



**An Roinn Oideachais
agus Scileanna**
Department of
Education and Skills

Patronage Assessment Report

School: Swords North

Level: Primary

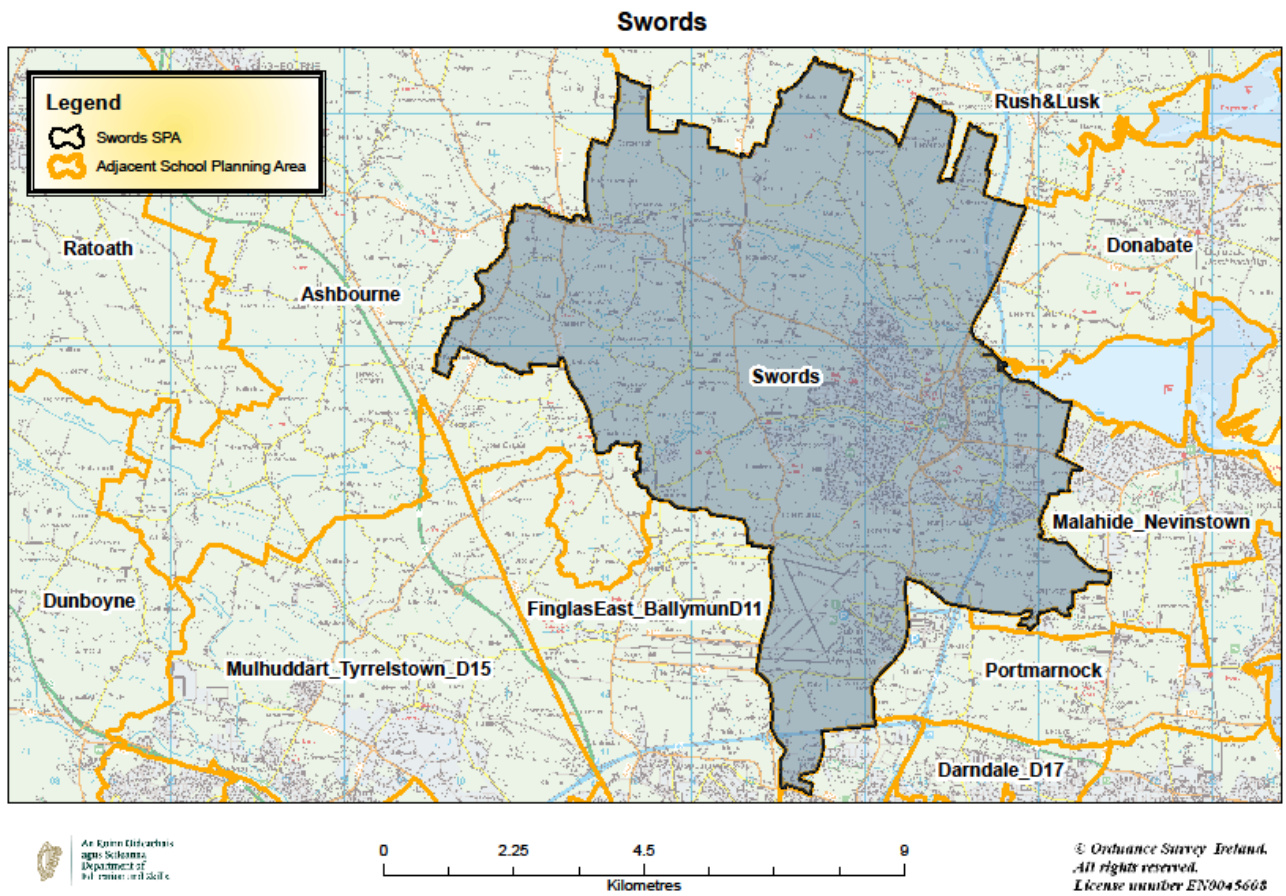
Year: 2019

Size: 8 classrooms

**Report to the New Schools Establishment Group
Department of Education & Skills
February 2019**

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1. School Planning Area Map



2. Applications Received

Four applications were received from applicant patrons in respect of this school. A brief profile of the applicants together with a synopsis of the school type proposed is set out in the following table.

| Applicant Patrons | Profile of Applicant | School type proposed | | Number of primary schools currently under this patronage |
|---|---|--|----------------------|--|
| An Foras Pátrúnachta | An Foras Pátrúnachta is a private charitable company limited by guarantee and the patron of a number of Irish-medium primary and post-primary schools throughout the country. | Ethos: | Multi-denominational | 66 |
| | | Language of Instruction proposed: | Irish | |
| | | Also willing to offer (if sufficient demand): | n/a | |
| Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB) | Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB) is a statutory authority which has responsibility for managing and operating a range of education services including second-level schools and is patron of a number of primary and post-primary schools. | Ethos: | Multi-denominational | 6 |
| | | Language of Instruction proposed: | English | |
| | | Also willing to offer (if sufficient demand): | Irish | |
| Educate Together | Educate Together is a private charitable company limited by guarantee and the patron or representative organisation of 84 primary schools and nine post-primary schools throughout the country. | Ethos: | Multi-denominational | 73 |
| | | Language of Instruction proposed: | English | |
| | | Also willing to offer (if sufficient demand): | Irish | |
| Scoil Sinéad Ltd | Scoil Sinéad Ltd is a private charitable company limited by guarantee and is a new patron body for one primary school and a trustee partner in the management of one post-primary school. | Ethos: | Multi-denominational | 1 |
| | | Language of Instruction proposed: | English | |
| | | Also willing to offer (if sufficient demand): | Irish | |

3. Demographic details

There are currently 13 primary schools in the Swords school planning area. Demographic analysis shows that the average actual intake pattern¹ at primary level is currently 89%. The total provisional enrolment in primary schools in the area for the 2018/19 school year was 5,930 pupils.

The demographic exercises for this school planning area identified the following net requirement taking into account demographic demand, additional places required as a result of significant additional residential development (including any development arising from the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund- LIHAF) and the current and planned capacity increases in existing primary schools in the area:



Following a demographic exercise on this area, the Department is satisfied that the net requirement of 17 primary classrooms in the Swords school planning area cannot be accommodated in existing schools or through expansion of existing schools.

It was decided to open 2 x 8 classroom schools (expandable to 16 classrooms to provide for additional long-term housing under LIHAF) in 2019. One school is to be located in the northern part of the school planning area and the second is to be located in the southern part of the school planning area.

¹ **Average Actual Intake Pattern:** if all children resident in the relevant school planning area attended primary school in that school planning area, the intake pattern would be 100%. If the intake pattern is less than 100%, it would suggest that some children are travelling to schools outside the school planning area. If the intake pattern is greater than 100%, it would suggest that a number of children are travelling into schools in the school planning area from other school planning areas. The average intake pattern over a number of years allows the Department to project the likely demand over the coming years assuming a continuation of the same pattern.

4. Assessment of applications

All patrons have agreed to the Patronage Commitments as set out in the Section D of the Patronage Application Form attached to main report.

The invitation letter to patrons, also attached to the main report, sets out in detail the:

- Arrangements for the Establishment and Patronage of New Primary Schools due to open in September 2019.
- General Information for Prospective Patrons; and
- Patron Code of Conduct

➤ 4.1 Multiple Provider Areas

There are currently 13 primary schools in the Swords school planning area:

| Roll No | School Name | Patron | Ethos | Language of Instruction | Gender | DEIS | 2017/18 Enrolments* |
|---------|--------------------------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------|--------|------|---------------------|
| 12358M | Swords Borough NS | Archbishop of Dublin & Bishop of Glendalough | Church of Ireland | English | Mixed | N | 108 |
| 17820J | Brighde Naofa | Archbishop of Dublin | Catholic | English | Mixed | N | 362 |
| 18976W | SN Cholmille B | Archbishop of Dublin | Catholic | English | Boys | N | 423 |
| 18977B | SN Cholmille C | Archbishop of Dublin | Catholic | English | Girls | N | 416 |
| 19456B | St. Cronan | Archbishop of Dublin | Catholic | English | Mixed | N | 573 |
| 19535U | Brackenstown Senior NS | Archbishop of Dublin | Catholic | English | Mixed | N | 590 |
| 19693P | Mary Queen of Ireland NS | Archbishop of Dublin | Catholic | English | Mixed | Y | 86 |
| 19721R | Holy Family Junior NS | Archbishop of Dublin | Catholic | English | Mixed | N | 668 |
| 19877C | Holy Family Senior NS | Archbishop of Dublin | Catholic | English | Mixed | N | 682 |
| 20095C | Gaelscoil Bhrian Bóirimhe | An Foras Pátrúnachta | Inter Denominational | Irish | Mixed | N | 490 |
| 20145O | Swords Educate Together | Educate Together | Multi Denominational | English | Mixed | N | 449 |
| 20302E | Thornleigh Educate Together NS | Educate Together | Multi Denominational | English | Mixed | Y | 355 |
| 20348F | Holywell Educate Together NS | Educate Together | Multi Denominational | English | Mixed | N | 598 |

*Latest confirmed enrolments, 2018/19 are provisional.

Of the 13 primary schools in the school planning area, 8 are Catholic, 3 are multi-denominational, 1 is Church of Ireland and 1 is inter-denominational.

All proposed models would increase diversity in the area by providing multi-denominational provision in the area.

➤ 4.2 Parental Preferences

○ 4.2.1 Patronage Preference

The table below sets out the first preferences received by each applicant patron:

| Applicant Patron | Valid First Preferences |
|---|-------------------------|
| An Foras Pátrúnachta | 13 |
| Dublin & Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board | 36 |
| Educate Together | 20 |
| Scoil Sínead | 4 |
| Total Valid First Preferences | 73 |

○ 4.2.2 Language Preferences

Breakdown of first preferences by preferred language of instruction

| Language of Instruction Preferences | An Foras Pátrúnachta | Dublin and Dublin Laoghaire ETB | Educate Together | Scoil Sínead | Total Preferences |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| English-medium | 3 | 31 | 15 | 0 | 49 |
| Irish-medium | 5 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 9 |
| No Preference | 5 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 15 |
| Total First Preferences | 13 | 36 | 20 | 4 | 73 |

The level of parental preferences for Irish-medium instruction is relatively low (9 or 12.3% of first preferences) compared with 49 (67.1%) of preferences for English-medium instruction while 15 (or 20.6%) of parents did not specify a preference for language of instruction.

An Foras Pátrúnachta is the only applicant patron to propose an Irish-medium school while all other applicant patrons proposed English-medium but indicated their willingness to offer an Irish-medium school if demand exists for same.

Gaelscoileanna within the school planning area

| Roll No | School Name | Total Enrolment 2017/18 | Ethos |
|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 20095C | Gaelscoil Bhrian Bóimhe | 490 | An Foras Pátrúnachta |

Gaelscoileanna within 5km radius of the centre point of the school planning area

| Roll No | School Name | Total Enrolment 2017/18 | Ethos | School Planning Area |
|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------------------|
| 19898K | Gaelscoil An Duinninigh | 449 | Catholic | Malahide_Nevinstown |

Language preferences and current provision in the school planning area

| Applicant Patron | No of Irish Language Preferences | % of Irish Language Preferences | Current Irish Medium Provision | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Dublin & Dun Laoghaire ETB | 0 | 0.0% | Number of primary schools in SPA | 13 |
| Educate Together | 0 | 0.0% | Total Enrolment | 5,857 |
| An Foras Pátrúnachta | 5 | 55.6% | Of which are Gaelscoileanna | 1 |
| Scoil Sinéad | 4 | 44.4% | Enrolments in Gaelscoileanna | 490 |
| Totals | 9 | 12.3% | % Current Irish Provision in SPA | 8.4% |

Irish-medium provision will be kept under active review by the Department in line with the process set out in the Department's overall report to the NSEG, including, where appropriate, proactively exploring the level of demand for Irish-medium provision, and the scope for this to be dealt with through the expansion of existing provision in the area/surrounding areas and/or requirements for new schools into the future.

5. Conclusions

- All patrons have confirmed that they will satisfy the requirements as set out by the Department for the patronage of new schools.
- All proposed models would increase diversity in the area by providing multi-denominational provision in the area.
- Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board received the highest number of valid first preferences i.e. 36 or 49.3%.
- The level of parental preferences for Irish-medium instruction was 9 of 73 valid first preferences (12.3%) compared with 49 of 73 valid first preferences (67.1%) for English-medium instruction.
- Based on the results of the parental preferences and broader analysis, including the extent of diversity currently available in this and the adjoining school planning areas, the analysis indicates that the patronage of the new primary school for the Swords North school planning area should be awarded to Dublin and Dun Laoghaire ETB to provide a multi-denominational primary school with English as the language of instruction.