Department's website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department's website. As per the Department of Education's '*Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under section 29*', such an appeal must not be brought until the Applicant has received correspondence from the board of management in relation to the review, or until 42 calendar days have passed since the date of initial refusal and may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission

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

An Applicant who was refused admission to Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may first choose to request a review by the board of management, via a BOMR1 Form, available from the school office, for it to be reviewed by the Board of Management of

Coláiste Mhuire, Buttevant. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within twenty-one calendar days 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 after the publication of this policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing [admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie](mailto:admin@buttevantcolaiste.ie). (An applicant may withdraw a request for review at any time prior to the conclusion of the review by notifying the board of management in writing to that effect.)

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a 'Section 29 Appeal Form' and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The 'Section 29 Appeal Form' may be downloaded from the Department's website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department's website. As per the Department of Education's *'Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under section 29'*, such an appeal may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission.

If an Applicant who seeks a review by the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, that Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998, as outlined in the immediately preceding paragraph.

### **7.2.3 Basis for appeal:**

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, any request for the board of management to review a decision of the school to refuse admission 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.

**Note:** Where an applicant has been refused admission due to the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **must request a review** of that decision by the Board of Management prior to making an appeal under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998.

Where an applicant has been refused admission due to a reason other than the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **may request a review** of that decision by the Board of Management prior to making an appeal under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998.

## **Appendix A (Lottery Process)**

In the instance where the number of applicants for a place exceeds the number of places in the school the following process should apply. The Board of Management will oversee this process. The allocation of places will be conducted at a Board of Management meeting, in the presence of an independent observer.

1. Applications will be divided into categories based on the criteria for allocation of places stated in the policy.
2. Starting with category Number 1, places will be offered to applicants. Where there are sufficient places to offer all applicants who qualify under category Number 1 a place, this will be done and the process of offering places will move on to criterion number 2.
3. The process outlined above will be repeated for the subsequent categories until the process reaches a category where the remaining number of places available is less than the number of applicants within this category.
4. Where the remaining number of available places is less than the total number of applicants within a category, the remaining places will be offered by means of a lottery involving all the applicants within this category.
5. When all available places have been allocated, the remaining applicants within the category will be placed on a waiting list in rank order based on the lottery.
6. The process of placing applicants on the waiting list in rank order will then be repeated for each subsequent category until all unsuccessful applicants have been allocated a place on the waiting list.
7. The waiting list will be recorded on school headed paper and the record will be signed in the presence of the Board of Management by the Chairperson of the Board of Management and the independent observer.

