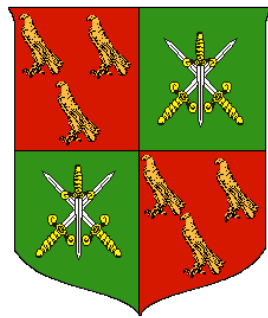


# **Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain**



## **Multicultural Policy**

**2023**

## Multicultural Policy

Bunscoil Mhic Reachtain is a School of Sanctuary and stands against sectarianism, racism and all forms of discrimination on the grounds of ethnic origin, religion, gender or disability.

### **AIMS:**

- to promote justice, equality of opportunity and fair treatment for all and thereby allow all pupils, irrespective of their religion or ethnic origin, to achieve the level of success and self respect which they deserve, whilst retaining their cultural identity.
- to foster attitudes of tolerance towards people who hold different beliefs
- to instil in pupils an awareness of sectarianism and racism and to establish an environment where school becomes effective in reducing prejudice and raising self esteem.
- to prepare children for living in a complex multicultural society.
- to promote an understanding of a variety of cultures, valuing the positive contribution these make to the community, e.g. pupils should understand the differences in dress, hairstyles and diet.
- to provide a safe and welcoming place for all of its members.
- to provide an environment where sectarian and racist assumptions, attitudes and behaviour are continually challenged.
- to provide a curriculum which emphasises the positive aspects of all cultures.
- to support the Department of Education in its multicultural and antiracist policies.
- to recognise that the pupils themselves are often the most important multicultural resource within the classroom and their experiences are valued and shared.
- to contribute towards imparting a sense of citizenship in the pupils.
- all teachers will continually review their schemes of work in the light of this policy with respect to content, methodology, aims and resources.

### **CHOICE OF READING SCHEMES, BOOKS AND OTHER LITERARY**

#### **RESOURCES**

Staff will choose and use resources:

- which portray a world view as seen from different cultural perspectives and thereby communicate how it feels to be of another ethnic or cultural group.
- which are factually accurate and use up-to-date text, illustrations, and maps.

- which do not stereotype individuals or groups.
- which positively and realistically portray children from a variety of ethnic and cultural groups and class backgrounds.
- which accurately reflect the population of Ireland today.
- which use dialect appropriately and not to ridicule.
- which use a range of folk tales from different oral or cultural traditions.
- which use stories or poems written by children from different cultures.

## **SOME SUBJECT SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS**

### **R.E.**

The scheme of work is designed to reflect and co-ordinate with the various religious festivals as they occur - so as to reflect the relevance of R.E. to every day life. We use opportunities such as assemblies, Easter, Divali and the Nativity play to actively involve pupils in the different religions.

### **ART:**

In art lessons, we work towards instilling in the pupils an appreciation and understanding of art, craft and designs from other cultures as well as those from Western-European culture.

### **DRAMA:**

Occasionally in drama, work is deliberately aimed at discussion and reflection on discrimination and racism. Children are encouraged to understand the feelings of minority groups. A wide range of integrated drama and music is used.

### **GEOGRAPHY:**

Different countries and ways of life are studied. The teachers aim to develop a degree of cultural awareness through the use of authentic materials of a broad cultural diversity, discussion of different themes such as food, family life, housing, school, physical geography, music and art. Languages other than Irish and English can be explored when studying particular topics, e.g. some Greek words are learnt when studying ancient Greece.

**MUSIC:**

A range of instruments from different countries is available. Music from different cultures will be used in lessons.

**PDMU:**

The whole area of mutual understanding is covered in this subject.

When our pupils leave, we hope that we have successfully begun to prepare them for life in the wider community and ensure that they have started to develop an understanding and appreciation of groups from other cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

**Dissemination Of The Policy**

All staff members and school governors will receive a copy of this policy. It will also be available in the parent reference display area and on the school website.

**Monitoring, Evaluation and Review**

The policy will be reviewed and amended annually. Any relevant comments from new research/learning will also be included in the evaluation and review process.

**Signed:** ..... (Principal)

**Date** .....

..... (On behalf of the Board of Governors)