

**Coláiste Pobail Setanta**  
**Policy on Religious Education**

Rationale

- The College recognises that compulsory attendance in Religious Education will work towards fostering tolerance and understanding of all world religions and belief systems.
- The study of Religious Education will also contribute to the moral development of our students, a requirement of the DES\*.
- Religious Education is an essential component of the holistic education that our College aspires to provide. It provides opportunities for critical reflection on individual beliefs and the beliefs of other faith communities.

It is the aim of the Religious Education Department in the College to:

- foster a spirit of inclusiveness
- provide Religious Education for students of all faiths and none
- seek to build relationships with the religious communities in our area
- create cross-curricular links with other departments in the College

Attendance

- All students in the college will follow the Junior Certificate Religious Education syllabus, without exception.
- All students will attend Religious Education classes in both Junior and Senior Cycle. While a number of students may study Leaving Certificate Religious Education as a senior option, all students will study Non-Exam Religious Education in Senior Cycle, Transition Year and LCA.

\*The 1998 Education Act establishes that one of the functions of a school is to “promote the moral, spiritual, social and personal development of students and provide health education for them, in consultation with their parents, having regard to the characteristic spirit of the school”.