



Nagle Community



College, Mahon, Cork

POLICY FOR ADMISSION TO SCHOOL YEAR 2024 / 2025

Nagle Community College Post-Primary School

A decision on an application for admission will be based on the implementation of this Policy, the information set out in the annual admission notice of the school and the information provided by the Applicant in the application for admission, once received before the closing date set out in the annual admission notice. The Principal of Nagle Community College is responsible for the implementation of this Admission Policy.

INTRODUCTION TO NAGLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Nagle Community College was established in 1981

Nagle Community College is a centre of education that promotes the holistic development of all in an environment that is caring, respectful and just.

The school is located in Mahon in the South east of Cork.

The school is a Cork ETB school, state, multi-denominational, co-educational school.

The school offers Junior Cycle, JCSp, Transition Year, Leaving Certificate, and LCVP.

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PART A

General Information for All Applicants

- 1. Glossary of Terms***
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- 4. General Admission Provisions (for all Applicants)***

1 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

‘Applicant’ means the parent / guardian of a Student, or, in the case of a Student who has reached the age of 18 years, the Student, who has made an application for admission to Nagle Community College.

‘Student’ means the person in respect of whom the application is being made. All uses of the word throughout this Policy therefore imply ‘prospective’ as part of the interpretation. That is, the use of the word ‘Student’ does not mean that an application or acceptance of offer makes him/her a student of Nagle Community College; a person is only regarded as a student of Nagle Community College once s/he is enrolled on his/her first day of attendance.

‘Enrolled’ means attending the school as a registered student, in line with section 20(2) of the Education (Welfare) Act 2000.

‘Gender’, in line with the definition of “*the gender ground*” in the Equal Status Act 2000, is such that “*one is male and the other is female*”. This does not prejudice any Student who is Intersex or identifies as Androgynous/Androgyne, Bigender, Demigender, Gender Fluid, Genderqueer, Multigender, Neutrois, Non-binary, Transgender, Transsexual or otherwise.]

‘Catchment Area’ refers to the designated residential area for application to Nagle Community College in respect of the person on whose behalf the application is being made. The catchment area for to Nagle Community College is defined as: the Parish of Mahon and Blackrock.

‘Parent’ has the same meaning as in the Education Act 1998 and includes a guardian appointed under the Guardianship of Children Acts, 1964 to 1997.

‘Feeder Primary Schools’ refers to the primary schools of preference for application to Nagle Community College. The feeder primary schools for Nagle Community College, in no particular order are:

1.1. Scoil na Croise Naofa, Mahon, Cork, Gaelscoil Mhachan, Mahon Cork and Scoil Ursula, Blackrock, Cork.

1.2. St. Michael's, Church Road, Blackrock, Cork, Scoil Barra Beaumont Buachailli, Blackrock, Cork, Scoil Barra Beaumont Caillini, Blackrock, Cork

1.3. St. Anthony's, Ballinlough, Cork , Ballintemple National School , St. Columba's Boys School, Cork , St Columba's Girls School, Cork , Our Lady of Lourdes, Ballinlough Road, Cork

For the purpose of the selection criterion relating to the student having a sibling who previously attended the school, 'Sibling' refers to full siblings, half-siblings, foster-siblings and step-siblings.

For the purpose of the selection criterion relating to the student having a sibling currently enrolled in the school, 'Sibling' refers to full siblings, half-siblings, foster-siblings, step-siblings and Students who reside in the same household.

'Special Class' means a class that has, with the approval of the Minister of Education, been established by a school to provide an education exclusively for Students with a category or categories of special educational needs specified by the Minister of Education. Nagle Community College has three Special Classes, established to cater for the special educational needs of students with Autism/Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

'Relevant Report', as advised by the Department of Education and the National Council for Special Education (NCSE), means a written report based on an assessment by a relevant professional who makes a recommendation for a Special Class placement. The relevant professional may include an educational psychologist, psychologist, other relevant health professionals, HSE disability services or HSE multi-disciplinary team staff, in line with guidance issued by the NCSE on this point.

‘First-Year’ means the intake group of Students for the most junior class or year in a school.

2 ADMISSION STATEMENT

Nagle Community College is a designated Community College. Designated Community Colleges are established by the signing of a model agreement between an ETB and the local Catholic Bishop and/or a religious congregation. Cork ETB is the patron of the school. The model agreement provides for the participation of (Congregation Bishop of Cork & Ross Diocese) in the organisation and management of the community college on an ongoing basis.

Nagle Community College was established in 1981 in a spirit of partnership between (ETB Cork) and Bishop of Cork & Ross Diocese on a greenfield site. The inherited traditions, values and founding intentions of Cork ETB and Bishop of Cork and Ross remain enshrined in the characteristic spirit and in the life of our school.

Our school is a state, co-educational, multi-denominational school underpinned by the core values of:

- Excellence in Education;
- Care;
- Equality;
- Community and
- Respect.

All members of our school community are treated equally, regardless of their race, gender, religion/belief, age, family status, marital status, membership of the Traveller community, sexual orientation, ability or socio-economic status. In our school all students are given equal opportunity for enrolment, in line with the Education (Admissions to School) Act (2018). Once enrolled, our school strives to provide all our students with equal opportunities to engage with the curriculum and school life.

Nagle Community College, provides a safe physical and social environment that reinforces a sense of belonging to the school community and wider society. We strive to enable every student to realise their full potential regardless of any aspect of their identity or background. Our school promotes a fully inclusive education which recognises the plurality of identities, beliefs and values held by students, parents and staff. We prepare open-minded, culturally sensitive and responsible citizens with a strong sense of shared values.

Our school is multi-denominational. We welcome, respect and support students of all religions and beliefs. The provision of religious education, religious worship and the work of the Chaplain all combine to reflect the founding intention of the school, the school's mission statement and the needs of the students within the school. The characteristic spirit of the school finds practical expression through the provision of pastoral, liturgical and social outreach activities, as appropriate, for each student.

Accordingly, Nagle Community College shall not discriminate in its admission of a Student based on the following grounds:

- 2.1. Sex or gender of the Student or Applicant. However, where a school admits students of one sex only, it is not discriminatory to refuse to admit Students of any other sex;
- 2.2. Civil status of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.3. Family status of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.4. Sexual orientation of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.5. Religion of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.6. Disability of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.7. Race of the Student or Applicant;
- 2.8. The Student's or Applicant's membership of the Traveller community;
- 2.9. Special educational needs of the Student or Applicant. However, where the school provides education exclusively for a category or categories of special educational

need(s) in a Special Class, it is not discriminatory to refuse to admit to that class a Student who does not have the specified special educational need(s).

Nagle Community College shall not charge fees or payments or seek contributions as a condition of admission or continued enrolment of a Student.

3 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

CORK ETB was established under the Education and Training Board Act 2013 which sets out the functions of all ETBs, including to establish and maintain recognised schools, centres for education and education and training facilities in each ETB's functional area.

The board of management of Nagle Community College is a committee established under section 44 of the Education and Training Board Act 2013 and also constitutes a board of management within the meaning of the Education Act 1998.

The Education (Admissions to Schools) Act 2018 and the Education (Welfare) Act 2000 place a duty on all recognised schools to prepare and publish an Admission Policy.

The Education Act, 1998 provides for an appeal process in the event of a refusal to enrol. The appeal process is set out in section 5.4 in respect of applications made to the First-Year group and in section 6.4 in respect of applications made to all year other than the FirstYear group.

The Department of Education and Skills' Rules and Programme for Secondary Schools 2004/05 sets out rules to which post-primary schools must adhere in the provision of education. However, should such rules be amended or replaced in the future the interpretation of this Policy shall be construed accordingly.

It is important to understand that our school does not provide 'religious instruction' and therefore the legal requirement to advise of the option to opt-out of religious instruction

does not arise in this school. It is also important to understand the distinction between ‘religious instruction’ and religious education’:

Religious instruction is a term used in Ireland to indicate instruction in accordance with the rites, practices and teachings of a particular religion or denomination for pupils of that religious tradition.

Religious education is open to all pupils regardless of their commitment to any particular religion or worldview. It seeks to contribute to the spiritual and moral development of all students equally.

As ETB schools are ‘multi-denominational’, Nagle Community College supports the provision of religious education that caters for all students regardless of their religious or non-religious beliefs.

Nagle Community College will cooperate with the National Council for Special Education in the performance by the Council of its functions under the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004 relating to the provision of education to children with special educational needs, including in particular by the provision and operation of a special class or classes when requested to do so by the Council.

Nagle Community College will comply with any direction served on the patron or the board, as the case may be, under section 37A and any direction served on the board under section 67(4B) of the Education Act.

4 GENERAL ADMISSION PROVISIONS

A decision on an application for admission shall be based on:

- the implementation of this Admission Policy,
- the annual admission notice of the school, and the
- information provided by the Applicant in the application for admission

If, prior to the commencement of section 62 of the Education Act 1998 by the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018 on the 1st February 2020, Nagle Community College had confirmed, in writing, that an Applicant had been placed on a list relating to the allocation of school places for entrance before the 1st February 2025, then this confirmation is still valid and the Applicant will be offered that place.

In processing an application Nagle Community College **shall not consider**:

- 4.1 The payment of fees or contributions to the school;
- 4.2 A Student's academic ability, skills or aptitude; unless:
 - it is necessary to ascertain whether or not the Student has the category of special educational needs concerned for admission to a school approved by the Minister of Education providing education exclusively to Students with a specified category of special educational needs or a special class;
- 4.3 The occupation, financial status, academic ability, skills or aptitude of a Student's Parent(s);
- 4.4 A requirement that a Student or his or her Parent(s), attend an interview, open day or other meeting as a condition of admission;
- 4.5 A Student's connection to the school due to a member of his or her family attending or having previously attended the school, unless the connection is a sibling of the Student concerned attending. However, the maximum number of places filled by this criteria does not exceed 25% of the available places as set out in the school's Admission Notice for that academic year.
- 4.6 The date and time on which an application for admission was received by the school as long as it is received during the period specified for receiving applications set out in the annual admissions notice for that academic year.

Nagle Community College will consider the offer of a place to every Student seeking admission to the school, **unless [one of] the following applies**:

4.7 The student seeking admission will not have attained at least 12 years of age on the 1st day of January of the school year for which s/he is seeking to be enrolled or has not completed a full course of primary education or the equivalent, as are both required under section X of the Department of Education and Skills' Rules and Programme for Secondary Schools 2004/05

4.8 The Parent fails to confirm in writing that s/he accepts the Student Code of Behaviour and he/she shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure compliance with such code by the Student

4.9 The Student seeking admission to a Special Class in the school does not have the category of special educational needs specified by the Minister of Education and Skills in respect of that class

4.10.1 The student has been expelled from another school or is in the midst of an expulsion process in another school

4.10.2 If the student would constitute a risk to the health and safety of other students or staff.

4.10.3 There is not sufficient capacity within the year group to which the student is applying

Where Nagle Community College considers an application, each Student shall receive a place, unless the school is oversubscribed in which case, selection criteria will be applied to each application.

Section 5 of this Policy addresses the selection criteria and other matters related to the admission provisions for the first-year group.

Section 6 of this Policy addresses the selection criteria and other matters related to the admission provisions for all year groups other than first-year.

Section 7 of this Policy addresses the selection criteria and other matters related to the admission provisions for the special classes.

PART B

Information for Specific Categories of Applicants

- 5. Application to the First-Year Group***
- 6. Application to All Year Groups Other Than First-Year***
- 7. Application to the Special Classes***

SECTION 5

APPLICATION TO THE FIRST-YEAR GROUP

5 APPLICATION TO THE FIRST-YEAR GROUP

5.1 Admission Provisions (First-Year group)

5.1.1. Oversubscription

5.1.2. Selection criteria in order of priority

5.1.3. Selection process

5.1.4. Late Applications

5.1.5. Second/third-round offers of a place

5.1.6. Acceptance of a place

5.1.7. Refusal

5.1.8. Appeals

5.2 Appeals

5.2.1 Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription

5.2.2 Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription.

5.2.3 Basis for a review by the board of management

5.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS (FIRST YEAR GROUP)

Where Nagle Community College is not oversubscribed, all Students will be offered a school place, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, and 4.9 and 4.10 and 4.10.1 4.10.2, 4.10.3 etc.

A Student applying for the First Year Group but seeking admission to the Special Class should see section 7 of this Admissions Policy. If the Student is also applying for a place in the mainstream First-Year Group in the event of an unsuccessful application to the Special Class, this section 5 is also applicable.

5.1.1 Oversubscription

When the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, the published selection criteria as set out at section 5.1.2 below will apply and a waiting list shall be compiled which shall remain valid for the school year in respect of which the applications are made. Where Nagle Community College is in a position to offer further school places that become available for and during that academic year, places will be offered in accordance with the order of priority in which Students have been placed on the waiting list, subject to the provisions of section 7.1.1 regarding the Special Classes.

For the avoidance of doubt, if a Student does not receive a place in the school for a given academic year, but s/he wishes to be considered for admission in the following academic year, a new application must be made on behalf of that Student during the dates specified by the school as being the period when it will accept applications to all year groups other than First-Year.

Where an application is made on behalf of a Student for both the Special Class and a mainstream year group, and his/her application for one but not both is successful, s/he will remain in the same position on the waiting list for the group to which s/he was not successful, regardless of whether the Applicant accepts the place in the group to which the Student was successful.

Where the school is oversubscribed, any selection criteria that are not included in this Admission Policy shall not be considered in determining whether or not a Student is admitted to the school.

5.1.2 Selection criteria in order of priority

Nagle Community College will apply the following criteria for admission to the first-year group:

- 5.1.2.1 Siblings of students who are attending Nagle Community College and are residents of the catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.
- 5.1.2.2 Siblings of students who have attended Nagle Community College and are residents of the catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.
- 5.1.2.3 Children who are residents of the Catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.
- 5.1.2.4 Siblings of pupils who are currently attending Nagle Community College and are not residents of the catchment area
- 5.1.2.5 Siblings of pupils who have attended Nagle Community College and are not residents of the catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.
- 5.1.2.6 The children of current Nagle Community College staff members.
- 5.1.2.7 Children who attend one of the named feeder Primary Schools.
- 5.1.2.8 All other applicants determined by distance from home to school as measured by Google Maps via car.

See section 7 for selection criteria applicable to admission to the Special Classes.

5.1.3 Selection process

Nagle Community College will apply the selection process as follows:

Applications are considered against the published selection criteria. Places will be offered in the first instance to those who meet the first criterion. Subsequently, where the school still has places available, the remaining Applicants are considered in light of the second criterion and those Applicants who meet this criterion will be offered a place within the

school. This process is continuously carried out against all selection criteria until all available places have been offered and accepted.

Where two or more applications are tied in the foregoing selection process, Nagle Community College will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the school, or on the waiting list, to those applications.

N.B. The number of places available in a year group is subject to reduction in the event that a placement(s) in the Special Class is/are given to Student(s) from that year group, *i.e.* the selection process for the Special Class will be completed before the selection process for the mainstream year group and the number of Students who are offered a place in the Special Class will be the number by which the places in the relevant mainstream year group(s) are reduced

The Lottery will be carried out as follows:

In the instance where the number of applicants for a place exceeds the number of places in the school the following procedure should apply. This process will take place over a Board of Management meeting and will be conducted in the presence of the Principal and an independent observer.

I.Applications will be divided into categories based on the criteria for allocation of places stated in the policy.

II. Starting with category Number 1, places will be offered to applicants. Where there are sufficient places to offer a place to all applicants who qualify under category Number 1, this will be done and the process of offering places will move on to criterion number 2.

III. The process outlined above will be repeated for the subsequent categories until the process reaches a category where the remaining number of places available is less than the number of applicants within this category.

IV. Where the remaining number of available places is less than the total number of applicants within a category, the remaining places will be offered by means of a lottery involving all the applicants within this category.

V. When all available places have been allocated, the remaining applicants within the category will be placed on a waiting list in rank order based on the lottery.

VI. The process of placing applicants on the waiting list in rank order will then be repeated for each subsequent category until all unsuccessful applicants have been allocated a place on the waiting list.

VII. The waiting list will be recorded on school headed paper and the record will be signed in the presence of the Board of Management by the Chairperson of the Board of Management and the independent observer.

5.1.4 Late Applications

An application received by Nagle Community College after the closing date published by Nagle Community College, and set out in the Admission Notice, is considered a late application for the purposes of this Admission Policy.

Where Nagle Community College is oversubscribed and receives a late application for admission, same will receive a place on the waiting list beneath Applicants whose applications were received by Nagle Community College before the closing date for applications. Such applications will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with the date and time they were received by Nagle Community College and subsequently Nagle Community College's selection criteria will be applied in accordance with this Policy.

Where Nagle Community College is not oversubscribed and it receives a late application, the Student seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within Nagle Community College, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 and the same process as applies to Applicants whose applications were received before the closing date will be operated *i.e.* an Acceptance Form will be issued to the Applicant for completion and return to the school within 2 weeks of issue.

Where Nagle Community College is not oversubscribed, *i.e.* there is no waiting list, and it receives a late application, the Student seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within the school, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 and the same process as applies to applicants whose applications were received before the closing date will be applied *i.e.*

an Acceptance Form will be issued to the Applicant for completion and return to the school within 2 weeks of issue.

5.1.5 Second/Third-round offers of a place

Where a Student is in receipt of an offer of a place within Nagle Community College but does not accept the offer, or fails to accept within the specified time period, or the school withdraws the offer in line with the relevant provisions of this Policy, the place will be offered to the next Student on the waiting list in a second-round of offers. This process will continue throughout third and fourth rounds *etc.* until all places within the school have been filled.

5.1.6 Acceptance of a place

If the Student in respect of whom the application is made is offered a place, the Applicant will be issued with an Acceptance Form by the school.

The Applicant shall indicate acceptance of an offer by fully completing and returning the Acceptance Form by the date set out in the School Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer. This includes indicating whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer of admission from another school.

Failure to fully complete and return the Acceptance Form to the school by the date set out in the School Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer, may result in withdrawal of an offer, in line with the grounds for refusal as set out below.

5.1.7 Refusal

Where a Student in respect of whom an application is being sought has not been offered a school place, the Applicant will be provided in writing with:

5.1.7.1. The reasons that the Student was not offered a place in Nagle Community College.

5.1.7.2. Details of the Student's ranking against the published selection Criteria, if the year group to which the Applicant is applying is oversubscribed;

5.1.7.3. Details of the Student's place on the waiting list, if applicable, and

5.1.7.4. Details of the Applicant's right to appeal the decision.

In addition to the conditions for consideration of an application as set out at 4.7, 4.8 and 4.9, an offer of admission may not be made where:

5.1.7.1. The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect.

5.1.2 Withdrawal of an offer

An offer of admission may be withdrawn where:

5.1.8.1. The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect, or

5.1.8.2. The Applicant fails to confirm acceptance of an offer of admission on or before the date set out in the annual Admission Notice of the school for the academic year for which s/he is applying, or in the case of a late application, or second/third-round offer, within 2 weeks, or

5.1.8.3. An Applicant has not indicated:

(i) whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer from another school(s) and if so, the details of the school(s);

and

(ii) whether or not s/he has accepted an offer of admission from another school(s) and if so, the details of the offer(s).

If an offer of a place is withdrawn by the school, the Student on whose behalf the application was made shall lose his/her place for that academic year (and shall not be placed on a waiting list). If the Applicant still desires a place for that academic year, a

new application must be made for the same academic year on behalf of that Student and shall be treated as a late application in line with section 5.1.4 above.

5.1.8 Appeals

For information relating to an Applicant's right to appeal a decision of Nagle Community College regarding admission to the First-Year group, see section 5.3.

5.3. APPEALS

5.3.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription:

An Applicant who was refused admission because the school is oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision must first request a review by the board of management in writing, via a 'BOMR1 Form', available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Nagle Community College. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within twenty-one calendar days of the school's decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing office@naglecc.ie

If an Applicant is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, or the board of management is not in a position to review the decision to refuse admission, the Applicant may apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a 'Section 29 Appeal Form' and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The 'Section 29 Appeal Form' may be downloaded from the Department's website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department's website. As per the Department of Education's *'Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under*

section 29’, such an appeal must not be brought until the Applicant has received correspondence from the board of management in relation to the review, or until 42 calendar days have passed since the date of initial refusal and may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission.

5.3.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription:

An Applicant who was refused admission to Nagle Community College for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may first choose to request a review by the board of management, via a ‘BOMR1 Form’, available from the school office and on the school’s website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Nagle Community College. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within twenty-one calendar days of the school’s decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education after the publication of this policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing office@naglecc.ie . (An applicant may withdraw a request for review at any time prior to the conclusion of the review by notifying the board of management in writing to that effect.)

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a ‘Section 29 Appeal Form’ and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The ‘Section 29 Appeal Form’ may be downloaded from the Department’s website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department’s website. As per the Department of Education’s *Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under section 29*’, such an appeal may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission.

If an Applicant who seeks a review by the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, that Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998, as outlined in the immediately preceding paragraph.

5.3.3. Basis for a review by the board of management:

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, any request for the board of management to review a decision of the school to refuse admission must be based on the implementation of this Admission Policy, the content of the school's Admission Notice and also set out the grounds of the request to review the decision.

SECTION 6

APPLICATION TO ALL YEAR GROUPS OTHER THAN FIRST-YEAR

6 APPLICATION TO ALL YEAR GROUPS OTHER THAN FIRST YEAR

6.1 Admission Provisions (other than First-Year)

- 6.1.1. Oversubscription
- 6.1.2. Selection criteria in order of priority
- 6.1.3. Selection process
- 6.1.4. Late Applications
- 6.1.5. Second/third-round offers of a place
- 6.1.6. Acceptance of a place
- 6.1.7. Refusal
- 6.1.8. Withdrawal of an offer
- 6.1.9. Appeals

6.2 Appeals

- 6.2.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription
- 6.2.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription
- 6.2.3. Basis for a review by the board of management

6.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS (OTHER THAN FIRST-YEAR)

Where Nagle Community College is not oversubscribed, all Students will be offered a school place, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10.

A Student applying for admission to a year-group other than First-Year but seeking admission to the Special Class should see section 7 of this Admissions Policy. If the Student is also applying for a place in the mainstream year group other than First-Year in the event of an unsuccessful application to the Special Class, this section 6 is also applicable.

6.1.1 Oversubscription

When the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, the published selection criteria as set out at section 6.1.2 below will apply and a waiting list shall be compiled which shall remain valid for the school year in respect of which the applications are made. Where Nagle Community College is in a position to offer further school places that become available for and during the 2020/2021 school year, places will be offered in accordance with the order of priority in which Students have been placed on the waiting list, subject to the provisions of section 7.1.1 regarding the Special Class

For the avoidance of doubt, if a Student does not receive a place in the school for a given academic year, but s/he wishes to be considered for admission in the following academic year, a new application must be made on behalf of that Student during the dates specified by the school as being the period when it will accept applications to all years other than the First-Year Group.

“Where an application is made on behalf of a Student for both the Special Class and a mainstream year group, and his/her application for one but not both is successful, s/he will remain in the same position on the waiting list for the group to which s/he was not successful, regardless of whether the Applicant accepts the place in the group to which the Student was successful.

Where the school is oversubscribed, any selection criteria that are not included in this Admission Policy shall not be considered in determining whether or not a Student is admitted to the school.

Where the Transition Year Programme in Nagle Community College is oversubscribed, a Student applying for admission to such programme in the relevant year group, will, subject to this policy, be placed on the appropriate waiting list already compiled (annually) by the school, which list will contain the names of students enrolled in the school who have been placed on an internal waiting list for this programme.

6.1.2 Selection criteria in order of priority

Nagle Community College will apply the following criteria for admission to year groups, other than First Year.

6.1.2.1 Siblings of students who are attending Nagle Community College and are residents of the catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.

6.1.2.2 Siblings of students who have attended Nagle Community College and are residents of the catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.

6.1.2.3 Children who are residents of the Catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.

6.1.2.4 Siblings of pupils who are currently attending Nagle Community College and are not residents of the catchment area

6.1.2.5 Siblings of pupils who have attended Nagle Community College and are no residents of the catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.

6.1.2.6 The children of current Nagle Community College staff members.

6.1.2.7 All other applicants determined by distance from home to school as measured by Google Maps via car.

See section 7 for selection criteria applicable to admission to the Special Class.

Any selection criteria that are not included in this Admission Policy shall not be considered in determining whether or not an Applicant is admitted.

6.1.3 Selection process

Nagle Community College will apply the selection process as follows:

Applications are considered against the published selection criteria. Places will be offered in the first instance to those who meet the first criterion. Subsequently, where the school still has places available, the remaining Applicants are considered in light of the second criterion and those Applicants who meet this criterion will be offered a place within the school. This process is continuously carried out until all available places have been offered and accepted.

Where two or more applications are tied in the foregoing selection process, Nagle Community College will apply a random lottery (as detailed above in Section 5.1.3) to assign any available places in the school, or on the waiting list, to those applications.

6.1.4 Late Applications

An application received by Nagle Community College after the closing date published by Nagle Community College, and set out in the Admission Notice, is considered a late application for the purposes of this Admission Policy.

Where Nagle Community College is oversubscribed and receives a late application for admission, that application will receive a place on the waiting list beneath Applicants whose applications were received by the school before the closing date for applications, irrespective of any selection criteria which may be applied to applications received before the closing date for applications. Such late applications will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with the date and time they were received by the school, subject to section(s) 4.7, 4.8 4.9 and 4.10. For the avoidance of doubt, selection criteria are not relevant to, and will not be applied to, late applications.

Where Nagle Community College is not oversubscribed, i.e. there is no waiting list, and it receives a late application, the Student seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within Nagle Community College, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 and the same process as applies to Applicants whose applications were received before the closing date

will be operated *i.e.* an Acceptance Form will be issued to the Applicant for completion and return to the school within 2 weeks of issue.

6.1.5 Second/Third-round offers of a place

Where a Student is in receipt of an offer of a place within Nagle Community College but does not accept the offer, or fails to accept within the specified time period, or the school withdraws the offer in line with the relevant provisions of this Policy, the place will be offered to the next Student on the waiting list in a second-round of offers. This process will continue throughout third and fourth rounds *etc.* until all places within the school have been filled.

6.1.6 Acceptance of a place

If the Student in respect of whom the application is made is offered a place, the Applicant will be issued with an Acceptance Form by the school.

The Applicant shall indicate acceptance of an offer by fully completing and returning the Acceptance Form by the date set out in the School Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer. This includes indicating whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer of admission from another school.

Failure to fully complete and return the Acceptance Form to the school by the date set out in the School Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer, may result in withdrawal of an offer, in line with the grounds for refusal as set out below.

6.1.7 Refusal

Where a Student in respect of whom an application is being sought has not been offered a school place, the Applicant will be provided in writing with:

6.1.7.1. The reasons that the Student was not offered a place in Nagle Community College

6.1.7.2. Details of the Student's ranking against the published selection criteria, and

6.1.7.3. Details of the Student's place on the waiting list, if applicable

6.1.7.4. Details of the Applicant's right to appeal the decision

In addition to the conditions for consideration of an application as set out at 4.7, 4.8 and 4.9, 4.10 an offer of admission may not be made where:

6.1.7.5. The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect.

6.1.8 Withdrawal of an offer

An offer of admission may be withdrawn where:

6.1.8.1. The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect, or

6.1.8.2. The Applicant fails to confirm acceptance of an offer of admission on or before the date set out in the annual Admission Notice of the school for the academic year for which s/he is applying, or in the case of a late application, or second/third-round offer, within 2 weeks, or

6.1.8.3. An Applicant has not indicated:

(i) whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer from another school(s) and if so, the details of the school(s);

and

(ii) whether or not s/he has accepted an offer of admission from another school(s) and if so, the details of the offer(s).

If an offer of a place is withdrawn by the school, the Student on whose behalf the application was made shall lose his/her place for that academic year (and shall not be placed on a waiting list). If the Applicant still desires a place for that academic year, a new application must be made for the same academic year on behalf of that Student and shall be treated as a late application in line with section 6.1.4 above.

6.1.8 Appeals

For information relating to an Applicant's right to appeal a decision of Nagle Community College regarding admission to the Special Classes, see section 6.2.

6.2 APPEALS

An Applicant wishing to appeal the decision to refuse to admit, under section 29(9) of the Education Act 1998, may do so by completing the *Section 29 Appeal Application Form*, available at Nagle Community College office and on Nagle Community College's website, and submitting it to the Chief Executive of CORK ETB, at 21 Lavitt's Quay, Cork within fourteen calendar days of receipt by him/her of the school's decision to refuse to admit.

A maximum period of 30 days from date of receipt of the appeal by the Chief Executive of the Education & Training Board is allowable for conclusion of the appeal process.

In the event of an appeal not being upheld by the Education & Training Board, the Applicant may further appeal the decision to refuse to admit to the Department of Education and Skills in line with section 29(1) of the Education Act 1998.

SECTION 7

APPLICATION TO THE SPECIAL CLASSES

7 APPLICATION TO THE SPECIAL CLASSES

7.1 Admission Provisions for the Special Classes

- 7.1.1. Oversubscription
- 7.1.2. Selection criteria in order of priority
- 7.1.3. Selection process
- 7.1.4. Late Applications
- 7.1.5. Second/Third-round offers of a place
- 7.1.6. Acceptance of a place
- 7.1.7. Refusal
- 7.1.8. Appeals

7.2 Appeals

- 7.2.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription
- 7.2.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription
- 7.2.3. Basis for a review by the board of management

7.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS FOR THE SPECIAL CLASSES

Nagle Community College has 3 ASD Special Classes, established to cater for the special educational needs of Students with Autism.

Only applications in respect of Students whose needs fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the Special Class will be considered. In this respect, the school requires that such needs of the Student be verified in a Relevant Report which has been prepared within the 24 months immediately preceding the Student's application to the Special Class.

Where the Special Class in Nagle Community College is not oversubscribed, all Students whose needs fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the Special Class, as confirmed by the NCSE, will be offered a place in the Special Class, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10.

Under Department of Education and Skills and National Council for Special Education (NCSE) guidelines the maximum number of students enrolled in the three Nagle Community College ASD Special Classes is 18 students.

Nagle Community Colleges ASD Special Classes will give initial priority to applications from students already enrolled in Nagle Community College who received their ASD diagnosis *after* enrolment or who have such a diagnosis and receive their recommendation of requiring an autism class place after enrolment. If more students meet these criteria than places are available in a single year, priority will be decided by standard enrolment procedures set out at 7.1.2

Nagle Community Colleges ASD Special Classes will give subsequent priority to applications for enrolment into 1st year.

Where the Special Class in Nagle Community College is not oversubscribed, all Students whose needs fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the

Special Class will be offered a place in the Special Class, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 as well as the following conditions. The following conditions also apply to applicants when the Nagle Community College ASD Special Classes is oversubscribed.

1. Students who apply must have a diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (DSMV/ICD 11) and supporting documentation in order to be considered for enrolment in the Nagle Community College (NCC) ASD Special Classes.
2. The Principal of Nagle Community College, in consultation with the ASD Special Class teaching staff, will carry out the enrolment procedures as set out below on behalf of the Board of Management of Nagle Community College.
3. Following the finalisation of these enrolment procedures the Nagle Community College ASD Special Class Steering Committee will, through this policy, recommend the ordering of applications for the ASD Special Classes to the NCC Board of Management.
4. In making its decision, the Nagle Community College Board of Management will have regard for relevant Department of Education and Skills guidelines in relation to special class size and staffing provisions and/or any other relevant requirements concerning accommodation, including physical space and the health and welfare of existing and prospective students.

Enrolment Procedures

1. Nagle Community College requires that all applications are accompanied by documentary evidence that proves conclusively that the applicant has been diagnosed with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder by an approved specialist / team of specialists in the fields of educational psychology / clinical psychology / child psychiatry / pediatrics. Parents/guardians of applicant pupils need to provide the College with a full, written, original diagnostic history. Psychological reports / Occupational Therapy reports / Speech and Language Therapy reports, or any other reports, which refer to the original diagnosis, will not be accepted in lieu of the original written diagnosis.
2. The most recent psychological/cognitive/multi-disciplinary etc. assessment, if within a reasonable timeframe (previous 2 years), or recent (within the past 2 years)

Statement of Need/report/letter from Children's Network Disability Team member or other qualified professional must recommend that a student requires a placement in an ASD Special Class in a mainstream post-primary setting. The applications of students without such a clearly worded recommendation cannot be considered for enrolment.

3. Parents/guardians of applicant students will be informed of the decision relating to their own child's enrolment within two weeks of relevant steering committee meeting.
4. Parents/guardians of students offered a place in the Nagle Community College ASD Special Class will inform Nagle Community College of their decision to accept or turn down a place in the Nagle Community College ASD Special Classes within two weeks of offer letter being posted.
5. Once a pupil has been offered a place in the Nagle Community College ASD Special Classes they will be invited to participate in a transition programme the following May in Nagle Community College. The pupils' participation in the transition programme is considered essential in ensuring their smooth transition to their new environment, as well as in facilitating ASD Special Class staff in making any necessary academic/other reasonable accommodations for the pupil in a pre-emptive and responsible manner.

7.1.1 Oversubscription

When the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, the published selection criteria as set out at section 7.1.2 below will apply and a waiting list shall be compiled which shall remain valid only for the school year in respect of which the applications are made. Where Nagle Community College is in a position to offer further places that become available in the Special Class for and during that academic year, places will be offered in accordance with the order of priority in which Students have been placed on the waiting list subject to there being a place in the relevant mainstream year group. If there is not a place available in the relevant year group, the next person on the waiting list

for the Special Class will be considered for the place in question but this will not change the initial Student's place on the waiting list for the Special Class for the remainder of that school year, *i.e.* if another place subsequently became available in the Special Class during that school year, the initial Student at the top of the waiting list would be considered first, but again subject to there being a place in the relevant year group for that Student.

For clarity, if a place becomes available in a given mainstream class group, before that place is offered to a Student on the waiting list for that mainstream year group, the waiting list for the Special Class shall be reviewed and if there is a place available in the Special Class and there is a Student on the waiting list who would be able to take-up the place due to the available place in the given mainstream year group, that Student will be offered the place in the Special Class (thereby removing the place in the mainstream year group). This is in the interest of ensuring that the scarce resources of the Special Class are never under-utilised.

Where an application is made on behalf of a Student for both the Special Class and a mainstream year group, and his/her application for one but not both is successful, s/he will remain in the same position on the waiting list for the group to which s/he was not successful, regardless of whether the Applicant accepts the place in the group to which the Student was successful.

For the avoidance of doubt, if a Student does not receive a place in the Special Class for a given academic year, but s/he wishes to be considered for admission to Special Class in the following academic year, a new application must be made on behalf of that Student during the dates specified by the school as being the period when it will accept applications for the Special Class.

Where the school is oversubscribed, any selection criteria that are not included in this Admission Policy shall not be considered in determining whether or not a Student is admitted to the school.

7.1.2 Selection criteria in order of priority

Applications to the Nagle Community College ASD Special Classes will only be considered if the Student's needs fall within the specified category of special educational needs provided for by this class. Subject to this requirement and other criteria/enrolment process steps set out above, in the event of oversubscription, the following criteria for admission to the Special Class will apply:

- 7.1.2.1 Siblings of students who are attending Nagle Community College and are residents of the catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.
- 7.1.2.2 Siblings of students who have attended Nagle Community College and are residents of the catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.
- 7.1.2.3 Children who are residents of the Catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.
- 7.1.2.4 Siblings of pupils who are currently attending Nagle Community College and are not residents of the catchment area
- 7.1.2.5 Siblings of pupils who have attended Nagle Community College and are no residents of the catchment area, Mahon and Blackrock.
- 7.1.2.6 The children of current Nagle Community College staff members.
- 7.1.2.7 Children who attend one of the named feeder Primary Schools.
- 7.1.2.8 All other applicants determined by distance from home to school as measured by Google Maps by car.

7.1.3 Selection process

Nagle Community College will apply the selection process as follows:

Having met the criteria for admission to the Special Class, applications are considered against the published selection criteria. Places will be offered in the first instance to those who meet the first criterion. Subsequently, where the school still has places available the remaining Applicants are considered against the second criterion and those Applicants who meet this criterion will be offered a place within the Special Class. This process is

continuously carried out against all selection criteria until all available places have been offered and accepted.

Where two or more applications are tied in the foregoing selection process, Nagle Community College will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the Special Class, or on the waiting list, to those applications.

N.B. The number of places available in a year group is subject to reduction in the event that a placement(s) in the Special Class is/are given to Student(s) from that year group, i.e. the selection process for the Special Class will be completed before the selection process for the mainstream year group and the number of Students who are offered a place in the Special Class will be the number by which the places in the relevant mainstream year group(s) are reduced.

7.1.4 Late Applications

An application received by Nagle Community College after the closing date published by Nagle Community College and set out in the Admission Notice, is considered a late application for the purposes of this Admission Policy.

Where Nagle Community College is oversubscribed and receives a late application for admission, that application will receive a place on the waiting list beneath Applicants whose applications were received by the school before the closing date for applications, irrespective of any selection criteria which may be applied to applications received before the closing date for applications. Such late applications will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with the date and time they were received by the school, subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10. For the avoidance of doubt, selection criteria are not relevant to, and will not be applied to, late applications.

Where Nagle Community Colleges ASD Special Classes are not oversubscribed, ie there is no waiting list, and it receives a late application, the Student seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within the Nagle Community College ASD Special Classes subject to sections 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 and the same process as applies to Applicants whose applications were received before the closing date will be operated *i.e.* an Acceptance Form

will be issued to the Applicant for completion and return to the school within 2 weeks of issue.

7.1.5 Second/Third-round offers of a place

Where a Student is in receipt of an offer of a place within Nagle Community College but does not accept the offer, or the school withdraws the offer in line with the relevant provisions of this Policy, the place will be offered to the next Student on the waiting list in a second-round of offers. This process will continue throughout third and fourth rounds *etc.* until all places within the Special Class have been filled.

7.1.6 Acceptance of a place

If the Student in respect of whom the application is made is offered a place, the Applicant will be issued with an Acceptance Form by the school.

The Applicant shall indicate acceptance of an offer by fully completing and returning the Acceptance Form by the date set out in the School Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer. This includes indicating whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer of admission from another school.

Failure to fully complete and return the Acceptance Form to the school by the date set out in the School Admission Notice, or within 2 weeks of issuing by the school if it is a late application or if it is a second/third-round offer, may result in withdrawal of an offer, in line with the grounds for refusal as set out below.

7.1.7 Refusal

Where a Student in respect of whom an application is being sought has not been offered a school place, the Applicant will be provided in writing with:

- 7.1.7.1 The reasons that the Student was not offered a place in Nagle Community Colleges ASD Special Classes
- 7.1.7.2 Details of the Student's ranking against the published selection criteria, if the year group to which the applicant is applying is oversubscribed;
- 7.1.7.3 Details of the Student's place on the waiting list, if applicable, and
- 7.1.7.4 Details of the Applicant's right to appeal the decision

In addition to the conditions for consideration of an application as set out at 4.7, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.10 an offer of admission may not be made where:

- 7.1.7.5 The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect.

7.1.8 Withdrawal of an offer

An offer of admission may be withdrawn where:

- 7.1.8.1 The information contained in the application is false or misleading in a material respect, or
- 7.1.8.2 The Applicant fails to confirm acceptance of an offer of admission on or before the date set out in the annual Admission Notice of the school for the academic year for which s/he is applying, or in the case of a late application, or second/third-round offer, within 2 weeks, or
- 7.1.8.3 An Applicant has not indicated:
 - (i) whether or not s/he has applied for and is awaiting confirmation of an offer from another school(s) and if so, the details of the school(s);
and
 - (ii) whether or not s/he has accepted an offer of admission from another school(s) and if so, the details of the offer(s).

If an offer of a place is withdrawn by the school, the Student on whose behalf the application was made shall lose his/her place for that academic year (and shall not be placed on a waiting list). If the Applicant still desires a place for that academic year, a new application

must be made for the same academic year on behalf of that Student and shall be treated as a late application in line with section 7.1.4 above.

7.2 APPEALS

7.2.1. **Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription:**

An Applicant who was refused admission because the school is oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision must first request a review by the board of management in writing, via a 'BOMR1 Form', available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Nagle Community College. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within twenty-one calendar days of the school's decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing office@naglecc.ie .

If an Applicant is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, or the board of management is not in a position to review the decision to refuse admission, the Applicant may apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a 'Section 29 Appeal Form' and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The 'Section 29 Appeal Form' may be downloaded from the Department's website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department's website. As per the Department of Education's '*Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under section 29*', such an appeal must not be brought until the Applicant has received correspondence from the board of management in relation to the review, or until 42 calendar days have passed since the date of initial refusal and may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission.

7.2.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription:

An Applicant who was refused admission to Nagle Community College for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may first choose to request a review by the board of management, via a 'BOMR1 Form', available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Nagle Community College. Such a review must be sought by the Applicant within twenty-one calendar days of the school's decision to refuse to admit. However, if a different time period for the bringing of such an appeal is specified by the Minister for Education after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead. Completed BOMR1 Forms should be submitted to the school office or online by emailing office@naglecc.ie. (An applicant may withdraw a request for review at any time prior to the conclusion of the review by notifying the board of management in writing to that effect.)

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing on a 'Section 29 Appeal Form' and must be submitted to the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. The 'Section 29 Appeal Form' may be downloaded from the Department's website or may be obtained directly from the Section 29 Appeals Administration Unit in the Department of Education. Contact details for the Unit are available on the Department's website. As per the Department of Education's *'Procedures for hearing and determining appeals under section 29'*, such an appeal may not be brought later than 63 calendar days after the initial decision to refuse admission.

If an Applicant who seeks a review by the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, that Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an Appeals Committee established by the Minister for Education under section 29A of the Education Act 1998, as outlined in the immediately preceding paragraph.

7.2.3. Basis for a review by the board of management:

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, any request for the board of management to review a decision of the school to refuse admission must be based on the

implementation of this Admission Policy, the content of the school's Admission Notice and also set out the grounds of the request to review the decision.

Appendix 1

Nagle Community College Steering Committee

The committee shall be comprised of:

- 1 Nagle Community College Principal
- 2 Nagle Community College Deputy Principal
- 3 Nagle Community College ASD Programme Coordinator
- 4 Psychologist (where available)
- 5 CETB Representative (where available)
- 6 Special Education Needs Officer (where available)

3 members constitute a quorum.