

## Ardee Community School

### Gaeltacht funding policy.

2025.2026

#### ***DEIS scholarships administered by GRETB***

All students/families who are interested in attending the Gaeltacht should notify the school if they wish to be considered for a scholarship, this information will be collated by the school when Expressions of Interest are invited during Term 1, parents will be made aware of the funding that is expected to be available. A closing date for expressions of interest will be notified to all parents/guardians and also to all students. Expressions of interest must be communicated to the school by the closing date. Expressions of interest are sought for all students whether or not they have already booked a place on a course.

Thereafter parents/guardians will be responsible for selecting and booking a course of their choice.

Applications will be submitted by the school to GRETB based on the following criteria.

#### **Criterion 1:**

Priority will be given to families in need for these DEIS scholarships.

The Department of Education and Youth guidelines define a family in need as one where there is:

- Genuine hardship because of unemployment/short time working.
- Prolonged illness of a parent.
- Large family size with inadequate means.
- Single parent families.

Other family circumstances indicating financial hardship.

- Indications of inadequate financial means include:
- Families dependent on social welfare.
- Families eligible for Family Income Supplement (FIS) or Back-to-School Clothing and Footwear Scheme.
- Families experiencing financial hardship because of other circumstances.
- Entitlement to a medical card does not necessarily indicate eligibility.

If the number of applicants fulfilling the above criteria exceeds the amount of application spaces available, then a lottery will be held for **LC Yr 1 students** who have not received a DEIS scholarship before, the outcome of the lottery will be recorded.

or

If all spaces are not filled under Criterion 1 then Criterion 2 will apply.

#### **Criterion 2:**

TY students who have not received a DEIS scholarship before will be eligible as per the process above.

or

If all spaces are not filled under Criterion 2, then Criterion 3 will apply.

### **Criterion 3:**

All other applicants.

If the number of applicants fulfilling the criteria 3 exceeds the number of application spaces available, then a lottery will be held.

Note: Any student may only receive one DEIS scholarship during their time in the school.

## **Part 2**

### **Eamon Kinch Memorial Scholarships**

The Board of Management is also proud to support Irish language learners through the Eamon Kinch Memorial part-scholarships (150 Euros for Junior Students and 250 Euros for Senior Students) which will be awarded to students by the Board of Management. Mr. Eamon Kinch was a member of our school community for many years as a long-standing member of our Board of Management. Eamon was a keen gaeilgeoir and lover of the Irish language who sadly passed away in September 2014.

#### **Criteria for receipt of an Eamon Kinch Memorial Scholarship**

All students who wish to attend a Gaeltacht college, either residential or non-residential, are eligible to receive this funding.

The Board will decide on a yearly basis how many scholarships it will award for that particular year. A student is **only eligible to receive one** of these Eamon Kinch Memorial Scholarships during **Junior Cycle**, and one during **Senior Cycle**.

#### **The process:**

In Term 1 parents/guardians are made aware of the availability of this funding and Expressions of Interest are invited.

Parents/Guardians arrange and pay for their chosen course.

Students who have not received a DEIS scholarship will be eligible to receive an Eamon Kinch Memorial Scholarship.

In Term 2 the school will seek confirmation from parents/guardians of the following:

- Name of college
- Dates of course confirmed
- Permission to communicate with the college in relation to this student and to transfer the award directly to the college.
- IBAN and BIC of the college.

\*If a student has received a scholarship from another source eg GAA/Gael Linn, we request that parents withdraw from the school scholarship application at that point. This will allow the maximum number of students to receive school financial support in that year.

Parents/Guardians are made aware that the college may need to make a partial refund to the parent thereafter.

The school will contact the relevant colleges, and the Board of Management will make arrangements for the transfer of the relevant sum directly to the college for the specific students.

A register of scholarship recipients is retained on file within the school.