



**Cork University Hospital School, Puffin Ward, C.U.H. Wilton, Cork**

### **Policy on Assessment**

#### **Policy Rationale:**

The core of the policy is that all children should experience success at school. This policy endeavours to identify at the earliest possible opportunity, children who may have learning difficulties and put in place a school response to their needs. An effective assessment policy is central to this core objective.

#### **Relationship to School Ethos:**

The school adopts a holistic approach to the education and development of each child, the enhancement of teaching processes. An effective assessment policy identifies early interventions that will improve learning outcomes for the pupil and ensure, as far as possible, increased pupil confidence and raised self-esteem.

#### **Aims and Objectives:**

The primary aims/objectives of the policy are:

1. To facilitate improved pupil learning (Assessment for Learning)
2. To create a procedure for monitoring achievement. (Record)
3. To track learning outcomes (Assessment of Learning)

**Policy Content:**

This policy is geared towards using assessment to inform planning and identify the needs of all pupils, including the exceptionally gifted so that adequate strategies are put in place early enough to facilitate optimal learning. These strategies may include pupil self assessment, pupil profiling, two way communication between parents and teachers, modification of teacher programmes and individual education plans.

**Testing:** Testing will include but not be confined to the following methods.

- Teacher Observation
- Teacher Designed Tests
- Text book Tests
- Maths tests
- Comprehension Tests in English
- Spelling Tests
- Standardised test: Micra T / Sigma T /

**Standardised Testing:**

The school accesses the results of Standardised Testing carried out in their schools of origin, where necessary. In those instances where the pupil has not undergone a standardised test in English, Maths and Spellings in their school of origin, Standardised tests will be carried out in May/ June.

**Screening:**

The screening tests used to identify learning strengths and weaknesses in the school, when necessary, are:

- Belfield Infant Assessment Programme
- Middle Infant Screening Test (MIST)
- SPAR / Parallel Spelling Test

These tests are administered individually.

**Recording:**

(c/f Data Protection Policy)

**Success Criteria:**

This policy is considered successful if:

- Early identification and intervention is achieved
- Clarity is achieved regarding procedures involved in a staged approach
- Procedures are clear, with roles and responsibilities defined.
- There is efficient transfer of information between teachers, pupils and parents

**Ratification & Communication:**

This policy was initially ratified by the Board of Management in 2009. It was reviewed and ratified on 21t March 2018

**Review Timetable:**