



Dunmanway, Co. Cork

# **POLICY FOR ADMISSION TO SCHOOL YEAR 2021/2022**

## **Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway is responsible for the implementation of this Admission Policy.

## **INTRODUCTION TO MARIA IMMACULATA COMMUNITY COLLEGE, DUNMANWAY**

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Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway was established in 2002 under the joint trusteeship of the Daughters of Charity and County Cork Vocational Educational Committee, and is now under the joint trusteeship of the Diocese of Cork and Ross and Cork Education and Training Board. The new building was erected on a green field site on the western suburb of Dunmanway, as one of a bundle of five Public Private Partnership Pilot Project Schools. The College is the result of the amalgamation of Maria Immaculata Secondary School and Coláiste Chairbre and began with its first cohort of students on September 1st 2002.

Classes moved into the newly constructed and modern building in December 2002 and the Minister for Education Mr Noel Dempsey officially opened Maria Immaculata Community College in 2003.

We have built and continue to build on the excellent traditions of our founding schools. The new building is designed and constructed to the very highest standard which, coupled with the most modern equipment available, provides students and staff with the very best environment in which to learn and teach.

While the staff and students are justifiably proud of our excellent facilities, it is people who are at the heart of what Maria Immaculata Community College is all about. We aim to provide the best possible education for all our students so that they have the opportunity to make the very most of their particular talents and aptitudes. We believe that we are doing this in an environment that is safe and friendly, as well as stimulating and challenging.

The success of this College is built on providing the following:

- (a) A safe and happy environment for all.
- (b) Quality teaching and learning.
- (c) A range of opportunities for all.

The need for every young person to have an excellent education was never more important than it is today. Working together with each student and parent/guardian, the teachers and staff in Maria

Immaculata Community College believe that we can provide such an education. By doing so, our students will be equipped with the academic achievement and the life skills required for their future.

Currently the school offers students the opportunity to engage in the following programmes: Junior Cycle, Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme, Leaving Certificate.

The school has strong links with numerous companies and organisations within our community.

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# **PART A**

## ***General Information for All Applicants***

- 1. Glossary of terms***
- 2. Admission Statement***
- 3. Legal Framework***
- 4. General Admission Provisions (for all Applicants)***

## 1 GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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**‘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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway.

**‘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 the application for him/her has been accepted such that s/he is regarded as a Student of Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway by virtue of application alone.

**‘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.

**‘Parent’** has the same meaning as in the Education Act 1998 and includes a foster parent and 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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway. The feeder primary schools for Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway are:

- St. Mary’s N.S. Dunmanway North, Dunmanway Co. Cork
- Scoil Phádraig Naofa, Sackville Street, Dunmanway, Co. Cork
- The Model School, Dunmanway South, Dunmanway, Co. Cork
- Derrinacahara N.S., Derrinacahara, Dunmanway, Co. Cork
- Togher N.S., Dunmanway, Co. Cork
- Ballinacarriga N.S., Ballinacarriga, Dunmanway, Co. Cork.
- St Enda’s N.S., Kilnadur, Dunmanway, Co. Cork
- Drimoleague N.S., Dromdaleague, Drimoleague, Co. Cork
- Castledonovan N.S., Castledonovan, Drimoleague, Co. Cork
- Coppeen N.S., Coppeen, Co. Cork

- St. Mary’s N.S. Enniskeane, Co. Cork
- Kilmeen N.S., Coolnaconartha, Clonakilty, Co. Cork,
- Drinagh N.S., Paddock, Dunmanway, Co. Cork
- Abbeystrewery N.S., Castletownsend Rd, Carrigfadda, Skibbereen
- Ballymoney N.S., Ballineen and Enniskeane, Co. Cork
- Derryclough N.S., Derryclough, Drinagh, Co. Cork
- Desertserges N.S., Knockmacool, Enniskeane, Co. Cork
- Dromleigh N.S., Dromleigh, Macroom, Co. Cork
- Inchigeela N.S., Inchigeela, Co. 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.

**[Note:** the wider definition of sibling in the second of the two paragraphs immediately above is for the purpose of facilitating families who are required to do more than one drop-off and/or collection to/from the school.]

**‘Special Class’** means a class that has, with the approval of the Minister of Education and Skills, 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 and Skills . Maria Immaculata Community College has two Special Classes, established to cater for special educational needs of Students.

- Rang Sean supports students with Autism/Autistic Spectrum Disorders,
- Rang Sinead supports students with Multiple Disabilities

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

## 2 ADMISSION STATEMENT

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Maria Immaculata 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 the Bishop of Cork and Ross Diocese) in the organisation and management of the community college on an ongoing basis.

MICC was established in 2002 in a spirit of partnership between Cork ETB and the Bishop of Cork and Ross Diocese. The College is the result of the amalgamation of Maria Immaculata Secondary School and Coláiste Chairbre. 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.

Our school Maria Immaculata 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, Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway, shall not discriminate in its admission of a Student based on the following grounds:

- 2.1. Gender of the Student or Applicant. However, where a school admits students of one gender only, it is not discriminatory to refuse to admit Students not of that gender;
- 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).

Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunamanway shall not charge fees or payments or seek contributions as a condition of admission or continued enrolment of a Student.



### 3 LEGAL FRAMEWORK

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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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunamanway 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 (Admission 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 5.3 in respect of applications made to the First-Year Group and in section 6.3 in respect of applications made to all years other than the First-Year Group.

Section 62(7)(n) of the Education Act 1998 requires each school to set out in its Admission Policy the arrangements it has in place where a parent, or student over 18 years of age, requests that the student opt-out of religious instruction.

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. There is an important 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', Maria Immaculata Community College supports the provision of *religious education* that caters for all students regardless of their religious or non-religious beliefs.

## 4 GENERAL ADMISSION PROVISIONS

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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 1<sup>st</sup> February 2020, Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunamanway had confirmed, in writing, that an Applicant had been placed on a list relating to the allocation of school places for entrance before the 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025, then this confirmation is still valid and the Applicant will be offered that place.

In processing an application Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunamanway **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 and Skills 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, or having attended, the school,

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 Admission Notice for that academic year.

Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway **will consider** the offer of a place to every Student seeking admission to the school, **unless one of the following applies:**

4.7 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;

4.8 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.

4.9 The Student seeking admission to the school has been excluded, through expulsion from another school.

Where Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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.

**Note:** Where an applicant has been refused admission due to the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **must request a review** of that decision by the Board of Management prior to making an appeal under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998.

Where an applicant has been refused admission due to a reason other than the school being oversubscribed, the applicant **may request a review** of that decision by the Board of Management prior to making an appeal under Section 29 of the Education Act 1998

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

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### **5 APPLICATION TO THE FIRST-YEAR GROUP**

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#### **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. Withdrawal of an offer
- 5.1.9. Appeals

#### **5.2 Appeals**

- 5.3.1. Appeal where refusal was due to oversubscription
- 5.3.2. Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription
- 5.3.3. Basis for appeal

## **5.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS (FIRST YEAR GROUP)**

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

A Student applying for the First Year Group but seeking admission to the Special Class should see section 7 of this Admission Policy.

### **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 only for the school year in respect of which the applications are made. Where Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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.

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 to the same year group 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 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**

Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway will apply the following criteria for admission to the First-Year Group:

- 5.1.2.1 Applicants who have siblings currently enrolled in the school;
- 5.1.2.2 Applicants who attended one of the feeder primary schools as listed in the glossary of terms accompanying this policy.

- 5.1.2.3 Applicants who have siblings who were previously enrolled in the school;
- 5.1.2.4 All other applicants

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

### **5.1.3 Selection process**

Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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, Maria Immaculata Community College will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the school, or on the waiting list, to those applications.

### **5.1.4 Late applications**

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

Where Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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. Such late applications will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with the date and time they were received by the school and subsequently the school's selection criteria will be applied in accordance with this Admission Policy.



Where Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway is not oversubscribed 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 and 4.8 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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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's 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's 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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway.
- 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.

### **5.1.8 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 on the admission list or waiting list for that academic year and any subsequent applications for the same academic year on behalf of that Student shall be treated as a late application in line with section 5.1.4 above.

### **5.1.9 Appeals**

For information relating to an Applicant's right to appeal a decision of Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway regarding admission to the First-Year Group, see section 5.2.

## **5.2. APPEALS**

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### **5.2.1 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 submit his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway at Dunmanway, Co. Cork P47Ap82 email: [miccinfo@corketb.ie](mailto:miccinfo@corketb.ie) . Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant 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 and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

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 and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

### **5.2.2 Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription:**

An Applicant who was refused admission to Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may choose to put his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway. Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant 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 and Skills after the publication of this policy, same shall apply instead.

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

If an Applicant who chooses to appeal to the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, the Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

**5.2.3 Basis for appeal:**

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, an application to appeal 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 appeal the decision.

# SECTION 6

## APPLICATION TO ALL YEAR GROUPS OTHER THAN FIRST-YEAR

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### **6 APPLICATION TO ALL YEAR GROUPS OTHER THAN FIRST-YEAR**

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#### **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 appeal

### **6.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS (OTHER THAN FIRST-YEAR)**

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

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 Admission Policy.

### **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 only for the school year in respect of which the applications are made. Where Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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.

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 to the same year group 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 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.

### **6.1.2 Selection criteria in order of priority**

Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway will apply the following criteria for admission to a year-group other than First-Year:

- 6.1.2.1 Applicants who have siblings currently enrolled in the school;
- 6.1.2.2 Applicants who have moved into the catchment area and do not have a school place
- 6.1.2.3 Applicants who have attended one of the feeder primary schools as listed in the glossary of terms accompanying this policy.
- 6.1.2.4 Applicants who have siblings who were previously enrolled in the school;
- 6.1.2.5 All other applicants

Note: 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**

Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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, Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway will apply a random lottery 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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway after the closing date published by Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway and set out in the Admission Notice, is considered a late application for the purposes of this Admission Policy.

Where Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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. Such late applications will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with the date and time they were received by the school and subsequently the school's selection criteria will be applied in accordance with this Admission Policy.

Where Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway is not oversubscribed and it receives a late application, the Student seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway subject to sections 4.7 and 4.8 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.

#### **6.1.5 Second/third-round offers of a place**

Where a Student is in receipt of an offer of a place within Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway
- 6.1.7.2. Details of the Student's ranking against the published selection criteria, if the year-group to which the Applicant is applying is oversubscribed,
- 6.1.7.3. Details of the Student's place on the waiting list, if applicable, and
- 6.1.7.4. Details of the Applicant's right to appeal the decision.

### **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 on the admission list or waiting list for that academic year and any subsequent applications for the same academic year on behalf of that Student shall be treated as a late application in line with section 6.1.4 above.

### **6.1.9 Appeals:**

For information relating to an Applicant's right to appeal a decision of Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway regarding admission to a year-group other than First-Year, see section 6.2.

## **6.2 APPEALS**

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### **6.2.1 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 submit his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway at Dunmanway, Co. Cork P47AP82 email: [miccinfo@corketb.ie](mailto:miccinfo@corketb.ie) . Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant 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 and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

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 and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

### **6.2.2 Appeal where refusal was for a reason other than oversubscription:**

An Applicant who was refused admission to Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may choose to put his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant 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 and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

If an Applicant who chooses to appeal to the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, the Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

**7 Basis for appeal:**

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, an application to appeal 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 appeal the decision.

# SECTION 7

## APPLICATION TO THE SPECIAL CLASSES

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### **7 APPLICATION TO THE SPECIAL CLASSES**

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#### **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. Withdrawal of an offer

#### **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 appeal

## **7.1 ADMISSION PROVISIONS FOR THE SPECIAL CLASSES**

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Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway has two Special Classes, established to cater for the special educational needs of Students with

- Autism/Autistic Spectrum Disorders,
- Multiple Disabilities.

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.

A Relevant Report confirming the special educational need and the recommendation for the special class, completed within the last 12 months, must also be provided to the school with this Application Form so as to be considered for admission to the special class.

Please note: as per the school's Admission Policy, eligibility for the special class is subject to the Student having needs which fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the special class and for transfer students, is subject to there being a place available in the relevant year group.

Where the Special Classes in Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway are not oversubscribed, all Students whose needs fall within the category of special educational needs provided for by the Special Classes will be offered a place in the Special Classes, subject to sections 4.8 and 4.9

In line with section 4.9, where the Special Classes in Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway are not oversubscribed, all Children 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 section 4.8.

### **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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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.

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 to the same year group 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 made to all years other than the First-Year Group.

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 Special Class 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, in the event of oversubscription, the following criteria for admission to the Special Class will apply:

- 7.1.2.1** Applicant who has siblings currently enrolled in the school;
- 7.1.2.2** Applicant who has attended one of the feeder primary schools as listed in the glossary of terms accompanying this policy.
- 7.1.2.3** Applicant who has siblings who were previously enrolled in the school.
- 7.1.2.4** All other applicants

#### **7.1.3 Selection process:**

Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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 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, Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway will apply a random lottery to assign any available places in the school, or on the waiting list, to those applications.

#### **7.1.4 Late applications:**

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

Where Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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. Such late applications will be placed on the waiting list in accordance with the date and time they were received by the school and subsequently the school's selection criteria will be applied in accordance with this Admission Policy.

Where Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway is not oversubscribed and it receives a late application, the Student seeking admission will receive an offer of a place within Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway subject to sections 4.7 and 4.8, 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.

#### **7.1.5 Second/third-round offers of a place**

Where a Student is in receipt of an offer of a place within Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway 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.

### **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's 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 Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway
- 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

### **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 on the admission list or waiting list for that academic year and any subsequent applications for the same academic year on behalf of that Student shall be treated as a late application in line with section 7.1.4 above.

## **7.2 APPEALS**

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### **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 submit his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway at Dunmanway, Co. Cork P47AP82 email: [miccinfo@corketb.ie](mailto:miccinfo@corketb.ie). Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant 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 and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

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 and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

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

An Applicant who was refused admission to Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway for a reason other than the school being oversubscribed and who wishes to appeal this decision may choose to put his/her appeal in writing, via a Section 29 Appeal Application Form, available from the school office and on the school's website, for it to be reviewed by the board of management of Maria Immaculata Community College, Dunmanway. Such an appeal must be brought within fourteen calendar days of receipt by the Applicant 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 and Skills after the publication of this Policy, same shall apply instead.

Alternatively, s/he may choose to apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

If an Applicant who chooses to appeal to the board of management is not satisfied with the decision of the board of management, the Applicant may also apply to bring an appeal to an appeals committee established by the Minister for Education and Skills under section 29A of the Education Act 1998.

**7.2.3. Basis for appeal:**

As required by section 29C(2) of the Education Act 1998, an application to appeal 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 appeal the decision.