



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

Patronage Assessment Report

School: Swords South

Level: Primary

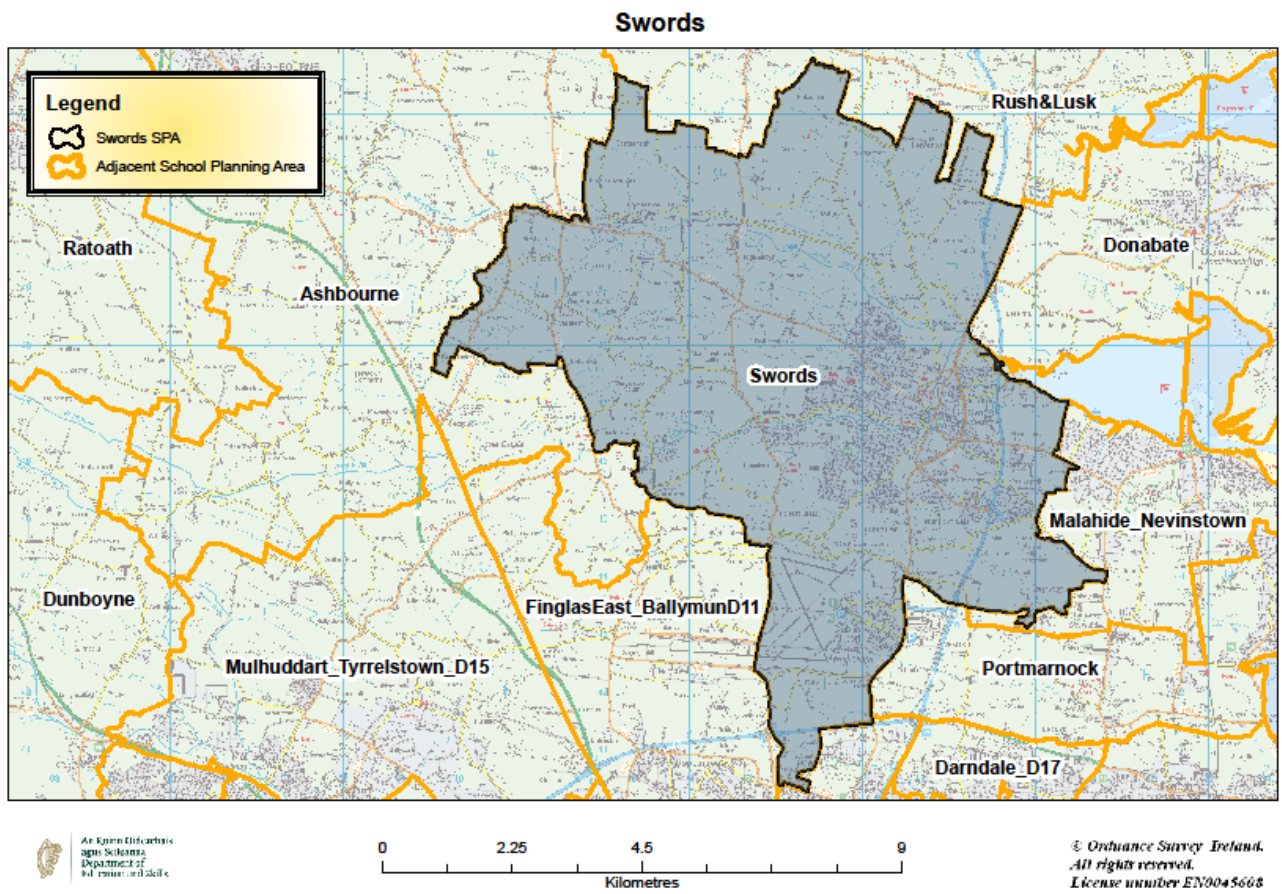
Year: 2019

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 Bóimhe	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	31
Dublin & Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board	79
Educate Together	45
Scoil Sínead Ltd	8
Total Valid First Preferences	163

○ 4.2.2 Language Preferences

Breakdown of first preferences by preferred language of instruction

Language of Instruction Preferences	An Foras Pátrúnachta	Dublin and Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB)	Educate Together	Scoil Sínead Ltd	Total Preferences
English-medium	11	68	42	7	128
Irish-medium	14	4	1	1	20
No Preference	6	7	2	0	15
Total First Preferences	31	79	45	8	163

The level of parental preferences for Irish-medium instruction is relatively low (20 or 12.3% of first preferences) compared with 128 (or 78.5%) of first preferences for English-medium instruction while 15 (or 9.2%) 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 Bóirimhe	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	4	20.0%	Number of primary schools in SPA	13
Educate Together	1	5.0%	Total Enrolment	5,857
An Foras Pátrúnachta	14	70.0%	Of which are Gaelscoileanna	1
Scoil Sinéad	1	5.0%	Enrolments in Gaelscoileanna	490
Totals	20	12.3%	% Current Irish Provision in SPA	8.37%

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. 79 or 48.5%.
- The level of parental preferences for Irish-medium instruction was 20 of 163 valid first preferences (12.3%) compared with 128 of 163 valid first preferences (78.5%) 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 South 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.

Forward Planning Section
Department of Education and Skills
February 2019