

Pre-School and Nursery

Schools can provide:

an outline of the language/themes children will be covering in the pre-school/nursery setting along with basic vocabulary and guide to pronunciation in Irish to reinforce in the home setting.

guidance including key vocabulary for simple tasks that can be completed at home which reinforce the target language, such as theme-based art projects, theme-based play dough activities, simple puzzles etc.

links to online books and individual book packs, along with key words/sound bites for parents to reinforce.

signposting to songs and resources online for parents/carers to access at home, including resources and support developed by [Altram](#).

parents with language/phrases which boost esteem, such as 'ar fheabhas', 'ar dóigh', 'maith thú' etc.

Parents can:

encourage children to talk about these themes and share their knowledge of basic Irish vocabulary relating to each theme.

take time to engage with children while they play, create and learn. Talk about what they are doing, praise their efforts. Try to incorporate some Irish language vocabulary that schools have shared.

read to children in Irish or English. When reading stories talk about the pictures, count the pages, talk about colours, use key words provided.

encourage children to listen to songs and stories and access resources in Irish at home in order to increase their exposure to the language. Allow them to view appropriate children's TV shows, and in particular shows in Ulster Irish such as [Na Dódaí](#) and [Déan Damhsa Liom](#).

support and encourage children to use Irish when talking to other children – siblings, classmates etc.

praise children's efforts and incorporate simple Irish phrases to boost esteem.

use whatever Irish they have when talking to their children.



Foundation Stage (Primary Years 1 & 2)

Schools can provide:

an outline of the topics/themes children will be covering in school along with basic vocabulary and guide to pronunciation in Irish to reinforce in the home setting.

guidance including key vocabulary for simple tasks that can be completed at home which reinforce the target language, such as theme-based art, theme-based play dough, simple puzzles, cooking activities etc.

recordings of books and songs in Irish on platforms such as Seesaw/Google Classroom or links to sites such as [leighanois.ie](#).

feedback and praise to keep children motivated and to give reassurance.

links to appropriate online resources and activities such as [Cleite](#) which give children the opportunity to interact with spoken and written Irish.

reading lists or book recommendations of age-appropriate texts.

opportunities for children to interact with teachers and classmates in Irish.

parents with language/phrases which boost esteem, such as 'ar fheabhas', 'ar dóigh', 'maith thú' etc.

Parents can:

encourage children to talk about these themes and share their knowledge of basic Irish vocabulary relating to each theme.

take time to engage with children while they play, create and learn. Talk about what they are doing, praise their efforts. Try to incorporate some Irish language vocabulary that schools have shared.

encourage children to listen to books and songs in Irish when not in school to increase exposure to the language at home.

share completed work or photos/video of children's learning with the teacher. Talk about any feedback and praise their efforts.

encourage children to use recommended online resources, making sure there is balance between online and offline work.

encourage children to read at home in Irish and English and talk about what they are reading.

read to children. It is important to model fluent reading in any language; reading skills transfer across languages.

support and encourage children to use Irish when talking to other children – siblings, classmates etc.

praise children's efforts and incorporate simple Irish phrases to boost esteem.

use whatever Irish they have when talking to their children.



Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 (Primary Years 3-7)

Schools can provide:

summary in English of learning activities and bilingual glossary of key terms and vocabulary to support parents/carers with different levels of Irish.

suggested discussion prompts relating to learning activities (even if the discussion is in English it is an opportunity for children to develop translinguaging skills).

feedback and praise to keep children motivated and give reassurance.

recordings of books/text in Irish on platforms such as Seesaw/Google Classroom or links to appropriate sites such as [leighanois.ie](#) and [Seomra Nuachta](#).

reading lists or book recommendations of age-appropriate texts.

links to appropriate online resources such as [Cleite](#), [Cód na Gaeilge](#) and [Snas ar Scéal](#), which give children the opportunity to interact with spoken and written Irish.

opportunities for children to interact with teachers and classmates in Irish.

extra-curricular activities to enrich pupils' learning as well as information regarding external organisations and agencies that actively support Irish-Medium Education, including local youth clubs and Irish language organisations.

Parents can:

familiarise themselves with planned learning activities and support children with related vocabulary.

use discussion points to talk about and show an interest in what their children are learning. Discussion can be in Irish or English; a strong foundation in the home language is a major factor in enhancing the achievement and self-esteem of bilingual learners.

share or encourage children to share completed work or photos/video of their learning with the teacher. Talk about any feedback and praise their efforts.

encourage children to listen to Irish on a regular basis to increase exposure to the language at home.

encourage children to read at home in Irish and English and talk about what they are reading.

read to children. It is important to model fluent reading in any language; reading skills transfer across languages.

encourage children to use recommended online resources, making sure there is balance between online and offline work.

support and encourage children to use Irish when talking to other children – siblings, classmates etc

actively encourage their children to participate in Irish language activities outside school, for example, by joining an Irish language youth club.

use whatever Irish they have when talking to their children.



Post-Primary

Schools can provide:

immersion in the Irish language while delivering a range of subject content in written, visual and audio format.

opportunities for pupils to develop language and literacy skills as they learn through Irish at home.

access to a range of reading materials in Irish to engage young people.

online tasks and links to appropriate online resources including resources which provide opportunities to interact with spoken and written Irish.

oral guidance and feedback on completed work.

extra-curricular activities to enrich pupils' learning as well as information regarding external organisations and agencies that actively support Irish-Medium Education, including local youth clubs and Irish language organisations.

guidance to parents regarding the use of online learning platforms such as Google Classroom.

an information portal for parents on the school website to share information on pupils' learning journey in the coming year.

Parents can:

encourage their children to actively engage in all forms of work provided by school and talk to them about their learning, in Irish or in English.

ensure their children have access to online dictionaries and resources such as [foclóir.ie](#), [tearma.ie](#) and [teaglann.ie](#) on their devices.

read over their children's work even if it is in Irish. Basic punctuation and use of paragraphs is the same in Irish and English. Parents can support their child in developing literacy skills in both languages.

encourage their children to read in Irish and English and listen to them read aloud, regardless of their own competence in Irish.

encourage their children to engage with recommended online resources, making sure there is balance between online and offline work.

support and assist their children to share completed work with their teachers and read/listen to guidance and feedback.

check their children's homework diary daily and support them in managing their workload.

actively encourage their children to participate in Irish language activities outside school, for example, by joining an Irish language youth club or participating in appropriate online activities in Irish.

familiarise themselves with the learning platform in order to support their children with online learning. Parents can register with their child's account and monitor progress/areas of concern.

access the school's website and use guidance to support their child on their learning journey.

