

## Summary of Learning Support Policy

A Learning Support Policy has been formulated by the teachers and Learning Support team for the pupils of St. Kevin's N.S. This policy outlines the procedures by which pupils will be identified for learning support and is in line with Special Education Circular SP ED 02/05. This outlines a staged approach:

1. Classroom teacher observation will be the first indicator of a child having learning difficulties. Teacher will devise strategy within class to help the pupil. Advice of Learning Support Teacher will also be available.
2. If there has been no progress after a term the pupil will be referred to the Learning Support Teacher for extra tuition. The pupil will also be assessed in an effort to identify his/her particular weakness. On the basis of this the Learning Support Teacher will draw up an individual learning programme. The pupil will continue with this programme until the end of the instructional term or until such time as he/she is able to keep up with the rest of the class. This will also be determined by his/her results in assessment tests which will be administered in May/June.
3. If there has been no improvement in the pupil's progress then a referral to an outside agency such as a psychologist will be advised.

At all stages there will be close communication with the parents and the relevant teachers. Parents' written permission will be sought before a child is admitted to Learning Support. An individual folder for each pupil containing progress reports will be maintained. This information can be accessed by teachers and parents of pupil only and will be kept under lock and key to ensure confidentiality.

Parents must work in tandem with the Learning Support Teacher in helping the child with the Individual Learning Programme and particularly with homework. Parents will be informed when their child is to be withdrawn from learning support.

All pupils in the senior infants' class will have a screening test at the end of the school year to ascertain whether they need learning support in First Class.