

## EDUCATE TOGETHER AFFIRMS THAT:

**Equality-based schools have the right to be treated no less favourably** than other schools within the Irish educational system, in accordance with their needs and their identity.

**Children of all social, cultural and religious backgrounds have a right to an education that respects their individual identity** whilst exploring the different values and traditions of the world in which they live.

**The state has a duty to take the identity of the equality-based sector fully into account** when deciding on policy that affects the establishment and development of schools.

**Parents are entitled to participate actively in decisions that affect the education of their children.** In particular they have the right to decide what kind of school reflects their conscience and lawful preference.

## and COMMITS ITSELF TO:

### Support the establishment of schools which are:



**Equality-based** i.e. all learners having equal rights of access to the school, and children of all social, cultural and religious backgrounds being equally respected.

**Learner-centred** in their approach to education.

**Co-educational** and committed to encouraging all children to explore their full range of abilities and opportunities.

**Democratically run** with active participation by parents in the daily life of the school, whilst positively affirming the professional role of the teachers.

### and in areas where the demand for such a school exists:

Promote fuller awareness and recognition of the identity of the equality-based sector at all levels in Irish society and abroad.

Participate in appropriate structures and activities concerned with the future development of education in Ireland and abroad.

Promote a future where equality-based education will be as freely available to parents as any other educational option they may choose.