

## **Attachment No. 4 to Report**



### **Forward Planning Section Report To The New Schools Establishment Group New Post-Primary Schools 2017-2018**

**Location: Swords, Co. Dublin. (map attached)**

**Year Required: 2017**

**School Size required: Long term projected need up to 1,000 pupil places**

## Applications Received

Two applications were received from prospective patrons to operate the new school in the Swords post-primary school planning area. A brief profile of the applicants together with a synopsis of the school type proposed is set out hereunder:

### Educate Together

#### **Profile of Applicant**

Educate Together is the representative organisation of 89 primary and post-primary schools throughout the country. 12 of the primary schools have patrons operating under the Educate Together network. Educate Together is involved in partnership arrangements with relevant Education and Training Boards (ETBs) in the operation of a number of post-primary schools. A Blueprint for Educate Together's second-level schools has been developed called "Taking the Next Steps". The organisation became a company limited by guarantee in 1998 and has charitable status.

#### **School type proposed**

Multi-denominational, co-educational, English-medium post-primary school.

Preparedness to establish an Irish-medium Aonad, should the demand be present, has been indicated in the application.

Willingness to consider a partnership arrangement with Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB has also been indicated.

### Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB)

#### **Profile of Applicant**

DDLETB was established on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2013 as an amalgamation of the County Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Vocational Education Committees, both of which have been in existence since the 1930's. DDLETB provides education services and supports for children, young people and adults. Its administrative area covers Fingal, South Dublin and Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown. It is a registered school patron and has charitable status. DDLETB is currently patron of 54 schools, comprising 48 post-primary schools and six primary schools. 30 post-primary schools are ETB Community Colleges. DDLETB is also a joint patron of 18 Community Schools.

#### **School type proposed**

Multi-denominational, co-educational, English-medium Community College.

Preparedness to establish an Irish-medium Aonad, should the demand be present, has been indicated in the application.

## Demographic details

There are four post-primary schools in the Swords school planning area. The total provisional enrolment in post-primary schools in the Swords school planning area for the 2015/16 school year is **2,361** pupils.

Demographic analysis shows that the enrolment figure for the Swords school planning area is projected to grow to approximately **4,145** pupils by the year 2025 based on a **100%** intake in the school planning area. **This is a potential 1,784 extra pupils requiring school places.** However, the actual intake at post-primary level in the Swords school planning area is currently **87%**. At the current level of intake, enrolment would increase to approximately **3,596** pupils by 2025. **This is a potential 1,235 extra pupils.**

In recent years two new 1,000 pupil post-primary schools were provided in the adjacent school planning areas of Rush/Lusk (2013) and Ashbourne (2014). A new 1,000 pupil post-primary school is also due to open, as a regional solution, for the adjacent Malahide/Nevinstown and Portmarnock school planning areas in 2017. The demographic data for the area, overall, indicate that while demand for post-primary pupil places over the last five years has been stable in a number of school planning areas, demand in the majority of adjacent school planning areas will continue to increase over the coming years. This indicates that the level of pupil intake at post-primary level in Swords is likely to continue at or close to the current actual intake level of 87% and therefore it is prudent to plan provision in the Swords school planning area on this basis.

## Assessment of applications

### 1. Requirements

**Has the applicant patron confirmed that it will comply with the requirements as set out?**

	<i>Educate Together</i>	<i>Dublin Dún Laoghaire ETB</i>
Is willing to accept and open special education facilities	√	√
Is willing to enter into the standard lease agreement with the Department of Education & Skills or that the prospective patron will provide their own site	√	√
Is willing to operate by the rules and regulations laid down in various Department of Education & Skills circulars and operating procedures	√	√
Is willing to operate the school within the resourcing and policy parameters established by the Department of Education & Skills	√	√
Is willing to share school buildings with other schools as may be determined by the Department should the school building not be in full use	√	√
Is willing to be part of a campus development with other primary or second-level schools as identified by the Department	√	√
Is willing to prioritise enrolment of children in the area for whom the Department has identified the need for a school	√	√
Is willing to follow the prescribed curriculum	√	√
Is willing to expand/ operate in the size range of 800 to 1,000 pupils (a lower threshold of 400 would apply for Gaelcholáistí having regard to the alternative of establishing an Aonad within a school)	√	√
Is willing to establish an Aonad where there is demand for it (for a school where the primary medium of instruction is to be English)	√	√

## **2. Multiple Provider Areas**

### **Criteria for deciding on patronage where there is currently at least one post-primary school**

**Will the establishment of the proposed school result in greater diversity and plurality of post-primary school patronage and provision in the area (having regard to neighbouring areas) where there is demand for such diversity and plurality? In this context individual patron bodies from the one faith group will be regarded as representing the same school patronage type for assessing plurality.**

There are currently four post-primary schools in the Swords school planning area:

- Three schools have a Catholic ethos, one all-boys school, one all-girls school and one co-educational
- One school has a multi-denominational ethos and is co-educational schools
- There are no fee-paying schools in the Swords school planning area
- The four schools provide education through the medium of English

#### **Educate Together - Co-educational, multi-denominational post-primary school.**

The establishment of a new school under the model proposed by Educate Together would increase co-educational provision in the Swords school planning area, given that two of the existing schools are single-sex schools. It is noted that the school planning area has two post-primary schools operating under the patronage of DDLETB and two under the patronage of Catholic Trusts. The proposed model would provide for multi-denominational education, resulting in greater diversity and plurality of post-primary school patronage and increasing multi-denominational provision in the area.

#### **Dublin Dún Laoghaire ETB - Co-educational, multi-denominational Community College.**

The establishment of a new school under the model proposed by DDLETB would increase co-educational provision in the Swords school planning area, given that two of the existing schools are single-sex schools. It is noted that the school planning area has two post-primary schools operating under the patronage of DDLETB and two under the patronage of Catholic Trusts. The proposed model would not increase diversity of patronage in the area but would increase multi-denominational provision.

## Details of Current Post-Primary Schools in the Swords School Planning Area

Roll No	School Name	Ethos		Patron	Medium of Instruction	Gender	2015/16 Total Enrolment	% in school of Total Area Enrolment
60383I	Coláiste Choilm (Boys)	Denominational	Catholic	Edmund Rice Schools Trust	English	All-boys	542	23%
60810B	Loreto College (Girls)	Denominational	Catholic	Loreto Education Trust	English	All-Girls	632	27%
70120F	St Finians Community College	Non Designated Community College	Multi Denominational	Dublin & Dún Laoghaire ETB	English	Co-Educational	562	24%
70121H	Fingal Community College	Designated Community College	Catholic	Dublin & Dún Laoghaire ETB	English	Co-Educational	625	26%
<b>Total</b>							<b>2361</b>	

Swords School Planning Area										Detailed Enrolment 2015/2016							
Current Transfer Rate 87%																	
Roll No	Name	Ethos		06/07 Enr	11/12 Enr	15/16 Enr	Historic 5 Year Trend	Historic 10 Year Trend	1 <sup>st</sup> Yr	2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr	3 <sup>rd</sup> Yr	TY	5 <sup>th</sup> Yr	6 <sup>th</sup> Yr	Total Mainstream	PLC	
60383I	Coláiste Choilm (Boys)	Denominational	Catholic	610	614	542	-72	-68	111	104	104	18	89	116	542	0	
60810B	Loreto College (Girls)	Denominational	Catholic	630	627	632	5	2	120	120	120	25	121	126	632	0	
70120F	St Finians Community College	Non Designated Community College	Multi Denominational	581	606	562	-44	-19	103	119	119	0	126	95	562	0	
70121H	Fingal Community College	Designated Community College	Catholic	555	550	625	75	70	148	93	103	58	129	94	625	0	
<b>Total</b>				<b>2376</b>	<b>2397</b>	<b>2361</b>	<b>-36</b>	<b>-15</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>431</b>	<b>2361</b>	<b>0</b>	

% of Total Enrolment by Ethos	
Catholic	76%
Multi denominational	24%

% of Total Enrolment by Patron	
Loreto Order	27%
Edmund Rice Schools Trust	23%
Dublin & Dún Laoghaire ETB	50%

## Details of Current Primary Schools in the Swords School Planning Area

There are **13** primary schools in the Swords school planning area. Of these schools, four have a multi-denominational ethos, eight have a Catholic ethos and one has an inter-denominational ethos (Catholic and Church of Ireland).

Twelve of the schools are English-medium and one is an Irish-medium Gaelscoil.

The total enrolment of these schools has grown by **1,332** since 2006/2007. Enrolments are projected to continue to grow peaking in 2019/2020 at **6,155** pupils, an increase of **642** pupils on current enrolment of **5,513**.

Primary Schools Swords School Planning Area									Detailed Enrolment 2015/16								
Roll No	Name	Ethos	Medium of Instruction	06/07 Enr	11/12 Enr	15/16 Enr	5 Year Trend	10 Year Trend	Jun Inf	Sen Inf	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Total
12358M	Swords Borough N S	Inter Denominational	English	110	105	105	0	-5	14	15	13	13	15	11	13	11	105
17820J	Brighde Naofa	Catholic	English	272	282	318	36	46	44	43	43	47	46	39	31	25	318
18976W	S N Cholmcille B	Catholic	English	477	421	410	-11	-67	71	43	52	58	47	41	49	49	410
18977B	S N Cholmcille C	Catholic	English	505	466	412	-54	-93	53	59	60	56	47	33	52	52	412
19456B	St Cronan	Catholic	English	618	599	623	24	5	154	163	163	143	0	0	0	0	623
19535U	Brackenstown Senior N S	Catholic	English	630	591	550	-41	-80	0	0	0	0	141	145	126	138	550
19693P	Mary Queen Of Ireland N S	Catholic	English	73	62	76	14	3	7	15	12	8	8	11	11	4	76
19721R	Holy Family Junior N S	Catholic	English	509	615	694	79	185	168	180	179	167	0	0	0	0	694
19877C	Holy Family Senior N S	Catholic	English	515	514	604	90	89	0	0	0	0	168	144	143	149	604
20095C	Gaelscoil Bhrian Bóirimhe	Multi Denominational	All Irish	199	359	474	115	275	66	63	63	66	60	56	55	45	474
20145O	Swords Educate Together NS	Multi Denominational	English	273	444	441	-3	168	59	57	55	55	57	51	51	56	441
20302E	Thornleigh Educate Together National School	Multi Denominational	English	0	159	325	166	325	58	51	43	43	48	26	36	20	325
20348F	Holywell Educate Together National School	Multi Denominational	English	0	77	481	404	481	86	105	83	73	53	32	24	25	481
<b>Totals</b>				<b>4,181</b>	<b>4,694</b>	<b>5,513</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>1,332</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>794</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>729</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>589</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>5,513</b>
<b>First Four Years Enrolments vs Last Four Years Enrolments</b>									<b>3,069</b>			<b>2,444</b>					

## Details of Post-Primary Schools in the Adjoining School Planning Area(s) to Swords

**Are there post-primary schools of the same or similar patronage in neighbouring school planning areas?**

There are seven school planning areas adjoining Swords, with 13 post-primary schools in these adjoining areas:

- Ashbourne (2)
- Rush & Lusk (2)
- Donabate (1)
- Malahide/Nevinstown (1)
- Portmarnock (1)
- Whitehall/Santry/D9 (5)
- Finglas East/Ballymun/D11 (1)

All 13 schools are in the free education scheme. Ten of the 13 schools are co-educational, while the remaining three are single-sex, all-boys schools. Eight have a Catholic ethos and the remaining five have a multi-denominational ethos. Overall, enrolments across these school planning areas have been increasing in recent years.

**Educate Together** - The provision of a co-educational, multi-denominational post-primary school will increase and strengthen diversity of patronage at post-primary level in the wider region and would increase multi-denominational provision.

**Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB** - The provision of a co-educational, multi-denominational Community College will increase multi-denominational provision at post-primary level in the wider region.

Surrounding School Planning Areas										Detailed Enrolment 2015/2016									
Malahide School Planning Area																			
Current Transfer Rate 75%																			
Roll No	Name	Ethos		Patron	06/07 Enr	11/12 Enr	15/16 Enr	5 Year Trend	10 Year Trend	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	TY	5th Yr	6th Yr	Total	PLC	Distance to Swords (approx)	
91325R	Malahide Community School	Inter Denominational	Catholic	Dublin & Dún Laoghaire ETB + Archbishop of Dublin	1153	1219	1226	7	73	205	203	204	228	195	191	1226	0	5.1 km	
<b>Total</b>					<b>1153</b>	<b>1219</b>	<b>1226</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>1226</b>	<b>0</b>		



Surrounding School Planning Areas													Detailed Enrolment 2015/2016					
Donabate School Planning Area																		
Current Transfer Rate 100%																		
Roll No	Name	Ethos		Patron	06/07 Enr	11/12 Enr	15/16 Enr	5 Year Trend	10 Year Trend	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	TY	5th Yr	6th Yr	Total	PLC	Distance to Swords (approx)
76104O	Donabate Community College	Non Designated Community College	Multi Denominational	Dublin & Dún Laoghaire ETB	0	453	794	341	794	148	158	157	85	156	90	794	0	7.5 km
Total					0	453	794	341	794	148	158	157	85	156	90	794	0	

Surrounding School Planning Areas													Detailed Enrolment 2015/2016					
Portmarnock School Planning Area																		
Current Transfer Rate 137%																		
Roll No	Name	Ethos		Patron(s)	06/07 Enr	11/12 Enr	15/16 Enr	5 Year Trend	10 Year Trend	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	TY	5th Yr	6th Yr	Total	PLC	Distance to Swords (approx)
91324P	Portmarnock Community School	Inter Denominational	Catholic	Dublin & Dún Laoghaire ETB+ Archbishop of Dublin+ Loreto Sisters(Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary)	994	804	892	88	-102	167	150	148	144	147	136	892	0	9.2 km
Total					994	804	892	88	-102	167	150	148	144	147	136	892	0	

Surrounding School Planning Areas													Detailed Enrolment 2015/2016					
Rush+Lusk School Planning Area																		
Current Transfer Rate 63%																		
Roll No	Name	Ethos		Patron	06/07 Enr	11/12 Enr	15/16 Enr	5 Year Trend	10 Year Trend	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	TY	5th Yr	6th Yr	Total	PLC	Distance to Swords (approx)
60343T	St Joseph's Secondary School	Denominational	Catholic	CEIST	421	583	700	117	279	131	101	104	149	121	94	700	0	9.6 km
76213T	Lusk Community College	Non Designated Community College	Multi Denominational	Dublin & Dún Laoghaire ETB	0	0	376	376	376	145	126	105	0	0	0	376	0	
Total					421	583	1076	493	655	276	227	209	149	121	94	1076	0	

Surrounding School Planning Areas														Detailed Enrolment 2015/2016						
Whitehall Santry D9 School Planning Area																				
Current Transfer Rate 103%																				
Roll No	Name	Ethos		Patron	06/07 Enr	11/12 Enr	15/16 Enr	5 Year Trend	10 Year Trend	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	TY	5th Yr	6th Yr	Total	PLC	Distance to Swords (approx)		
60481I	St. Aidan's C.B.S. (Boys)	Denominational	Catholic	Edmund Rice Schools Trust	603	650	711	61	108	143	117	120	71	140	120	711	0	10.3 km		
60581M	St Kevins College (Boys)	Denominational	Catholic	Board of Governors of Sandford Park	275	466	527	61	252	81	101	91	49	104	101	527	0			
70310K	Plunket College	Non Designated Community College	Multi Denominational	City of Dublin ETB	185	303	174	-129	-11	0	0	8	0	39	127	174	104			
*76394D	Clonturk College	Non Designated Community College	Multi Denominational	City of Dublin ETB and Educate Together (Trustee Partner)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
81017A	Trinity Comprehensive School	Denominational	Catholic	Minister for Education & Skills with Archbishop of Dublin as a partner	746	455	457	2	-289	89	90	97	65	60	56	457	0			
<b>Total</b>					<b>1809</b>	<b>1874</b>	<b>1869</b>	<b>-5</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>1869</b>	<b>104</b>			

\* Clonturk College opened in September 2016

Surrounding School Planning Areas														Detailed Enrolment 2015/2016						
Finglas East Ballymun D11 School Planning Area																				
Current Transfer Rate 36%																				
Roll No	Name	Ethos		Patron	06/07 Enr	11/12 Enr	15/16 Enr	5 Year Trend	10 Year Trend	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	TY	5th Yr	6th Yr	Total	PLC	Distance to Swords (approx)		
60511O	Beneavin De La Salle College (Boys)	Denominational	Catholic	Le Chéile Schools Trust Ltd	439	486	472	-14	33	105	80	88	24	103	72	472	0	12.9 km		
<b>Total</b>					<b>439</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>-14</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>0</b>			

Surrounding School Planning Areas														Detailed Enrolment 2015/2016						
Ashbourne School Planning Area																				
Current Transfer Rate 86%																				
Roll No	Name	Ethos		Patron	06/07 Enr	11/12 Enr	15/16 Enr	5 Year Trend	10 Year Trend	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	TY	5th Yr	6th Yr	Total	PLC	Distance to Swords (approx)		
91495T	Ashbourne Community School	Inter Denominational	Catholic	Louth & Meath ETB+ Bishop of Meath	953	1007	1095	88	142	168	195	203	136	224	169	1095	0	14.9 km		
76196W	De Lacy College	Non Designated Community College	Multi Denominational	Louth & Meath ETB	0	0	109	109	109	70	39	0	0	0	0	109	0			
<b>Total</b>					<b>953</b>	<b>1007</b>	<b>1204</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>1204</b>	<b>0</b>			

**Has the patron/prospective patron provided detail on planned mechanisms to ensure that the proposed school will expand to the size range of 800 to 1,000 pupils (or 400 pupils for a Gaelchóláiste), including:**

- possible measures if expansion is not happening as fast as planned?
- collaboration with existing second-level schools in the school planning areas?

**1. Educate Together**

Educate Together has confirmed its willingness to operate a school in the size range of 800 to 1,000 pupils. The application references the active campaigning by parents in Swords for an Educate Together Post-Primary school to serve pupils emerging from the existing three Educate Together primary schools in the area.

Educate Together believes that the growing appeal of equality-based learning, an active community involvement and the high level of visibility that brings to a school are central to the rapid expansion of their school model. As patron, should anticipated growth not be achieved naturally, it proposes to facilitate the expansion required by:

- Review of enrolment policy/procedures and any catchment area regulations
- Outreach campaigns to sections of the community with low awareness of the school
- Review of school communications to ensure high levels of awareness of the Educate Together school model
- Work with the school and the Department of Education and Skills to address any shortcomings

With regard to collaboration with existing schools in the area Educate Together already facilitates shared resources, facilities and staff with neighbouring schools and collaborates on activities and projects in established areas.

**2. Dublin Dún Laoghaire ETB**

DDLETB's application for patronage confirms its willingness to expand/operate the school in the size range of 800 to 1,000 pupils. It puts forward its parental preferences as evidence of the demand for the ETB's Community College model of school in Swords.

As patron/joint-patron of existing Community Schools and Colleges, DDLETB already collaborates with other patron bodies on an on-going basis. It has years of experience in the education sector and in collaborating with the Department, and the services provided by DDLETB to its existing schools will be extended to the new school if it is established under its patronage. DDLETB offers a broad curriculum to students and the use of staff resources from other DDLETB schools for the provision of specialist subjects (music, technology, science etc.) has already been used for new and developing schools in particular.

### 3. Parental Preferences

Details of parental demand demonstrated by the applicant patrons are set out below:

#### Educate Together:

Educate Together provided details of **919** prospective pupils in support of its application for patronage of the proposed new post-primary school in the Swords school planning area.

Following analysis of the prospective pupil details provided, the following **293** records have not been included;

- **1** record did not include the child's name
- **6** children were duplicated on the list of parental preferences
- **14** children were listed with no proposed year of entry
- **13** children reside outside of the school planning area
- **259** children on the list were proposed to enrol in a year outside of the five years specified in the patronage invitation for the Swords School which is 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

All of these prospective pupils have been deducted from the demand for the Educate Together model of provision. The remaining **626** prospective pupils were considered in terms of valid demand for the model proposed for the purposes of this process.

Swords School Planning Area						
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
1 <sup>st</sup> Year Intake	83	94	134	153	162	626

## Dublin Dún Laoghaire ETB:

DDLETB provided details of **1,212** prospective pupils in support of their application for patronage of the proposed new post-primary school in the Swords school planning area.

Following analysis of the prospective pupil details provided, the following **403** records have not been included;

- **4** records did not include the child's full name
- **5** children were listed with no date of birth
- **26** children were duplicated on the list of parental preferences
- **29** children were listed with no proposed year of entry
- **43** children reside outside of the school planning area
- **296** children on the list were proposed to enrol in a year outside of the five years specified in the patronage invitation for the Swords School which is 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021.

All of these prospective pupils have been deducted from the demand for the DDLETB model of provision. The remaining **809** prospective pupils were considered in terms of valid demand for the model proposed for the purposes of this process.

Swords School Planning Area						
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
1 <sup>st</sup> Year Intake	157	134	143	166	209	809

Prior to the deadline for receipt of applications from prospective patrons, a patron body contacted the Department with concerns about some misleading information in relation to the patronage process covering the new school to cater for the Swords area. The Department wrote to the patron body about whom the allegation was made, noting that it had been brought to the Department's attention that misleading/factually incorrect information regarding the patronage process had been put into the public domain by school interests connected to the patron. The Department requested the patron body to contact the school interests to arrange for the immediate removal of the misleading information. The Department is satisfied that the information was removed within a short period of time. While misleading, the Department considers that as the information was not put in the public domain directly by the patron body and without more evidence in this regard, it would be difficult to determine that the code had been breached. The Department confirms that it dealt with the alleged breach of the code of conduct and the process as outlined in the code of conduct document was followed.

## **4. Medium of Instruction**

Following consideration of feedback from patrons on previous patronage processes, the Department has moved to incorporate the medium of instruction of a proposed new school as part of the assessment process. This makes parental preference for Irish-medium instruction an integral part of the patronage assessment and recommendation process. It will serve to inform decisions concerning a school's medium of instruction and will bring greater visibility to consideration of the level of demonstrated demand for education through the medium of Irish.

It is open to all prospective patron applicants to propose provision of Irish-medium education in their application for a new school. Parental preferences for each patron, together with the extent of Irish provision, if any, currently available in the area, are key in relation to the outcome of this process. In this regard, prospective patrons were requested to submit completed parental preferences indicating the language through which parents would prefer their child(ren) to be educated.

The assessment process analyses existing Irish-medium provision in the area and also takes into account existing Irish-medium provision in the adjacent school planning areas. Consideration is given to demonstrated demand and long-term sustainability, including provision of a sufficient range of subjects.

Of the school planning areas adjacent to the Swords school planning area, all apart from Donabate contain a Gaelscoil. While there are no Gaelcholáistí or Aonaid within those feeder areas, there are in the areas adjoining some of those areas:

### **Gaelscoileanna in the Swords Area:**

<b>Roll No</b>	<b>School Name</b>	<b>Ethos</b>	<b>Total Enrolments 2015/2016</b>
20095C	GAELSCOIL BHRIAN BÓROIMHE	INTER-DENOMINATIONAL	474

**Gaelscoileanna in the adjacent school planning areas:**

<b>Roll No</b>	<b>School Name</b>	<b>Ethos</b>	<b>Feeder Area</b>	<b>Distance from Swords</b>	<b>Location of and distance to nearest Gaelcholaiste/aonad</b>	<b>Total Enrolment 2015/2016</b>
19430G	SCOIL AN TSEACHTAR LAOCH	CATHOLIC	FinglasEast_Ballymun	12.5 km	DrumcondraMarino Scoil Caitriona 2.2 km	210
19779C	GAELSCOIL NA CILLE	CATHOLIC	Ashbourne	13.5 km	Balbriggan, Coláiste Glor na Mara 24 km	253
19898K	GAELSCOIL AN DUINNINIGH	CATHOLIC	Malahide_Nevinstown	3.5 km	Donaghmede/Howth Gaelcholáiste Reachrann 7.7 km	424
20015B	GAELSCOIL BHAILE MUNNA	CATHOLIC	Whitehall_Santry	11 km	Drumcondra/Marino Scoil Caitriona 3.5 km	181
20334R	Gaelscoil Ros Eo	MULTI DENOMINATIONAL	Rush & Lusk	15 km	Balbriggan, Coláiste Glor na Mara 13 km	185
20382F	Gaelscoil na Mí	MULTI DENOMINATIONAL	Ashbourne	15 km	Balbriggan, Coláiste Glor na Mara 23 km	151



In September 2014 a Gaelcholáiste was established in Balbriggan, Fingal, County Dublin (Coláiste Ghlor na Mara). The location of this school was intended in part to serve the requirement for All-Irish provision in the wider North Dublin area and as such, was predicated on the assumption that some of the schools/areas referred to above would be served by the Gaelcholáiste in Balbriggan.

Only three of the Gaelscoileanna outside of Swords would be closer to the Swords area than to another area containing a Gaelcholáiste. On that basis, the only schools that would be considered likely to feed into a Gaelcholáiste in Swords would be the two Ashbourne Schools, the Malahide school, and the Swords school. On that basis there are up to four feeder schools, with a combined 6<sup>th</sup> class output for the 2015/2016 school year of 137. This compares with 12 English-medium primary schools directly in the Swords feeder area with a combined 6<sup>th</sup> class output for the 2015/2016 school year of 529.

- 1. Educate Together** proposes a multi-denominational, co-educational, English-medium post-primary school. Its application does not include any parental preferences for the provision of education through the medium of Irish. However, as part of its application for patronage of the proposed new school, Educate Together has confirmed its willingness to make provision for education through the medium of Irish should it be required in the future.
- 2. Dublin Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board** proposes a multi-denominational, co-educational, English-medium Community College. Their application includes 14 parental preferences for the provision of education through the medium of Irish. As part of its application for patronage DDLETB has confirmed its willingness to establish an Aonad to facilitate educational instruction through the medium of Irish should it be required in the future.

Based on the level of parental preferences for Irish-medium instruction submitted as part of the patron applications and on the broader analysis of potential demand arising from existing Irish-medium provision in both this and all adjacent school planning areas, it is recommended that the proposed new post-primary school for the Swords school planning area should be an English-medium school.

## **5. Conclusions**

**Based on an assessment of the applications received, confirmation of compliance with the criteria, assessment of existing school provision and how the proposed school would result in greater diversity and taking into account parental demand make a recommendation on patronage for the proposed new school in the area.**

- **Educate Together** and **Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB** have confirmed that they will satisfy all of the requirements as set out by the Department for the patronage of new schools.
- **Educate Together** has demonstrated a viable parental demand for its school type. The demand for the **Educate Together** school model is significant. The establishment of an **Educate Together** post-primary school would increase and strengthen diversity in the area by providing co-educational, multi-denominational education.
- **Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB** has also demonstrated a viable parental demand for its school type. **Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB** operates two Community Colleges in the school planning area, one is designated and the other is non-designated. The establishment of an ETB Community College would increase co-educational, multi-denominational provision in the area.
- The level of parental preference for Irish-medium instruction submitted as part of the patron applications is low. The level of potential demand arising from existing Irish-medium provision in this, and adjacent, school planning areas, compared with that for English-medium provision, is relatively low.
- The application for the provision of co-educational, multi-denominational, English-medium schools from **both applicants** would provide for greater co-educational provision in the Swords school planning area.

## **6. Recommendation**

The Department is satisfied that the level of parental demand for a new post-primary school for the Swords school planning area received from both patron applicants, Educate Together and Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB, would support a viable school.

The Department is further satisfied that the level of parental demand for such a school presented by both Educate Together and Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB is additional demand, which will not displace pupils from existing schools.

Following consideration of the level of parental preferences for Irish-medium instruction submitted as part of the patron applications and consideration of the broader analysis of potential demand arising from existing Irish-medium provision in this and in adjacent areas it is recommended that the proposed new school should be an English-medium school.

The Department is satisfied that both patron applicants would increase multi-denominational, co-educational provision in the area. While the ET model would increase diversity of patronage in the area, there is a clear majority of parental interest favouring DDLETB.

In the circumstances, the Department recommends that the patronage of the new post-primary school for Swords should be awarded to Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB as it has provided 809 valid parental preferences, which is 183 or some 29% above those for Educate Together, which provided 626 valid parental preferences.

**Forward Planning Section  
October 2016**

## Proposed post-primary school to serve the Swords school planning area

