

Primary Patronage New Schools 2014

Code of Conduct

- Patron and prospective patron bodies agree to provide factual information in respect of the underpinning ethos of schools under their patronage.
- In describing the ethos of schools under their patronage, patrons/prospective patrons may identify agreed and well understood distinguishing features of that ethos. No subjective statements about, direct commentary on or description of schools under other forms of patronage should be made.
- Patron and prospective patron bodies will agree to maintain expenditure on information provision within overall limits established for each identified area, and within an aggregate limit for the four areas where the new schools are to be established in 2014. A limit of €300.00 per Patron will be maintained for expenditure in an individual area. An aggregate limit of €1,200.00 per organisation or group of organisations will be maintained for expenditure across the four identified areas.
- Patron and prospective patron bodies will agree to provide/publish audited statements of expenditure for the purpose of satisfying these requirements.
- Patron and prospective patron bodies may seek to directly canvass parents to establish their patron preference.
- The role of patron and prospective patron body representatives should be to provide factual public information on their form of patronage. Contentious commentary, value statements or descriptions of schools under other forms of patronage will not be made.
- Please note, that the patronage of a new primary school in any area will not infer rights of transfer to any particular post-primary schools in that area. This means that regardless of the patronage decision for the new primary schools, pupils will have transfer rights to post-primary schools in the area in the normal way.
- While the limitations on the influence of patron bodies are recognised it is expected that patron bodies will encourage schools and other groups affiliated to them to abide by the spirit of this code of conduct.