

## **Exemption from the study of Irish**

Exemptions from the study of the Irish language are granted in line with Department of Education & Skills (DES) policy.

Exemptions are not granted to pupils who do not speak English as a first language unless they come to live in Ireland after their 11<sup>th</sup> birthday and/or present with learning difficulties.

A request for exemption can only be considered by the Board of Management if:

- A written application for exemption is made by a parent or guardian to the principal of the school. This application must specify the grounds on which the exemption is sought and must be accompanied by documentary evidence supporting the request for exemption.

Pupils who have been granted an exemption remain in the class during the Irish lesson so that they may have an opportunity to gain knowledge of spoken Irish and to participate in the learning activities..

This policy is available in Arabic, Polish, Romanian and Russian.