

Coláiste Chiaráin

Special Class Application Information 2027/2028

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.

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.
- The number of places being made available in 1st year for the academic year 2027/2028.



- The number of Special Class places available for 2027/2028
- 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 2027/2028?

In order to make an application for admission into a Special Class for Autism for 1st Year for the academic year 2027/2028, you must complete the Special Class application Form 2027/2028 which is available on the school website www.cco.ie by emailing 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

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 2027/2028?

- **Thursday 1st October 2026** - Special Class Application Forms will be accepted by the school.
- **Monday 9th November 2026, 12.30pm** - closing date & time for the receipt of application forms.
- **Monday 23rd November 2026** - the school will post letters of offers of places for the Special Class
- **Tuesday 24th November 2026** - the school will post letters of refusal of places for the Special Class.
- **Thursday, 3rd December 2026, 12.30pm** - date by which offers are to be accepted/refused.
- **Tuesday, 23rd February 2027** - 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 1st year in Coláiste Chiaráin?

If your child is unsuccessful in obtaining a place in the Special Class for 2027/2028 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.

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.