



Bord Oideachais & Oiliúna  
**LUIMNIGH & AN CHLÁIR**  
**LIMERICK & CLARE**  
Education & Training Board



# Coláiste Chiaráin

## Special Class Application Information 2026/2027

### What is the Admissions Policy?

Every post-primary school has a unique Admission Policy containing its own unique admissions criteria. A copy of this policy for Coláiste Chiaráin can be obtained on our website in the Admissions tab or by contacting our school directly. It is essential that parent(s)/guardian(s) make themselves aware of the Admissions Policy before submitting the special class application form. If parents/guardians have any queries regarding the school's Admission Policy or criteria for enrolment, please contact the school at [admin@cco.ie](mailto:admin@cco.ie).

### What is the Annual Admissions Notice?

The Annual Admission Notice contains information on a number of details regarding the admission process of a school that change from year to year. It is essential that parent(s)/guardian(s) make themselves aware of the Admissions Notice of our school before submitting the special class application form.

On this Notice you will find:

- How to obtain the school's Admission Policy and application form for enrolment.
- Dates when the school will begin and cease accepting applications for admission to the school for the school year concerned for both CAS system and special class places.
- Dates by when offers will be notified to applicants and dates by when acceptance should be confirmed to the school.



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- The number of places being made available in 1st year for the academic year 2026/2027.
- The number of Special Class places available for 2026/2027
- Information in relation to the number of applications received and the number and order of offers made last year.

### **How do I make an application for a Special Class for Autism for a 1st year student for 2026/2027?**

In order to make an application for admission into a Special Class for Autism for 1st Year for the academic year 2026/2027, you must complete the Special Class application Form 2026/2027 which is available on the school website [www.cco.ie](http://www.cco.ie) by emailing [admin@cco.ie](mailto:admin@cco.ie) or by phoning (061) 397700.

Circular Letter 0039/2025 updates the eligibility criteria for admission to all special classes and special schools.

An applicant must have:

- Professional report(s) outlining: **Diagnosis of Autism**
- **A clear professional recommendation**, stating that an **autism special class placement** would be most appropriate to meet the child's needs.
- **A letter from the NCSE** confirming that the child is known to them and that the child has the required diagnosis and recommendation for a special class for autism.

**Failure to submit the relevant paperwork as outlined above by the closing date will deem the application invalid**



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### **What happens if an application form is submitted after the closing date/time for the receipt of application?**

Applications received after the dates above will be considered and processed as late applications in accordance with the school's Admission Policy.

### **What are the key dates for the Special Class enrolment in 1st Yr 2026/2027?**

- **Wednesday 1st October 2025** - Special Class Application Forms will be accepted by the school.
- **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2025, 12.30pm** - closing date & time for the receipt of application forms.
- **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025** - the school will post letters of offers of places for the Special Class
- **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025** - the school will post letters of refusal of places for the Special Class.
- **Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2025, 12.30pm** - date by which offers are to be accepted/refused.
- **Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2026** - Common Registration Night for all successful applicants.

### **What happens if my child does not receive an offer of a place in the Special Class for 1<sup>st</sup> year in Coláiste Chiaráin?**

If your child is unsuccessful in obtaining a place in the Special Class for 2026/2027 due to over subscription, they will be placed on a waiting list and informed of their position on the waiting list in their refusal letter.

Please note, this waiting list is for a place in the Special Class only. This application will NOT be placed on a waiting list for a mainstream class.



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If you are unsuccessful in getting a place in a Special Class in our school, and wish to make an application for a mainstream class, you must apply through the CAS system. Please refer to our Admission Policy for further information.