

Dear Parent / Guardian,

The Department of Education issued new guidelines for applying for places in special classes or special schools. These guidelines apply for applications to the Autism classes in our school.

If you would like to apply for a place in an Autism Class or Special School for September 2025, parents must:

- Notify the NCSE by **1 February** and engage with them on the range of options which are available to meet the needs of their child or young person and
- **Obtain a letter** from the NCSE to submit with their admission application for a special class or special school confirming that the child meets the eligibility requirements. This letter will be submitted with the application.

The full circular can be found at:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/f16ca-new-measures-to-support-the-forward-planning-for-special-education-provision/>

Application for the waiting list in St. Joseph's N.S., Autism Classes for September 2025 **will open on Monday 20th January and close on Monday 10th February.**

The Special Educational Needs Organiser (SENO) with responsibility for St. Joseph's N.S., Rathwire is:

Emily James

emily.james@ncse.ie

01 6033440

Kind regards,

Sé McCarthy

Principal