

**Definition of an Interdenominational Gaelscoil**

An Interdenominational Gaelscoil will function under a joint Catholic/Protestant spirit / ethos. The way each of these two traditions and the denominations within Protestantism enrich life in Ireland will be recognised and acknowledged. The Gaelscoil will operate under a joint Catholic / Protestant ethos, acknowledging the unique contribution of both traditions and their denominational expressions in Irish life.

- An understanding and acceptance of Catholic and Protestant modes of worship
- The children will be prepared for the sacraments that concern these two traditions as required.
- It will be the responsibility of the Gaelscoil to recognise and celebrate the importance of tolerance.
- It is the responsibility of the interdenominational Gaelscoil to make full provision for these two major Christian traditions and to follow the current religion syllabus laid down by the Bishops of the Diocese (or bishops of the various religions in the diocese). In the case that children of only one religion are registered in the school or the class this policy will be followed by giving the children an understanding of the other religion.
- The following Churches will be regarded as protestant churches :-  
Church of Ireland, Presbyterian Church, Methodist Church, Baptist Church, Lutheran Church.
- The following Churches will be regarded as Catholic Churches:  
The Roman Catholic Church, The Orthodox Church.

**Practice**

1. It is the responsibility of the Board of Management to protect the characteristic spirit of the Gaelscoil as defined in the above definition of an Interdenominational Gaelscoil and be accountable to the Patron in doing so.
2. The Cross will be displayed in the school as a sign of Christianity. Statues and religious pictures will not be displayed around the Gaelscoil but the teacher may use them as teaching aids in class at suitable times during the year.
3. It is the duty of the teachers to teach fully the above two religions to their class within official school hours as laid down by the Department of Education and Science.

**Review:**

Created:	
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