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Half-One-Club Admission Policy of Rathfarnham Educate Together National School (RETNS)

School Address: Loreto Avenue, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14

Roll number: 19945Q

School Patron: Educate Together

1. Rathfarnham Educate Together National School (RETNS) provides an after school service (the 'half-one-club') for the children attending RETNS junior or senior infants (JI and SI) classes. This operates from 1.30pm to 2.30pm daily and is supervised by staff members, employed by the Board of Management. These personnel are garda vetted and all of the normal school policies and procedures apply during the running of the after school club. This service is not a homework club and the children relax and play during the hour.
2. This is an optional service which is paid for by the parents/guardians of the children attending. The school does not receive any funding from the Department of Education in order to run this service. Fees received are used to pay the staff and cover other overhead costs. The fee and method of payment will be advised to parents and guardians each school year and will be charged on a whole-week basis only. Continuing enrolment in the club will be contingent on maintaining up to date payments.
3. The maximum number of children in the after school club will be determined by the appropriate staff/child ratio. Parents and guardians will be invited to apply for places in the half-one-club for each school year and a deadline for receipt of 'in-time' applications will be set. Where the number of in-time applications exceeds the number of available places in any year, the following criteria apply in determining how places are allocated:
 - i. Children who were enrolled in the club during the previous term.
 - ii. Children in JI or SI who have at least one sibling attending 1st to 6th class in RETNS.
 - iii. Children in JI or SI who do not have any siblings attending 1st to 6th class in RETNS.

Places will be assigned to categories i., ii. and iii. in order, with category i. applications exhausted before moving on the category ii. applications, and so on. If there are more

applications than places under a particular category, a waiting list will be determined for that category by random selection. That waiting list will be operational for the remainder of that school year. Late applications will be added to the end of the waiting list in order of date received, regardless of category status. The application process will begin afresh at the start of each school year. Procedures for notifying the relevant groups regarding enrolment in the club are set out in the appendix to this policy.

4. Children with additional needs may attend the half-one-club if their additional needs can be met within the structure of the club. This may require the sourcing and payment for additional ANA support by the child's parents or guardians. Decisions regarding the need for additional needs support in the 1.30 club for any child will be determined by the school executive.

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Appendix 1:

Procedure for notifying enrolment

1. The school will open enrolment for the 1.30 club in Term 3 of the preceding school year (before Sherpa enrolment).
2. All children in the current Junior Infant class and all children in the incoming Junior Infant class will receive enrolment forms at the same time.
3. A deadline for accepting applications will be set each year and the parents/guardians will be notified of such.