Gaelscoil Thulach na nÓg
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Polasaí na Gaeilge Labhartha

Is scoil lán-Ghaeilge í Gaelscoil Thulach na nÓg i nDúnbúinne, Co. na Mí atá faoi phátrúnacht an Fhorais Phátrúnachta, a freastalaíonn ar an éileamh do bhunoideachas trí Ghaeilge sa cheantar áitiúil. Cuireadh an polasaí seo le chéile le comhoibriú ó Mhúinteoirí, Choiste na dTuismitheoirí agus Bhord Bainistíochta na scoile. Leagtha amach thíos ná an polasaí maidir le labhairt agus úsáid na teanga sa scoil.

Is scoil lán-Ghaeilge muid, ina bhfuil an Ghaeilge mar theanga cumarsáide na scoile; déantar gach gnó agus teagaisc i ngach ábhar seachas an Bhéarla, trí Ghaeilge. Is í an Ghaeilge an príomh teanga chaidrimh sa scoil. Labhraíonn na múinteoirí agus na daltaí Gaeilge eatarthu féin.

Spreagtar na páistí agus na tuismitheoirí Gaeilge a úsáid lasmuigh den scoil agus i dtimpeallachtaí eile freisin. Úsáid an cúpla focail atá agaibh sa bhaile. Spreag TG4, Cúla4 agus léitheoireacht Gaeilge sa bhaile chomh maith. Iarrtar ar thuismitheoirí Gaeilge a labhairt chomh fada agus is féidir agus iad ar láithreán na scoile. 'Sé an rud is tábhachtaí ná go mbeadh dearcadh dearfach agat don Ghaeilge agus go bhfeiceann na páistí é sin.

Usáidtear sloinne Gaelach an pháiste i rolla na scoile (Aladdin). Má tá leaganacha éagsúla d'ainm an pháiste ar fáil pléifear seo le tuismitheoirí. Moltar do thuismitheoirí ainm Gaelach an pháiste a úsáid ar scoil chun aitheantas Gaelach a chothú don pháiste agus sainmheon na scoile a bhuanú.

Tá sé mar aidhm againn sa scoil; Cumas éisteachta, labhartha, léitheoireachta agus scríbhneoireachta an pháiste a fhorbairt, chomh maith le muinín agus taitneamh an pháiste sa teanga a neartú agus go mbeidh bród acu inti.

An Tumoideachas:

Tá polasaí an tumoideachais i bhfeidhm sa scoil. Ciallaíonn sé sin go bhfuil na páistí tumtha sa Ghaeilge óna gcéad lá ar scoil. Mar sin, ní labhraítear nó ní mhúintear aon Bhéarla go foirmiúil go dtí tar éis na Nollag sna Naíonáin Mhóra. Ón gcéad lá, cloiseann an páiste an Ghaeilge timpeall air/uirthi, ansin trí spreagadh na timpeallachta agus faoi stiúir an mhúinteora, tagann sé/sí ar thuiscint na teanga. Tá an teanga fite fuaite i ngníomhaíochtaí an pháiste i rith an lae. Spreagfar an teanga trí na gníomhaíochtaí seo a leanas;

- Aistear agus ról-imirt
- Cluichí clóis
- Rannta
- Scéalaíocht
- Saor-imirt
- Amhráin
- Drámaíocht
- Athrá
- Múineadh díreach
- Puipéidí
- Am nuachta

Spreagadh na Gaeilge:

Is trí mhealladh agus spreagadh an tslí is fearr chun an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn. Mealltar na páistí chun Gaeilge a labhairt agus a bheith bródúil as an teanga. Úsáidtear atreisiú dearfach sa scoil chun an Ghaeilge a neartú agus a spreagadh i gcónaí. Moltar iarrachtaí na daltaí i bhfoirmeacha éagsúla;

Bronntar an duais Gaeilgeoir na seachtaine sna ranganna gach seachtain ar an dalta/na daltaí atá ag déanamh an-iarracht an Ghaeilge a labhairt. Tugtar aitheantas do agus déantar ceiliúradh ar Ghaeilgeoirí na seachtaine freisin ag an tionól scoile gach seachtain.

Tuilleann na daltaí píosaí pasta nuair a chloistear Gaeilge chruinn timpeall na scoile. Tuilltear duaiseanna ranga nuair a bhaineann siad méid áirithe amach;

Rithfidh na múinteoirí ranga moltaí éagsúla ina gcuid seomraí ranga chun an Gaeilge a mhealladh.

Duaiseanna ranga samplacha:

- Oíche saor ó obair bhaile
- Am breise sa chlós
- Am spórt breise
- An páirc súgradh
- Scannán

Usáid an Bhéarla:

Is gá do na páistí go léir tuiscint go bhfuil iallach orthu an Ghaeilge a labhairt i gcónaí. Moltar na páistí as ucht na n-iarrachtaí a dhéanann siad chun an Ghaeilge a labhairt ach muna labhraíonn páiste an Ghaeilge go rialta, usáidfear na straitéisí seo atá leagtha amach thíos. Rithfidh na múinteoirí ranga iarmhairtí éagsúla ina gcuid seomraí ranga chun an Gaeilge a mhealladh. Beidh eisceachtaí ag baint le seo. Iarrtar ar pháistí a dhícheall a dhéanamh ag a c(h)umas féin.

Má chloistear páiste ó Rang 1 – Rang 6 nó sna Naíonáin Mhóra tar éis na Nollag, ag caint as Béarla timpeall na scoile leantar na céimeanna seo:

- Ar an gcéad ócáid: *Cárta bán agus ainm an pháiste sa leabhar Béarla.
- Ar an dara ócáid: Cárta bán agus ag cailliúint amach ar phribhléid (Am órga/iPads).

- Ar an tríú ócáid: Cárta oráiste agus obair breise – le bheith sínithe ag na tuismitheoirí.
- Ar an gceathrú ócáid: Cárta dearg agus cruinniú leis an Máistir Seán agus na tuismitheoirí.

*Tugtar na cártaí smachta amach sna hardranganna amháin.

Síniú an phríomhoide: ___________________________

Síniú an chathaoirleach: _________________________

Dáta:

Aguisín I

- Beidh leabhar Béarla ag gach Rang Léibheál. Beidh ainmneacha na páistí scríofa ag barr na leathanaigh sna leabhair. Má chloistear páiste ag caint as Béarla, ar láithreán na scoile nó scríobhtar an dáta agus ainm an mhúinteora/cúntóra in aice leis. Bogfaidh an leabhar ar aghaidh leis an rang gach scoilbhliain.
- Beidh na leabhair Béarla fágtha in áit lárnach. Tógfaidh na cúntóirí amach ar an gclós iad leo, agus fágfaidh siad ar ais iad tar éis. Má chloistear Béarla i rith an lae, beidh ar an múinteoir nó cúntóir ainm an pháiste a scríobh ag deireadh an lae.
- I ndiaidh don pháiste dul chomh fada le céim a ceathair. Tosófar nua ón bpíosa ar chéim a haon arís.
- Déantar ath-thosú gach mean-téarma - bunaithe ar thuairim an mhúinteoir ranga.

Leagan Béarla:

Irish Language Policy

Gaelscoil Thulach na nÓg is an all-Irish school under that patronage of An Fhorais Pátrúnachta that caters for the demand for primary education through the Irish language in Dunboyne, Co. Meath. This policy is a collaborative document created by the school management, teachers, SNAs and the Board of Management.

Gaelscoil Thulach na nÓg is an all-Irish school in which Irish is:

- *The official school language,*
- *Used for communication and for all activities,*
- *Used for teaching and learning in all subjects other than English,*
- *Used by teachers to communicate,*
- *Used by school staff and children to communicate,*
- *Used for communication between the children when participating in all school events*

While we realise that not all parents have a command of the Irish language we would ask you to use whatever "cúpla focal" you have within the school and at home, and to encourage your child to speak his/her Irish whenever possible. Encourage TG4, Cúla4 and Irish reading at home. What is important is that you have an interest in and a positive attitude to the language and that you share that and pass that on to your child/ren.

The Irish surname will be used on the roll book (Aladdin) for each child. We encourage parents to use their child's Irish surname to foster their Irish identity and the Irish ethos of the school.

Here at Gaelscoil Thulach na nÓg we aim to; develop the child's listening and communication skills through Irish, to develop the child's literacy skills through Irish, and to foster and develop the child's ability to use Irish as their everyday language as well as their confidence and sense of pride in Irish.

Immersion Education

Gaelscoil Thulach na nÓg has a total immersion policy. This means that all subjects are taught through the medium of Irish except for English from the child's first day of school. English is not spoken or formally taught until after Christmas in Senior Infants. The children hear Irish spoken all around them. In this environment and with the guidance of the class teacher the child develops an understanding of the language. The language is encouraged and taught using some, but not limited to, the following methods;

- *Aistear and role-play*
- *Games*
- *Poems*
- *Stories*
- *Songs*
- *Free-play*
- *Drama*
- *Repetition*
- *Puppets*
- *Direct teaching*
- *News and circle time*

Positive reinforcement of the Irish language:

The children are encouraged to speak Irish at all times and to be proud of their language. It is through encouragement and positive motivation that Irish is best improved. Their efforts are encouraged in a variety of ways, some of which include, but are not limited to;

- *Irish tokens*
- *Homework pass*
- *Extra yard time*
- *Extra sport/art*
- *Playground*
- *Movie in class*

Gaeilgeoir na Seachtaine is awarded in class each week to the child/ren that are making a great effort to speak the language. These children are also celebrated at school assemblies. Children earn tokens when Irish is heard throughout the school. These tokens will earn individual and class rewards when targets are reached.

The use of English:

Gaelscoil Thulach na nÓg strives to provide children with the highest standard of education through Irish. Children are praised for their use of Irish but the strategies mentioned below will be enforced for children who ignore the Irish rule. Children are obliged to speak Irish, to the best of their ability, at all times at school and whilst representing the school and participating in school activities/events. In cases where children are not speaking Irish the strategies below will be enforced. The Irish rule is linked to the school's Code of Behaviour. Teachers may also run their own consequences within their classroom. Exceptions will be made in the case of some children. Children are asked to speak Irish within their individual capabilities.

If a child from Rang 1 – Rang 6 or after Christmas in Naíonáin Mhóra is heard speaking English, the following steps will be followed;

- *On the first occasion: *Cárta bán and their name will be recorded in the 'Leabhar Béarla'.*
- *On the second occasion: *Cárta bán agus loss of a privilege (eg. iPads, Golden Time etc.)*
- *On the third occasion: *Cárta oráiste and extra work – to be signed by the parents.*
- *On the fourth occasion: *Cárta dearg and a meeting with the parents and Máistir Seán.*

**Cards will only be given in the senior class in line with our Code of Discipline.*

Appendix I

- *Each class level will have a 'Leabhar Béarla'. Each child's name will be written at the top of each page. If a student is heard speaking English within the school or whilst representing the school, the date and the teacher/SNA involved will be documented. The 'Leabhar Béarla' will move on with the class level at the end of the school year.*
- *The 'Leabhar Béarla' will be stored in a central location. The SNAs will take the notebooks out on to the yard each day and return them after yard. If English is heard during the school day, the teacher must record it in the notebook at the end of the school day.*
- *Should a child reach step 4, they will then return to the start again.*
- *Upon reaching the next mid-term, and at the discretion of the class teacher, the slate will be wiped clean and children will go back to the start of the process.*