ANNUAL ADMISSION NOTICE
in respect of admissions to the 2027/2028 school year

Admission Policy and Application Form

A copy of the school's **Admission Policy** and the **Application Form for Admission** for the 2027/2028 school year is available as follows: –

On request: By emailing yvonne.abbey@saplings.org or writing to : FAO School Secretary Yvonne Abbey, Saplings Special School , Killeshin, Co Carlow.

PART 1 - Admissions to the 2027/2028 school year

Application and Decision Dates for admission to 2027/2028

The following are the dates applicable for admission to Saplings Special School

The school will commence accepting applications from 9am on	**15th October 2026**
The school shall cease accepting applications at 2:40pm on	**22nd January 2027**
The date by which applicants will be notified of the decision on their application is	**5th February 2027**
The period within which applicants must confirm acceptance of an offer of admission is	**12th February 2027**

Note: Late applications will be accepted and placed on our waiting list after all other applications have been categorised appropriately in accordance with our Admissions Policy.

***Failure to accept an offer within the prescribed period above may result in the offer being withdrawn**

Children and young people are eligible for enrolment in Saplings Special School when the following is provided in support of such an application:

1. Professional** report(s) outlining: …..
    a. Diagnosis of Autism: DSM IV/V or ICD 10/11 (psychologist, psychiatrist, multidisciplinary report)
    AND
    b. A demonstration of the understanding of complexity of the child's overall level of need/s evidenced in the professional reports
    AND
    c. Given the severity or complexity of the child's support needs, a clear professional recommendation outlining that an Autism Special School is required to best meet the child's needs, along with the rationale for same
    AND
2. NCSE Confirmation:
    a. A letter from the NCSE, relevant to the 2027/28 school year, confirming that the child is known to them and that the child has the required diagnosis and **recommendation for a special school.**

3. Children who are aged 4 years or older and who have not yet turned 18 years on the 31st August of the year of proposed admission.

** A professional in this context is a chartered psychologist, psychiatrist, or multidisciplinary team including a psychologist or psychiatrist.

Number of places being made available in 2027/2028

The number of places being made available in Saplings Special School for 2027/2028 is	**4**

PART 2 - Admissions to the 2026/2027 School Year

In respect of the 2026/2027 school year, the total number of applicants for admission received by the school was: **31**

Breakdown of places allocated for the 2026/2027 school year:	
Number of places available	**4**
Number of applications received	**31**
Total number of offers made and accepted under each criteria:	**Criterion 1:** Siblings - 0 places offered, 0 places accepted **Criterion 2:** Applicants without a current school placement - 4 places offered, 2 places accepted **Criterion 3:** Applicants whose placement has broken down - 2 places offered and 2 places accepted
Total number of offers made	**7**
Number of names placed on waiting list for the school year concerned	**9**