



Educate
Together

**Goatstown/Stillorgan
Educate Together National School
Roll Number 20523U**

C/O Educate Together
Equity House
16/17 Upper Ormond Quay,
Dublin 7

Admission Policy

February 2019

This policy has been formulated by Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS to assist parents in making an informed decision in relation to child enrolment and to comply with legislation and Department of Education and Skills circulars.

Name: **Goatstown/Stillorgan Educate Together National School**
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Email: newschools@educatetogether.ie
Roll Number: 20523U
Principal: TBC

Introduction

The enrolment policy of **Goatstown/Stillorgan Educate Together National School (The School)** has been devised in accordance with the provisions of the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018 as commenced. Education Act 1998, the Education (Welfare) Act 2000, Equal Status legislation and directives of the school's Patron.

The core value that determines enrolment of pupils in **Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS** in accordance with this enrolment policy, is equality of access and participation in the school for all children in our society whatever their social, religious, cultural or racial background and/or whether or not they have a disability or special educational needs.

In this policy, reference to parents is to be taken as including reference to guardians, reference to child is to be taken to include a child who has been adopted or fostered and reference to siblings is to be taken as including reference to step siblings and foster siblings.

School Details

Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS operates with the patronage of Educate Together. Parents/Guardians/Carers are advised to familiarise themselves with the Educate Together ethos prior to applying to enrol their child in the school.

Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS is a co-educational National School and is equality based. It operates in accordance with relevant legislation, the Rules for National Schools and statutory regulations/directions/circulars issued from time to time by the Department of Education & Skills (**DES**) and its Patron. It is dependent on grants, teaching and other resources provided by the DES, the National Council for Special Education (**NCSE**) and the Health Service Executive (HSE).

Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS is a developing school opening in 2019 with one class of Junior Infants. We are expanding on a yearly basis and will be a full double stream school from Junior Infants to 6th Class when we reach capacity.

Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS follows the Curriculum prescribed by the DES and the Patron in accordance with the Education Act.

General Information

The school day will be agreed in consultation with the school community.

In determining the level of admissions, the Board of Management (**BoM**) shall take account of DES regulations/circulars in relation to staffing, class size and pupil teacher ratios. The BoM

shall also have regard to issues such as physical space, multi- grade classes and the presence of children with special educational and/or behavioural needs.

Eligibility Criteria

Under the Rules for National Schools, a child may not be allowed to attend or be enrolled in a national school before the fourth anniversary of his/her birth.

In **Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS**, in order to be enrolled, an applicant must be four years of age on or before **June 30th** preceding the September in respect of which the application for enrolment into junior infants relates.

Enrolment Application Procedure (For 2019 See Appendix 1)

Application forms will be accepted by the School between the opening and closing dates for the annual admission process.

It should be noted that the submission of an application form(s) does not confer a right to enrolment.

The official application form should be used. A link to this form can be found here:

<https://www.educatetogether.ie/Goatstown-Stillorgan-2019>

A separate form must be used in respect of each child's application for enrolment.

Incomplete applications **will not be considered**. An application will be deemed complete when:

- The official enrolment application form is fully completed
- A copy of the applicant's birth certificate is submitted when requested following offer of a place
- Proof of address is supplied in the form of a utility bill in the name of one of the parents, which must be dated no later than three months prior to the date of application.

Failure to submit the birth certificate and/or proof of address when requested will mean that the application is considered incomplete and will not be considered. Submitting inaccurate information on an application form or in accompanying documentation will render the application void ab-initio and where a place has been offered will result in the offer of the place being withdrawn and reallocated and/or in the case of placement on a waiting list, removal from the waiting list. In such circumstances the offer of a place will not be made even where a place for that number on the waiting list becomes available.

Children will, as a rule, only be admitted into Junior Infant classes during the month of September. Children may be admitted to a Junior Infant class during the school year provided they are transferring from another school. Places will be offered in the first instance to children living in the catchment area.

If the application for enrolment is successful and the place has been accepted as outlined in the annual admission process, the pupil shall be enrolled as per his/her name on his/her official birth certificate.

Offers of places may not be deferred. It should be noted that the acceptance of an offer of a place in the school is subject to the right of the school to refuse to enrol and/or to rescind an offer to enrol in certain exceptional circumstances as provided for below in this policy.

Applicants in respect of whom a fully completed application form has been submitted who are not successful in securing a place, will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list will expire on 30 September of the year for which the application was made.

It is the sole responsibility of the parent to inform the school promptly of any change of address, telephone number or other relevant circumstances.

Categories used to prioritise applications for enrolment

The categories below, which are listed in order of priority, are used to determine the priority order given to applications received during the annual process when the number of applications received outnumbers the number of places available.

In the event of the number of applicants in Priority Categories 1, 2 & 3 outnumbering the remaining available places, a Lottery will be used to determine the order that these places will be offered. The BOM will determine procedures for the conduct of this Lottery.

If an applicant falls into a number of priority categories listed hereunder, s/he will be included in the priority category which affords her/him the highest priority.

Priority Category 1:

Priority 1 will be given to applicant students who are siblings of children already enrolled in the school.

Priority Category 2:

Other applicants living in the catchment area for whom a complete application is submitted on time. Catchment area is viewable in Appendix 2

Priority Category 3:

All other applicants.

All completed application forms must be exhausted before late applications will be considered. Late applications will be processed on a first come first basis until all places are filled up to 30 September.

Enrolment of Children with Special Educational Needs into Mainstream Classes:

Where it is apparent that a child has a disability or other special educational needs, the school may require that these needs be assessed prior to admission in order to enable the school to make suitable advance preparations for the admission of the student and, if necessary, to seek additional resources.

The school will use the funding provided to it by the Department of Education and Skills to make reasonable provision and accommodation for students with a disability or other special educational needs, including, where necessary, alteration of buildings and provision of appropriate equipment.

Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS endeavours at all times to practice the school policy of inclusion and welcomes applications from children with special educational needs. Such applications are subject to the enrolment principles outlined above. In order to assist the school in establishing the educational and physical needs of the child relevant to his/her ability or special needs, and to profile the support services required, the school requests that the parent/guardian of the child:

- Informs the school of any special needs as early as possible in the enrolment process.
- Ensures that copies of the child's medical and /or psychological report(s) are provided to Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS.

Where such a report is not available, a request should be made that the child would be assessed immediately. Following receipt of the report the Board of Management/ Manager will assess how the school can meet the needs specified therein. Where the Board/ Manager deems that further resources are required, it will, prior to the child starting in the school, request the DES and/or the HSE provide the resources required to meet the needs of the child as outlined in the psychological and/or medical report.

The Principal may, in conjunction with the Special Educational Needs Organiser (SENO) or DES inspector, meet with the parents/guardians of the child to discuss the child's needs and the school's suitability or capability in meeting those needs.

Code of Behaviour

Pupils enrolled in **Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS** are required to co-operate with the school's Code of Behaviour and other policies on curriculum, organisation and management. Parents are responsible for ensuring that their children co-operate with these policies.

Refusal to Enrol or Rescinding of Offer to Enrol

The school reserves the right to refuse enrolment or to rescind an offer of enrolment to an applicant in any of the following :-

1. In exceptional circumstances, the BoM may refuse to enrol an applicant or rescind an offer because the applicant has special needs such that, even with additional resources

being made available from the DES/NCSE, the school cannot meet such needs and/or provide the applicant with an appropriate education.

2. The BoM also reserves the right to refuse admission in exceptional circumstances where the applicant poses unacceptable risk(s) to other pupils, staff and/or school property.
3. The terms of this enrolment policy are not complied with.

Parents of applicants so refused will be advised of their right to appeal the BoM's decision as outlined below.

Appeal Procedure

Parents who are unhappy with an enrolment decision may appeal under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998 to the DES on the official Section 29 Appeal Application Form which can be located on www.education.ie. This application must be submitted to the DES within 42 days of receipt of the decision of the BoM to refuse enrolment.

Data Protection

The school acknowledges its obligations as a data controller under the Data Protection Acts 1988 - 2018 and the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Information obtained for the purposes of allocating places in the school to applicant children will only be used and disclosed in a manner which is compatible with this purpose. Only such personal data as are relevant and necessary for the performance of this function will be retained. The school undertakes to ensure that such information is processed fairly, that it is kept safe, secure, accurate, complete, and up-to-date. Individuals have the right to have any inaccurate information rectified or erased. All data submitted as part of the admissions process will be destroyed within twelve months of the deadline for receipt of application forms (as opposed to registration) forms. A copy of all personal data obtained and kept as part of the admissions process will be made available to the subject of such data on receipt of a written request to the chairperson of the board of management.

Ratification and Review

The board of management/school manager reserves the right to alter this policy, subject to its statutory obligations, including its obligations to Educate Together as patron. Should the policy be altered, applicant parents who are affected by the alteration will be advised in writing and will be supplied with an amended policy. All alterations will come into effect 30 days after the date of notification.

Contacts

Please refer all admission-related queries to newschools@educatetogether.ie FAO Goatstown/Stillorgan ETNS.

This policy was approved by School Manager on the 28th February 2019. It is scheduled for review in January 2020. Educate Together, as patron, approved the manner of this policy's publication on the 1st March 2019.

Appendix 1 - Admissions Procedure 2019

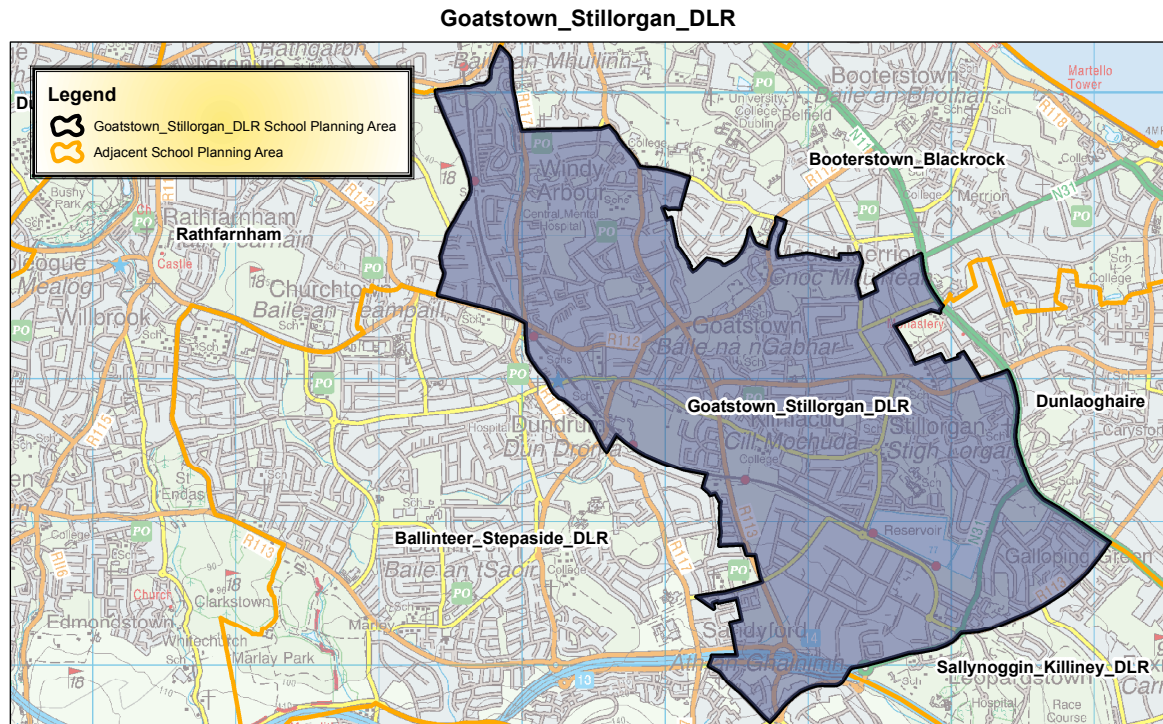
1. Parents/Guardians wishing to apply for a place for their child must complete the online application form. This form will be available from **Tuesday 5th March 2019** at <https://www.educatetogether.ie/Goatstown-Stillorgan-2019>

This form requires the parent to give the school certain information regarding their child. (The information sought therein complies with the regulations of the various Data Protection Acts and will be managed in accordance with these acts).

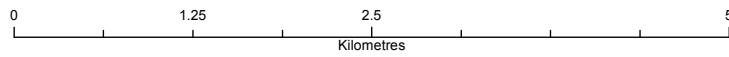
A separate form must be used in respect of each child's application for enrolment.

2. The closing date for completed application forms will be midnight on **Friday 29th March 2019**.
3. Incomplete applications will not be considered. An application will be deemed incomplete unless:
 - The official enrolment application form is fully completed.
 - A copy of the applicant's birth certificate is submitted when requested following offer of a place.
 - Where relevant, proof of address is supplied in the form of a utility bill in the name of one of the parents, which must be dated no later than three months prior to the date of application.
4. Offers of places will be made by post from **Monday 1st April 2019**. Places will be offered in order of priority i.e. Priority1, Priority 2, Priority 3 etc.
5. Parents of applicants who have been offered a place must **return an enrolment acceptance form within 14 working days of the offer being made**. Failure do so will result in the place being forfeited and reallocated.
6. Anyone applying after Friday 29th March 2019 will be placed on the waiting list, and offered a place only after the 3 priority categories have been offered places.
7. Failure to submit the birth certificate when requested will mean that the application is considered incomplete and will not be considered. Submitting inaccurate information on an application form or in accompanying documentation will render the application void ab-initio and where a place has been offered will result in the offer of the place being withdrawn and reallocated and/or in the case of placement on a waiting list, removal from the waiting list. In such circumstances the offer of a place will not be made even where a place for that number on the waiting list becomes available.
8. Children will, as a rule, only be admitted into Junior Infant classes during the month of September. Children may be admitted to a Junior Infant class during the school year provided they are transferring from another school. Places will be offered in the first instance to children living in the catchment area.
9. If the application for enrolment is successful and the place has been accepted as outlined above, the pupil shall be enrolled as per his/her name on his/her official birth certificate. Offers of places may not be deferred. Applicants in respect of whom a fully completed application form has been submitted who are not successful in securing a place, will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list will expire on 30 September of the year for which the application was made.
10. It is the sole responsibility of the parent to inform the school promptly of any change of address, telephone number or other relevant circumstances.

Appendix 2 – Goatstown/Stillorgán ETNS Catchment Area



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An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Department of Education and Skills