



IrishTeacher

Job Title	Irish Teacher	FTE	.25
Line Manager	Head of Teaching and Learning	Timetable Allocation	11am – 1pm Monday to Friday

About Headfort School

Headfort School stands on the historic Headfort Estate in Kells, Co. Meath, a town woven deeply into Ireland's cultural and spiritual story. From the ancient High Crosses to the legacy of the Book of Kells, this place has long been a centre of learning, creativity and expression. Our school continues that tradition — proudly rooted in Irish heritage while preparing children for a modern, connected world.

As Ireland's only day and boarding school dedicated exclusively to primary-aged children, Headfort offers a learning environment found nowhere else in the country. We believe that childhood should be filled with curiosity, imagination and a strong sense of identity. Our pupils grow up surrounded by the landscapes, stories and artistic traditions that have shaped Ireland for centuries, and we honour those traditions in our teaching, our values and our community life.

We are committed to nurturing children who are confident in themselves, connected to their place, and proud of their country. Irish language, culture, music, art and storytelling are woven into daily life at Headfort — not as subjects, but as living expressions of who we are.

For teachers who join our boarding community, Headfort offers an experience unlike any other in Ireland. Working in the House means becoming part of a warm, close-knit residential environment where children are supported in their learning, their routines and their personal growth. It is a chance to build deep relationships, share in the rhythms of boarding life, and contribute to a joyful home-from-home atmosphere.

Teaching at Headfort is not only a professional role — it is a chance to shape the lives of young people in a place that holds a special place in Ireland's educational landscape. Our teachers help children discover their voice, their creativity and their connection to the world around them, all while grounded in the rich heritage of Kells.

About the role - Irish Teacher

Headfort School is seeking an Irish teacher who shares our deep commitment to the culture, language and history of Ireland. Our location in Kells, a town shaped by centuries of learning, artistry and spiritual tradition, places us in the heart of Ireland's story. We are proud of this heritage — and we seek a teacher who will help our pupils understand, celebrate and carry it forward.

We are looking for someone who believes that Irish is not just a subject, but a living expression of identity, community and belonging. Someone who can bring the language to life through curiosity, creativity and confidence. Someone who understands that teaching Irish is an act of cultural stewardship — preserving the linguistic richness of this country while inspiring children to take pride in their place and their voice.

The ideal candidate will nurture a love of Irish through storytelling, conversation, music, drama, art and everyday use. They will help pupils see the language as a bridge to understanding who they are, where they come from, and the traditions that shape Ireland today.

This role is an opportunity to contribute to a school that honours its roots, celebrates its place in Kells, and remains committed to ensuring that Ireland's linguistic and cultural heritage thrives in the next generation.

Key Responsibilities

- Curriculum Development — Design, refine and evolve a rich Irish curriculum that reflects Headfort's commitment to language, culture and identity. Ensure learning experiences are creative, relevant and rooted in Ireland's linguistic heritage.
- Driving New Ideas — Introduce fresh approaches to teaching Irish, including storytelling, drama, music, art and real-world language use. Bring innovation that excites pupils and deepens their connection to the language.
- Collaborative Teaching — Work closely with colleagues across subjects to integrate Irish language and culture into wider learning. Contribute to cross-curricular projects, whole-school events and shared planning.
- Inquiry-Based Learning — Use an inquiry model to challenge pupils' curiosity. Encourage them to ask questions, explore ideas, investigate language patterns and discover meaning through active learning.
- Question-Led Instruction — Teach through thoughtful, open-ended questioning that promotes deeper thinking, reflection and independence. Help pupils articulate their reasoning and develop confidence in expressing themselves in Irish.
- Cultural Stewardship — Embed Irish culture, history and identity into daily learning. Use local heritage, stories, traditions and the unique context of Kells to enrich pupils' understanding of Ireland.
- Assessment for Learning — Use formative assessment to understand pupil progress, guide next steps and support individual learning needs. Provide feedback that builds confidence and celebrates growth.
- Creating Joyful Learning Environments

Essential Skills

- Experience in Irish Language Instruction — Proven ability to teach Irish with clarity, creativity and cultural depth. Confidence in developing pupils' spoken Irish, reading, writing and comprehension through engaging, inquiry-based approaches that make the language feel alive and meaningful.
- Strong General Teaching Practice — A solid understanding of effective pedagogy, including lesson planning, differentiation, formative assessment and reflective practice. Ability to create learning experiences that are structured, purposeful and responsive to pupils' needs.
- Inquiry-Based Teaching — Skill in designing learning that begins with curiosity. Ability to use questions, investigations and exploration to help pupils construct understanding rather than simply receive information.
- Question-Led Instruction — Confidence in using open-ended, thoughtful questions to deepen learning, spark curiosity and encourage pupils to articulate their thinking in Irish and English.
- Creating Inclusive Learning Environments — Ability to adapt teaching to different learning styles, emotional needs and cultural backgrounds, ensuring every child feels valued, capable and supported.
- Classroom Management & Calm Leadership — Skill in maintaining a positive, organised and emotionally safe classroom where pupils feel confident to take risks, make mistakes and grow.
- Collaborative Teaching — Willingness to work closely with colleagues across subjects, contributing to shared planning, cross-curricular projects and whole-school cultural initiatives.
- Cultural Stewardship — A genuine commitment to Ireland's linguistic and cultural heritage, and the ability to embed Irish stories, traditions and identity into everyday teaching.

Requirements

- Relevant Degree Qualification — A Bachelor's degree in Irish, Education, Modern Languages, or a related field. Recent graduates with strong academic grounding in Irish language and culture are warmly encouraged to apply.
- Experienced or Semi-Retired Educators — We welcome applications from semi-retired teachers or educators seeking a meaningful, part-time role where their experience, cultural knowledge and passion for Irish can make a significant impact.
- Flexibility for Part-Time Work — This position offers a flexible part-time schedule that suits graduates beginning their teaching journey, professionals balancing other commitments, or experienced teachers seeking reduced hours while remaining active in education.
- Strong Irish Language Proficiency — Confidence in teaching spoken Irish, reading, writing and comprehension through engaging, inquiry-based methods.
- General Teaching Competence — Ability to plan lessons, differentiate for varied learners, assess progress and maintain a positive, structured classroom environment.

- Commitment to Irish Culture — A genuine passion for Ireland's linguistic and cultural heritage, and the ability to embed this meaningfully into daily teaching.
- Collaborative Mindset

How to Apply

Please send your CV and a short cover letter addressed to the Head of School to **office@headfortschool.com**.