



children's books ireland

polasaí Gaeilge/ Irish language policy



leabhair
pháistí
éireann

ag cothú léitheoirí



**leabhair
pháistí
éireann**
ag cothú léitheoirí

Faigheann **Leabhair Pháistí Éireann/Children's Books Ireland**
tacaíocht airgeadais ó

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**cistiú
na healaíona**

An chéad dréacht den pholasaí scríofa ar an:
2020

Uasdhátú déanta ar an bpolasaí ar an:
February 2025

Uasdhátú le déanamh ar an bpolasaí faoin:
March 2027

Polasaí Gaeilge Leabhair Pháistí Éireann

Réamhrá

Is í Leabhair Pháistí Éireann an eagraíocht náisiúnta charthanachta agus ealaíon a chosnaíonn agus a chuireann chun cinn an ceart atá ag gach páiste grá don léitheoireacht a fhás agus a fhorbairt. Tá fíis againn léitheoir a chothú i ngach páiste.

Tá sé mar mhisean againn:

Suim sa léitheoireacht a spreagadh i measc leanaí agus daoine óga ar oileán na hÉireann agus cás a dhéanamh maidir le leabhair den scoth a sholáthar go cothrom.

Ár gcuid saineolais agus ár gcuid díograise a roinnt leis na daoine fásta a threoraíonn na léitheoirí óga agus a théann i bhfeidhm orthu agus cur ina luí ar scoileanna agus suíomhanna luath-óige gur fiú cultúr dearfach a chothú maidir leis an léitheoireacht agus an léitheoireacht os ard.

Tacaíocht a chur ar fáil d'údair agus maisitheoirí, iad a chur chun cinn agus iad a nascadh lena lucht léitheoireachta.

Mar chuid den aidhm seo do na páistí uile, spreagfaimid agus tacóimid le léitheoireacht na n-óg sa bhaile trí Ghaeilge, ach go háirithe sa chás gurb í an Ghaeilge teanga an teaghlaigh nó teanga an phobail. Tacóimid le múinteoirí, trí léirmheasanna a chur ar fáil ar leabhair Ghaeilge d'ardchaighdeán inár bhfoilseacháin – feictear dúinn go mbeidh sé seo úsáideach do na scoileanna uile, Gaelscoileanna san áireamh.

Táimid tiomanta do chothrom na Féinne a thabhairt do leabhair sa dá theanga, agus d'údair beag beann ar theanga a saothair. Tuilleann leabhar den scoth aitheantas, lucht léitheoireachta, deis léirmheastóireachta, bheith san iomaíocht do ghradaim, agus bheith istigh i liostaí agus treoirleabhair léitheoireachta. Cuirfidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann an tacaíocht chéanna ar fáil d'údair, maisitheoirí agus scéalaith sa dá theanga, agus beidh siad araon incháilithe do chlár cónaitheachta, forbairt ghairmiúil, deiseanna oibre agus ainmniúchán do Laureate na nÓg. Sa pholasaí seo a leanas, leagtar amach ár ngealltanas maidir leis na tacaíochtaí reatha atá againn a choimeád, agus tionscnaimh eile a fhorbairt a chuirfidh leo.

Comhthéacs

Scríobhadh an Polasaí seo i gcomhthéacs [*Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010–2030*](#), agus [*Litriocht na Gaeilge a Chothú: Plean Forfheidhmithe*](#) 2023 ar aghaidh leis An gComhairle Ealaíon.

Tar éis tréimhse thosaigh comhairliúcháin in Aibreán–Bealtaine 2020, agus tréimhse comhairliúcháin eile i mí na Feabhra, 2021, rinne Leabhair Pháistí Éireann athnuachan ar a Polasaí

Gaeilge. Déanadh athbhreithniú ar na saincheistean is práinní agus is forleithne a bhaineann le litríocht na n-óg as Gaeilge. Ba léir ón bpróiseas comhairliúcháin gurbh í an fhadhb is mó ná easpa feiceálachta na leabhar Gaeilge. Déanadh athbhreithniú eile ar an bpolasaí in 2024 le cinntiú go bhfuil Leabhair Pháistí Éireann ag comhlíonadh a cuid dualgais mar gheall ar litríocht na Gaeilge do pháistí.

I gcomparáid leis na leabhair Bhéarla, ní bhíonn leabhair Ghaeilge éasca le teacht orthu i siopaí leabhar ná sna leabharlanna, ní thugtar an méid céanna spáis dóibh sna meáin, agus uaireanta, is mar áiseanna oideachais d'fhoghlaimeoirí seachas mar shaothair ealaíne a mheastar iad. Mothaíonn líon suntasach de phobal na Gaeilge go bhfuil siad fágtha ar an trá fholamh – imeallaithe agus scoite amach – de bharr an leithcheala seo. D'fhéadfadh cuid mhaith de na fadhbanna seo bheith bunaithe ar easpa muiníne nó easpa cumais na ngeatóirí, nach bhfuil sé de chumas orthu na leabhair a chur in iúl nó a chur chun cinn go cuí. Agus an polasaí nua á chur i bhfeidhm againn, beimid soiléir mar gheall ar ár sainchúram féin, agus ár réimse tionchair. Fiosróimid céard is féidir linne a athrú inár gcúrsaí féin, agus conas is féidir linn daoine agus eagraíochtaí eile a spreagadh chun gnímh. Chuige sin, cuirfimid le feiceálacht na Gaeilge ar ár suíomh gréasáin, inár bhfoilseacháin agus ar na meáin shóisialta s'againne, agus oibreoimid lenár gcomhpháirtithe in earnáil na litríochta do pháistí le cinntiú go gcuirfear níos mó béime ar na leabhair Ghaeilge.

Polasaí

Cleachtais Inmheánacha

- Úsáidtear Leabhair Pháistí Éireann agus Children's Books Ireland araon don fhoireann don síniú ríomhphoist.
- Freagrófar comhfhreagras as Gaeilge sa teanga chéanna sa chás go bhfuil sé indéanta/praiticiúil.
- Pléifear comhionannas teanga mar chuid den phróiseas pleanála ag tús gach tionscadail.
- Sa chás go bhfuil athbhrandáil nó athdhearadh á dhéanamh, cuirfear ceist na teanga san áireamh: aonteangach, dátheangach, détheangach.
- Mar chuid dá n-oiliúint agus iad ag tosú sa phost, léifidh gach ball foirne nua an Polasaí Gaeilge agus gheobhaidh siad treoir mar gheall ar an gcaoi ar féidir leo an polasaí a chur i bhfeidhm ina gcuid oibre.

Foilseacháin

Baineann na gealltanais seo a leanas le foilseacháin Leabhair Pháistí Éireann: an t-iris *Inis*, a thagann amach faoi thrí sa bhliain i gcló, agus le léirmheasanna rialta ar líne, *Rogha Leabhar* agus treoirleabhair léitheoireachta eile nó liostaí léitheoireachta ar théamaí éagsúla a fhoilsíonn Leabhair Pháistí Éireann í féin, nó i gcomhpháirt le heagraíochtaí eile.

- Tá Leabhair Pháistí Éireann tiomanta d’ailt Ghaeilge a fhoilsiú in *Inis*, chomh maith le hagallaimh, gné-ailt agus léirmheasanna. Measfar agus roghnófar leabhair Ghaeilge taobh le leabhair Bhéarla, le barr feabhais mar an tsat tomhais. Beidh an próiseas roghnaithe ar chomhchéim, le saineagarthóirí sa dá theanga.
- Sa chás gur treoirleabhar téamúil atá i gceist, áireofar leabhair Ghaeilge le deich mbliana anuas, i gcomparáid le cúig bliana do leabhair Bhéarla, chun ábhar reatha, inrochtana a chinntiú, agus ag cur san áireamh nach bhfoilsítear an líon céanna leabhar Gaeilge go bliantúil. Déanfar iarracht tuilleadh ábhair sna treoirleabhair a chur ar fáil go dátheangach, chomh maith le haon ábhar breise a bhaineann leo (m.sh. póstaer, leabharmhairc) a dhéanamh dátheangach nó détheangach nuair is féidir. Sa chás nach bhfuil leabhair Ghaeilge ar fáil agus iad bainteach le téama nó ábhar ar leith, cuirfear foilsitheoirí ar an eolas go bhfuil berna sa mhargadh.
- Beidh leagan Béarla ar fáil ar líne d’aon alt Gaeilge a chuirtear i gcló in *Inis*. Beidh an bunleagan Gaeilge ar fáil ar líne mar chuid de *Inis* féin ar ball. Beidh achoimre ghairid sa Bhéarla leis an alt Gaeilge i gcló.
- Sa chás go bhfoilseoidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann treoirleabhar léitheoireachta, áireofar ann gach leabhar Gaeilge ábhartha d’ardchaighdeán atá bainteach le téama agus amlíne foilsitheoireachta an fhoilseacháin.
- Coimeádfaidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann bunachar de na leabhair Ghaeilge a fhoilsítear.
- Feidhmeoidh an tOifigeach Gaeilge mar eagarthóir Gaeilge, le saineolas ar earnáil foilsitheoireachta na Gaeilge.
- Beidh ábhar Gaeilge sa Nuachtlitir ar bhonn rialta.

Imeachtaí agus Tograí Eile

- Leanfaidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann ar aghaidh ag tacú le húdair, maisitheoirí agus foilsitheoirí sa dá theanga, trí bheith i láthair ag seoltaí leabhar agus imeachtaí bolscaireachta.
- Déanfaidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann gach iarracht imeacht a bhaineann leis an nGaeilge a chur ar chlár na comhdhála bliantúla, ag tabhairt san áireamh gur Béarla teanga na comhdhála. Cinnteoidimid go mbeidh na leabhair Ghaeilge chuí ar díol i siopa leabhar na comhdhála.
- Leanfaidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann ar aghaidh ag tacú le foilsitheoirí maidir le Gradaim KPMG Leabhair Pháistí Éireann. Iarrfaimid orthu leabhair a chur isteach do na Gradaim, agus beidh údair ar an ngearrliosta incháilithe do gach deis oibre, tacaíocht, agus duais a bhaineann leo.
- Deimhneoidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann go mbeidh ceathrú den phainéal do Ghradaim KPMG Leabhair Pháistí Éireann ina gcainteoirí líofa Gaeilge, agus go measfaidh saineolaithe na leabhair sa dá theanga ar chomhchéim. Sa chás go bhfuil leabhar as Gaeilge

ainmnithe ar ghearrliosta nó fadliosta na nGradam, cuirfear ábhar bolscaireachta ar fáil sa dá theanga, chomh maith le preasráitis. Cuirfear pacáistí áiseanna do na Giúiréithe Sóisearacha ar fáil go dátheangach, le gníomhaíochtaí ar fáil i dteanga an leabhair féin.

- Leanfaidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann ar aghaidh ag moladh leabhar Gaeilge ag ár gClinicí Leabhair fud fad na hÉireann agus ar líne. Eagróidh an tOifigeach Gaeilge – nó saineolaí eile ar litríocht na Gaeilge don aos óg – seisiún eolais bliantúil do na Dochtúirí Leabhair ionas go mbeidh siad ar an eolas mar gheall ar leabhair Ghaeilge, agus beidh Dochtúir Leabhair le Gaeilge ann chun Clinicí Leabhair Gaeilge nó dátheangacha a chur ar fáil.

Tionchar

- Leanfaidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann ar aghaidh ag clúdach na leabhar Gaeilge sna míreanna léirmheasa a dhéanaimid sna meáin, ar an teilifís, ar an raidió, i gcló agus ar líne, chun cur le feiceálacht na leabhar agus le heolas an phobail orthu.
- Oibreoidh Leabhair Pháistí Éireann le díoltóirí leabhar, leabharlannaithe agus múinteoirí chun iad a chur ar an eolas maidir le litríocht chomhaimseartha na Gaeilge don aos óg, agus chun iad a spreagadh chun leabhair Ghaeilge a dhéanamh níos feiceálaí i siopaí leabhar agus i leabharlanna poiblí agus scoile.
- Úsáidfidimid ár n-ardáin ar na meáin shóisialta chun leabhair agus ealaíontóirí den scoth a chur os comhair an phobail, agus chun cur le tionscnaimh chuí ag eagraíochtaí eile a bhfuil an cúram céanna acu, sé sin, an léitheoireacht Ghaeilge a spreagadh. Cuirfidimid leis an méid Gaeilge a úsáidimid ar na meáin shóisialta agus ar ár suíomh gréasáin tríd an mbliain ar fad, in éineacht le béim bhreise le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge.
- Cothóimid muintearas le heagraíochtaí eile a chuireann litríocht na Gaeilge chun cinn ionas gurbh fhéidir linn obair as lámha a chéile le leas an dá thaobh.

Tá an polasaí seo ar fáil as Gaeilge agus as Béarla.

Children's Books Ireland Irish Language Policy

Introduction

Children's Books Ireland is the national charity and arts organisation that champions every child's right to develop a love of reading.

Our vision is 'every child a reader'.

Our mission is:

To inspire a love of reading in children and young people on the island of Ireland, and to champion equitable access for all to excellent books.

To share our expertise and enthusiasm with the adults who guide and influence young readers, and to encourage schools and early childhood settings to build a positive culture of reading and reading aloud.

To support and promote authors and illustrators and connect them with their audiences.

In pursuit of that aim for all children, we will support and inspire children's reading in Irish at home, especially where Irish is the language of the home or the community. We will support teachers by reviewing high quality children's books in Irish through our publications – we expect that will be useful in all schools, including those that provide education through the medium of Irish.

Our commitment will be to ensure that books in both languages and artists working in both languages are treated equally. Excellent books deserve recognition, an audience and an opportunity to be critically reviewed, assessed for awards and included in reading lists and guides. Authors, illustrators and storytellers working in both languages will be supported equally by Children's Books Ireland and will be eligible for residencies, professional development, work opportunities and nominations for Laureate na nÓg. The policy below lays out our commitment both to maintaining the supports we currently have in place and developing further initiatives which will build on this.

Context note

This Policy has been written in the context of *Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010–2030*, and The Arts Council's *Litríocht na Gaeilge a Choithú: Plean Forfheidhmithe* 2023 onwards.

Following an initial period of consultation in April–May 2020, and a further consultation period in February 2021, Children’s Books Ireland refreshed its Irish Language Policy and reassessed the most pressing and widespread issues pertaining to children’s literature in Irish. The consultation showed that by far the most frequently raised issues relate to the visibility of books in Irish. This policy will be reviewed every two years.

In comparison with children’s literature in English, books in Irish for children can be difficult to find within bookshops and libraries, they are given less space in the media and are sometimes seen as educational tools for learners rather than valued as artistic works. The various forms of exclusion leave a significant community of Irish speakers feeling marginalised and isolated. Many of these issues may relate to the confidence and ability of the various gatekeepers to adequately communicate and promote the books. As we implement this policy, we will be clear about our own remit and sphere of influence, we will examine what can we change in our own operations and how we can be a positive force for action by others. To this end we will promote the visibility of the Irish language on our website, in our publications and on social media, and will work with our partners in other parts of the children’s literature sector to ensure that Irish books are given greater prominence.

Policy

Internal Practices

- Both Children’s Books Ireland and Leabhair Pháistí Éireann are used by staff on their email signatures.
- Children’s Books Ireland will respond in Irish where feasible to correspondence received in Irish.
- Language equality will be considered as part of the planning process of all projects.
- Where a rebranding or redesign is taking place, the language element will be considered: single language, bilingual or dual.
- All new staff will read the Polasaí Gaeilge as part of their induction and receive guidance on how to implement the policy in their work.

Publications

These commitments relate to all Children’s Books Ireland’s publications: *Inis* magazine, which is published three times a year in print and regularly online, *Recommended Irish Reads* and any other reading guides and themed reading lists, whether published by Children’s Books Ireland or in partnership with other organisations.

- Children's Books Ireland is committed to publishing Irish language articles, interviews, features and reviews. Irish language titles will be assessed and selected alongside English language titles, with excellence as the overarching criterion. We will give due process to the selection in both languages, engaging expert editors.
- For themed reading lists where books are chosen based on theme, we will consider titles in Irish published in the last ten years, as opposed to five in the English language, to ensure current, accessible content and to take account of the lower numbers of Irish language titles published annually. We will endeavour to add to the bilingual material in the reading guides, as well as making supplementary material (e.g. posters, bookmarks) available bilingually or in dual language where possible. In the case where there are no books in Irish available relating to the chosen theme, publishers will be notified that there is a gap in the market.
- Articles in the print magazine which are published in Irish will have an English translation available online available on publication of the magazine. The original Irish-language version will be uploaded as part of the *Inis* issue one year after publication, in line with the rules regarding publication of the English language articles. A short English-language summary of the Irish language article will be included in the print edition.
- When a reading guide is published, Children's Books Ireland is committed to including all relevant titles in Irish that meet our criteria of excellence, the theme and the parameters of publication timelines as laid out above.
- Children's Books Ireland is committed to keeping a database of all current and upcoming titles in Irish.
- The Oifigeach Gaeilge will act as an Irish language editor with knowledge and expertise in the area of Irish language publishing
- The Newsletter will contain Irish-language content on a regular basis.

Other Events and Projects

- Children's Books Ireland will continue to show support for authors, illustrators and publishers working in both languages by attending book launches and promotional events.
- Children's Books Ireland will endeavour to programme an Irish language element at the annual Children's Books Ireland International Conference, while being cognisant that the event is delivered in English, and will ensure that relevant Irish language books are available for sale in the conference bookshop.
- Children's Books Ireland will continue to support publishers by inviting submissions of Irish language books for the KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards. Shortlisted artists will be eligible for all associated work opportunities, supports and prizes.
- Children's Books Ireland will continue to ensure that one quarter of the KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards panel are fluent Irish language speakers and that books in both

languages are assessed fairly by experts. If a title in Irish is longlisted or shortlisted for the awards, promotional materials for the awards will be produced in both languages, as will press releases. Junior Juries resource packs will be produced bilingually, with activities produced in the language of the shortlisted book.

- Children's Books Ireland will continue to recommend Irish language books at our Book Clinics held throughout Ireland and online. Our Book Doctors will receive an annual briefing from the Oifigeach Gaeilge or another expert in Irish language children's literature so that they are informed, and an Irish-speaking Book Doctor will be available to run Irish and bilingual Book Clinics.

Influence

- Children's Books Ireland will continue to include Irish language titles in its media reviews for television, radio, print and online coverage in order to increase visibility and awareness.
- Children's Books Ireland will work with booksellers, librarians and teachers to raise awareness of contemporary Irish language literature and encourage greater visibility for Irish language books in bookshops and school and public libraries.
- We will use our social media platforms to showcase excellent books and artists and to amplify appropriate initiatives run by other organisations with a similar remit in encouraging reading for pleasure in Irish. We will increase the visibility of Irish in our communications across our social media and on our website throughout the year, with additional emphasis during Seachtain na Gaeilge.
- We will develop our relationships with other organisations which promote literature in Irish so that we can work together to mutual benefit.

This policy is available in both Irish and English.



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