

**Provision of Education in Ireland**

Pre-school, primary, second level, special needs,

3rd level, adult & 2nd chance

**Primary Education**

* Children generally attend primary school between 4-5 years
* Not compulsory until 6 years

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **National Schools/Gaelscoileanna** | * Make up majority of primary schools. * Owned by trusteeship of religious communities, boards of governors & individuals * Managed by the B.O.M. * Mostly denominational * Single sex/co-educational. * Financed by Dept. |
| **Educate Together Primary Schools** | * Managed by B.O.M * Multidenominational * Co-educational * Financed by DES |
| **Private** | * Managed by B.O.M * Mostly denominational * Single sex or Co-educational * Not eligible to be Financed by DES to help running costs |

**Primary School Curriculum**

* Delivered over 8 years with no formal examination at the end.
* Aims to nurture the spiritual, moral, cognitive, emotional, imaginative, social & physical needs of children so they meet the demands of life now & in the future.
* Provides a broad learning experience by offering languages (Irish & English), maths, social drama, environmental and scientific education, ICT, Arts, Music, P.E. S.P.H.E. and R.E.
* Particular emphasis on literacy & numeracy development
* Teachers are encouraged to include a variety of teaching and learning styles of individual children. Helps create an inclusive learning environment

**Educational Supports/resources available in primary schools**

* Interactive whiteboards: enable teachers to encourage children to participate more in their learning.
* Laptops & tablets: allows access to educational apps and websites that can assist educational advancement. Allow kids to take control of their own learning.
* Educational psychologists: work in partnership with teachers, parents and children in identifying the educational needs of children.
* The School Book Grant Scheme.
* The Home School Community Liaison Scheme