

Background and Rationale:

Subject to the number of pupils who enrol in St. Malachy's Boys' National School and the staffing arrangements as determined by the Department of Education annually, it may be necessary to divide pupils at the same class level, into classes of the same level or multigrade (composite) classes where required, in order to ensure balanced class numbers.

The criteria used, has been agreed by the Board of Management as the fairest and most equitable method of dividing pupils at the same class level into classes of the same level or multigrade (composite) classes, where required.

Criteria:

1. Pupils of the same class level will be listed chronologically and will be divided into classes at the same class level or into multigrade (composite) classes, where required, according to the ages of the children.

Pupils who arrive during the school year may need to be accommodated outside of the criteria. This will be determined by class size and room capacity and will be at the discretion of school management.

Parents can be assured that children will follow the same curriculum and have the same opportunities as their peers in the same class level.

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on **<u>21st May 2024.</u>**