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Report for New Schools Establishment Group

Patronage Process for New Post- Primary Schools Opening in 2017 and 2018

October 2016

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Foreword

Dr. Seamus McGuinness
Chairperson
New Schools Establishment Group

Dear Dr. McGuinness,

On 11 November 2015 the Minister for Education and Skills announced the establishment of 13 new schools to open in 2017 and 2018 to cater for increased demographic needs, including nine new post-primary schools. The areas to be served by the new post-primary schools are:

County	Area to be Served	Year Required	School Size
Dublin	Carpenterstown & Castleknock, Dublin 15	2017	1,000
Dublin	Lucan, Co. Dublin	2017	1,000
Dublin	Malahide & Portmarnock, Co. Dublin	2017	1,000
Dublin	Swords, Co. Dublin	2017	1,000
Laois	Portlaoise, Co. Laois	2017	1,000
Limerick	Limerick City & Environs (South-West)	2017	600
Limerick	Limerick City & Environs (East)	2018	600
Dublin	Dublin South City Centre	2018	1,000
Dublin	Firhouse, Dublin 24	2018	1,000

On 26th April 2016, the Minister invited applications for the patronage of the nine new post-primary schools due to open in 2017 and 2018. The closing date for receipt of applications from patrons/prospective patron bodies was 8th June 2016.

The arrangements for patronage of the new post-primary schools were made available to prospective patrons and from the Department's website, a copy of which is included at Appendix 1 to this Report.

Consistent with the arrangements governing the patronage process for new schools announced by the Minister in June 2011, the Department has completed its assessment of the applications received for patronage of the new post-primary schools to be established in 2017 and 2018. This is the resulting report for the New Schools Establishment Group, which is submitted for consideration by the Group. A detailed assessment of each individual application by area is attached and forms part of this report.

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 serves to inform decisions concerning a school's

medium of instruction and brings 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 which the school is being established to serve 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.

Brian Power
Principal Officer
Department of Education and Skills
October 2016.

Recommendations - summary

In summary, the outcome of the Department's assessment in relation to the patronage of the new post-primary schools due to open in 2017 and 2018 is as follows:

County	Area to be Served	Year Required	School Size	Recommended patron
Dublin	Carpenterstown & Castleknock, Dublin 15	2017	1,000	Edmund Rice Schools Trust
Dublin	Lucan, Co. Dublin	2017	1,000	In the circumstances, the Department recommends that patronage should be awarded to DDLETB, but with Scoil Sinead as a Trustee Partner, conditional on evidence of receipt of charitable status.
Dublin	Malahide & Portmarnock, Co. Dublin	2017	1,000	Educate Together
Dublin	Swords, Co. Dublin	2017	1,000	Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board
Laois	Portlaoise, Co. Laois	2017	1,000	Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board
Limerick	Limerick City & Environs (South-West)	2017	600	Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board
Limerick	Limerick City & Environs (East)	2018	600	Educate Together
Dublin	Dublin South City Centre	2018	1,000	Educate Together
Dublin	Firhouse, Dublin 24	2018	1,000	Educate Together

A summary of the outcome of the Department's assessment in relation to the medium of instruction of the new post-primary schools due to open in 2017 and 2018 is as follows:

County	Area	Recommended Medium of Instruction
Dublin	Carpenterstown & Castleknock, Dublin 15	English-medium, with an Aonad Lán-Gaeilge, either in this new school or another post-primary school
Dublin	Lucan, Co. Dublin	English-medium
Dublin	Malahide & Portmarnock, Co. Dublin	English-medium
Dublin	Swords, Co. Dublin	English-medium
Laois	Portlaoise, Co. Laois	English-medium with an Irish-medium Aonad
Limerick	Limerick City & Environs (South-West)	English-medium
Limerick	Limerick City & Environs (East)	English-medium
Dublin	Dublin South City Centre	English-medium
Dublin	Firhouse, Dublin 24	English-medium

Basis for the Department's recommendations

Carpenterstown & Castleknock, Dublin 15

The Department is satisfied that the combined level of parental demand for a new post-primary school for the Carpenterstown and Castleknock school planning areas would support a viable school. The Department is further satisfied that the level of parental demand for such a school presented by DDLETB, ERST and Scoil Sínead is additional demand, which will not displace pupils from existing schools.

In the context of the analysis of Irish-medium demand and provision in the area in conjunction with the number of parental preferences for Irish-medium provision submitted as part of the patronage process for this new school and the approach by DDLETB to make Irish-medium provision available in Luttrellstown Community College, it is recommended that further consideration should be given to the establishment of an Aonad in the most appropriate location within the Carpenterstown and Castleknock area. The success of the Aonad should input into a decision to be taken at the appropriate time in the future as to whether the Aonad should develop into a stand-alone Gaelcholáiste.

In the Carpenterstown and Castleknock school planning areas, there are four post-primary schools, three have a Catholic ethos and one has a multi-denominational ethos. The DDLETB is the patron of two schools. The model it proposes is multi-denominational. Scoil Sínead is a new prospective patron proposing a multi-denominational, co-educational, second level school. The model proposed by ERST is

a Catholic, co-educational Voluntary Secondary School which will provide co-educational Catholic education and although this will not extend diversity of provision or patronage in the area, comparing the valid parental preferences, there is a clear majority of parental interest favouring ERST.

In the circumstances, the Department recommends that the patronage of the new post-primary school for Carpenterstown and Castleknock should be awarded to ERST, which has provided 127 valid parental preferences, which is 30 or some 31% above those for DDLETB, which provided 97 valid parental preferences and 66 preferences or some 108% above those for Scoil Sinead which provided 61 valid parental preferences.

Lucan, Co. Dublin

The Department is satisfied that the combined level of parental demand for a post-primary school for the Lucan area would support a viable school. The Department is further satisfied that the level of parental demand for such a school presented by all applicants 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 all patron applicants would provide for greater co-educational provision. CEIST has one school already under its patronage in the area. The CEIST application would increase co-educational Catholic education but would not increase diversity of patronage or provision in the area. DDLETB has five schools already under its patronage in the area. Its application would not extend diversity of provision or patronage in the area. The Scoil Sinead application would strengthen both diversity of provision and of patronage in the area.

While there is a clear majority of valid parental preferences favouring Scoil Sinead, as a new prospective patron, Scoil Sinead, while having applied for charitable status, has failed to provide evidence of having yet obtained charitable status. The appendix to the “Arrangements for Patronage in the Establishment of New Post-primary Schools due to open in September 2017 and September 2018”, issued as part of the invitation to patrons/prospective patrons, sets out information for prospective patrons, including that a patron body should be registered for charitable status with the Charities Regulatory Authority.

The patron body with the second highest number of parental preferences for the patronage of this school is Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board. In the circumstances, the Department recommends that the patronage of the new post-primary school for Lucan should be awarded to DDLETB, with Scoil Sinead as a Trustee Partner, conditional on evidence of receipt of charitable status by Scoil

Sinead when issued by the Charities Regulatory Authority. This recommendation is being made in recognition of the current position as set out above and of the very significant level of valid parental preferences which Scoil Sinead has provided as part of its application for patronage. Its 697 valid parental preferences is 631 or some 956% above those provided by DDLETB, which provided 66 valid parental preferences and is 679 or some 3,772% above those for CEIST, which provided 18 valid parental preferences.

Malahide and Portmarnock, Co. Dublin

The Department is satisfied that the combined level of parental demand for a new post-primary school to serve the Malahide and Portmarnock school planning areas received from all patron applicants, Educate Together, Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB and CEIST would support a viable school. The Department is further satisfied that the level of parental demand for such a school presented by all three applicants 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 Educate Together and Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB would provide for greater diversity and plurality of provision in the area by providing a multi-denominational, co-educational school model, while CEIST would provide for greater diversity of provision-but not greater diversity of patronage given the Catholic ethos of the existing inter-denominational schools in the school planning areas. Comparing the valid parental preferences, there is a clear majority of parental interest favouring Educate Together.

In the circumstances, the Department recommends that the patronage of the new post-primary school to serve Malahide and Portmarnock should be awarded to Educate Together, which has provided 238 valid parental preferences. This is 45 or some 23% above those for CEIST, which provided 193 valid parental preferences and 152 or 177 % above those for Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB which provided 86 valid parental preferences.

Swords, Co. Dublin

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.

Portlaoise, Co. Laois

The Department is satisfied that the level of parental demand for a new post-primary school for the Portlaoise school planning area received from both patron applicants, CEIST and Laois and Offaly ETB, would support a viable school. The Department is further satisfied that the level of parental demand for such a school presented by both CEIST and Laois and Offaly 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, with an Aonad Lán-Gaeilge. The success of the Aonad should input into a decision to be taken at the appropriate time in the future as to whether the Aonad should develop into a stand-alone Gaelcholáiste.

The Department is satisfied that both patron applicants will provide for greater co-education provision and both would extend existing provision in the area. While both applicants already have a post-primary school under their patronage serving the Portlaoise school planning area, the application from LOETB with An Foras Pátrúnachta as Trustee Partner would provide for greater diversity of provision by providing both multi-denominational and Irish-medium education, given that five of the existing six schools are denominational and all are English-medium. Comparing the valid parental preferences, there is a clear majority favouring Laois and Offaly ETB with An Foras Pátrúnachta as Trustee Partner.

In the circumstances, the Department recommends that the patronage of the new post-primary school for Portlaoise should be awarded to Laois and Offaly ETB with An Foras Pátrúnachta as Trustee Partner, which has provided 747 valid parental preferences, which is 230 or some 44% above those for CEIST, which provided 517 valid parental preferences.

Limerick City and Environs (South-West)

The Department is satisfied that the combined level of parental demand for a post-primary school for the Limerick City & Environs (South-West) area received from the three patron applicants would support a viable school. The Department is further satisfied that the level of parental demand for such a school presented by all three applicants 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 all patron applicants would provide for greater co-educational provision. The Educate Together application would extend diversity of provision and of patronage given that Educate Together does not currently have a post-primary school in the area and only one of the 13 post-primary schools in the area has a multi-denominational ethos. Limerick & Clare ETB has three schools under its patronage in the area, however its application would provide for greater diversity of provision by providing additional multi-denominational education at post-primary level, given that only one of the 13 schools has a multi-denominational ethos. The Bishop of Limerick and Le Chéile Schools Trust application would extend denominational provision in the area. While both are patrons of existing schools, there are currently no post-primary schools under the joint patronage of both patrons in the area. However, whether under single or joint patronage, their application would not extend diversity of provision or of patronage, given the denominational ethos proposed.

There is a clear majority of valid parental demand favouring Limerick and Clare Education ETB. In the circumstances, the Department recommends that the patronage of the new post-primary school for Limerick City & Environs (South-West) should be awarded to Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, which has provided 689 valid parental preferences. This is 327 or some 90% above those for Educate Together, which provided 362 valid parental preferences and some 330 or some 91% above those provided by the Bishop of Limerick and Le Chéile Schools Trust, which provided 359 valid parental preferences.

Limerick City and Environs (East)

The Department is satisfied that the combined level of parental demand for a post-primary school for the Limerick City and Environs (East) area received from the three patron applicants would support a viable school. The Department is further satisfied that the level of parental demand for such a school presented by Educate Together, Limerick and Clare ETB and the Bishop of Limerick and Le Chéile Schools Trust 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 all patron applicants would provide for greater co-educational provision. The Educate Together application would extend diversity of provision and of patronage given that Educate Together does not currently have a post-primary school in the area and only one of the 13 post-primary schools in the area has a multi-denominational ethos. LCETB has three schools under its patronage in the area, however its application would provide for greater diversity of provision by providing additional multi-denominational education at post-primary level, given that only one of the 13 schools has a multi-denominational ethos. The Bishop of Limerick and Le Chéile Schools Trust application would extend denominational provision in the area. While both are patrons of existing schools, there are currently no post-primary schools under the joint patronage of both patrons in the area. However, whether under single or joint patronage, their application would not extend diversity of provision or of patronage, given the denominational ethos proposed.

The parental preferences show a clear majority of parental interest favouring Educate Together. In the circumstances, the Department recommends that the patronage of the new post-primary school for Limerick City and Environs (East) should be awarded to Educate Together, which has provided 514 valid parental preferences. This is 175 or some 52% above those for the Bishop of Limerick and Le Chéile, which provided 339 valid parental preferences and 217 or some 73% above those for the application from LCETB which provided 297 valid parental preferences.

Dublin South City Centre

The Department is satisfied that the combined level of parental demand for a new post-primary school for the Dublin South City Centre area 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 City of Dublin 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 provide for greater diversity of provision in the area by providing a multi-denominational, co-educational school model. There is a clear majority of parental interest favouring Educate Together.

In the circumstances, the Department recommends that the patronage of the new post-primary school for Dublin South City Centre should be awarded to Educate

Together, which has provided 1,210 valid parental preference. This is 1,120 or some 1,244% above those for City of Dublin ETB, which provided 90 valid parental preferences.

Firhouse, Dublin 24

The Department is satisfied that the combined level of parental demand for a new post-primary school for the Firhouse school planning area received from the three patron applicants, Educate Together, Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB and CEIST, would support a viable school. The Department is further satisfied that the level of parental demand for such a school presented by Educate Together, Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB and CEIST 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 Educate Together and DDLETB would provide for greater diversity and plurality of provision in the area by providing a multi-denominational, co-educational school model, while CEIST would provide for greater diversity of patronage but not greater diversity of provision given the Catholic ethos of the existing inter-denominational schools in the school planning area. Comparing the valid parental preferences, there is a clear majority of parental interest favouring Educate Together.

In the circumstances, the Department recommends that the patronage of the new post-primary school for Firhouse should be awarded to Educate Together which has provided 112 valid parental preferences. This is 39 or some 53% above those for CEIST, which provided 73 valid parental preferences and is 61 or some 119% above those for DDLETB, which provided 51 valid parental preferences.

Appendix 1

ARRANGEMENTS FOR PATRONAGE IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS DUE TO OPEN IN SEPTEMBER 2017 & SEPTEMBER 2018

NEED FOR NEW SCHOOL

The following essential conditions apply to the establishment and approval of a new post-primary school to meet demographic need:

- The demographics of the area must support the need for the establishment of a new school - a new school would not impact negatively on the enrolment of schools in the catchment, other than perhaps the establishment of an all-Irish school and the impact of this on an existing Aonad.
- If the demographics require the establishment of a school, then the process for the selection of the type of school should allow for different patrons/bodies to be considered as the patron of a new school.

NEW SCHOOL PROCESS

The process will involve the following steps for a new post-primary school:

- Identification of locations of new schools and sizes of new schools by the Department. Most new second-level schools must have a student enrolment capacity of 800 – 1,000 students. A lower threshold of 400 students may apply to Gaelcoláistí, having regard to the alternative of establishing an Aonad within a school.
- Written applications from prospective patrons addressing all of the criteria.
- Consideration of the applications by Department officials and report drafted for consideration by the New Schools Establishment Group.
- Consideration by Group of report and endorsement by Group or identification of need for further analysis by Department and subsequent consideration by Group.
- Report from the Group submitted to the Minister for consideration.
- Decision by the Minister.

CRITERIA CONSIDERED IN THE PATRONAGE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The main criterion for the decision on patronage in an area where there is already at least one second-level school will be the following:

- Whether the establishment of the proposed school model would result in greater diversity and plurality of second-level 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.

As part of the examination of this criterion regard would be had for:

- Whether there is a school of the same or similar patronage in the same catchment area (having regard to neighbouring areas) and whether there is additional demand for such patronage
- The extent to which the establishment of the school would result in greater diversity and plurality of patronage in the area (having regard to neighbouring areas) where there is demand for such plurality and diversity
- Effectiveness of mechanisms planned to ensure that the proposed school will expand to the size range of 800 to 1,000 pupils, including
- planned possible measures if expansion is not happening as fast as planned
- Planned collaboration with existing second-level schools in the catchment area.

Where an area is to be served by a single new school, the key criteria will be the following:

- Whether the school can cater for the needs and requirements of all of the pupils in the area.
- Having regard to neighbouring areas, whether the establishment of the proposed school model would result in greater diversity and plurality of second-level school patronage and provision 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.

As part of the examination of these criteria regard would be had for:

- The effectiveness of the manner in which the patron proposes to determine the requirements of all pupils / groups of pupils regarding pupils of a particular faith; pupils of no faith

- The extent to which these requirements are to be met
- Effectiveness of the manner in which a comprehensive and broad curriculum is proposed to be offered during the start-up phase
- Effectiveness of the manner in which a comprehensive and broad curriculum is proposed to be offered when the school is past the start-up phase
- Effectiveness of the manner to which a comprehensive and broad curriculum is proposed to be offered to all students, e.g., supporting gender integration into all subjects
- The extent of demand in the area for the applicant patrons
- Having regard to neighbouring areas, whether the establishment of the proposed school model would result in greater diversity and plurality of second-level school patronage and provision where there is demand for such diversity and plurality

Most new school provision will be co-educational in nature and patronage decisions will be made on that basis. There may be a small number of instances where single-gender provision will need to be made if there is an identified imbalance between the capacities of single-gender schools. Any such identification would be made in advance of seeking applications from patrons.

PARENTAL PREFERENCES

Patron bodies proposing schools will be asked to provide evidence of parental demand. Patrons will be asked to sign up lists of parents of children who will be due to commence their second-level education in the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021 or 2022 and who indicate interest in having their children educated in their new school. These lists are to include the child's name, date of birth, address and their year of proposed entry to school in addition to a preference for the medium of instruction. A template for submission of parental demand will be provided for this purpose. All information must be presented in this format only and must be confirmed by the applicant.

PATRONAGE COMMITMENTS

Agreement to each of the following requirements must be specifically confirmed in writing by prospective school patrons:

- That the prospective patron is willing to operate by the rules and regulations laid down in various Department of Education and Skills circulars and operating procedures and to follow the prescribed curriculum;
- That the prospective patron is willing to operate the school within the resourcing and policy parameters established by the Department of Education and Skills;

- That the prospective patron is willing to enrol children in the area(s) for which the Department has identified the need for a school;
- That the prospective patron is willing to accept and open special education facilities;
- That the prospective patron is willing to expand/operate the school in the size range of 800 to 1,000 pupils;
- That the prospective patron is willing to establish an Aonad where there is a demand for it (for a school where the primary medium of instruction is to be English);
- That the prospective patron is willing to enter into the appropriate standard lease agreement with the Department of Education and Skills;
- That the prospective patron 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;
- That the prospective patron is willing to be part of a campus development with other primary or second-level schools as identified by the Department;

Please note that failure to comply with the foregoing patronage commitments will result in an application being deemed invalid and invalid applications will not be assessed further as part of the process.

An applicant who is not already an existing school patron will need to ensure they have put certain requirements in place in advance of making an application for patronage under the new school process. In this regard, the APPENDIX attached outlines general information for prospective patrons on the requirements to be put in place.

Department of Education and Skills
April 2016

APPENDIX A

General information for prospective patrons

PATRONAGE RESPONSIBILITY

A school patron has significant responsibilities which relate to the whole school community comprising teachers, students, parents and the wider community served by the school. A prospective school patron therefore needs to be able to demonstrate sufficient structure, continuity and reliability to conduct the responsible functions of a patron:

PATRONAGE FUNCTIONS

- Appointment of the school's board of management
- Suspension, if necessary, of the board of management
- Responsibility for the school's characteristic spirit, for which the board of management is accountable to the patron
- Ultimate responsibility/liability for industrial relations
- Responsibility for school property (and insurance)
- Financial matters – annual budgets and reports
- Decisions on school status such as extension, amalgamation, closure

STATUS OF PATRON BODY

A prospective patron needs to be able to demonstrate a capability to conduct the patron responsibilities in an ongoing way.

For an individual or group that is not a statutory body or otherwise formed with a constitution providing satisfactorily for succession and continuity, it would be considered necessary to establish a corporate entity, such as a company limited by guarantee. The patronage body should articulate its educational philosophy and educational objectives in a memorandum and articles of association, or other constitutional documentation. Three persons should be provided as directors or trustees. A patron body should be registered for charitable status with the Charities Regulatory Authority.

Meeting the requirements above does not confer any automatic right to become a patron of a new school.

EDUCATION ACT, 1998

The role of the school patron is referenced throughout the Education Act, 1998 and prospective patrons should ensure that they are familiar with all aspects of the Act, in particular, Parts 2 and 4 of the Act, which relate to schools and to boards of management respectively.

<http://www.oireachtas.ie/documents/bills28/acts/1998/a5198.pdf>

Disclaimer:

Please note that this information is not intended as a legal interpretation of the Education Act 1998. It is intended as general information only.