

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION POLICY

Ratoath National School is under the patronage of the Catholic Bishop of Meath.

Nurturing the growth of faith in the child is primarily the right and responsibility of the parents.

Religious education will include instruction in the teaching of the Catholic Church but is wider than mere knowledge, including as it does religious formation as well as information.

It is the position of the Catholic Church that religious instruction should be part of the fullness of the education given in schools to children who belong to that Church.

By virtue of his office, the parish priest is to ensure that Catholic children are properly prepared for First Confession, First Holy Communion and for the sacrament of Confirmation, by means of religious instruction and formation over an appropriate period of time. The school chaplain visits the school on a regular basis.

Catholic parents are asked to follow the Religious Programme from the child's book, and help with the Religion work when it is sent home.

On certain occasions throughout the school year, Catholic children may participate in prayer services or a class Mass.

Provision is made for the children of other religions not to participate in the above.