

New Primary Schools 2012 & 2013

Location	<i>Stepaside (Ballinteer_Stepaside Feeder Area)</i>
Year Required	<i>2012 & 2013</i>
School Size required	<i>1x 24 MCR (2012) 1x16 MCR (2013)</i>
Applications Received	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Educate Together- Co-Educational, Multi-Denominational, English Medium❖ An Forás Pátrúnachta – Co-educational, Multi-Denominational, Irish-Medium❖

Assessment of applications

1. Requirements

Has the applicant Patron(s) confirmed that they will comply with the requirements as set out: (comment if necessary in regard to any requirement)

- Is willing to accept and open special education facilities
- Is willing to have up to three streams subject to demand for the school
- Is willing to enter into the standard lease agreement with DES (or otherwise provide their own site)
- Is willing to operate by the rules and regulations laid down by various DES circulars and operating procedures and to follow the prescribed curriculum
- Is willing to operate the school within the resourcing and policy parameters established by the DES
- Is willing to be part of a campus development with other primary or second level schools as identified by the Department
- Is willing to enrol children in the area for whom the Department has identified the need for a school

Educate Together has outlined in details how they will comply with the requirements.

While An Foras Pátrúnachta have confirmed that it will comply with the requirements, they have not gone into any details on how they will meet the requirements.

2. Examination of current provision in the area versus school type proposed by applicant patron(s)

(a) Outline details of current number of schools in the area, ethos of schools, total number of pupils in existing schools, percentage of pupils by school type in existing schools, what percentage of children already attending school in the area attend a school of the same patronage as the applicant patron? (need to take into account the development already achieved by recently established schools of a particular patronage in the identified area and the potential for future growth of these schools, and the extent to which schools of similar patronage have already expanded to three streams subject to space on existing site etc)

Details of Current Schools in the Stepside Area

Roll No	School Name	Ethos	Patron	2010/11 Total Enrolment	% in school of Total Area Enrolment	Medium Of Instruction
02872U	Sandyford Mxd NS	CATHOLIC	Archbishop of Dublin	183	27%	English
20020R	Gaelscoil Thaobh na Coille	CATHOLIC	An Foras	293	43%	Irish
20190T	Holy Trinity National School	CATHOLIC	Archbishop of Dublin	213	31%	English
Total				689	100%	

Roll_No	School Name	Jnr	Snr	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Total Enrol
02872U	St. Mary's National School	30	29	23	26	19	20	23	13	183
20020R	Gaelscoil Thaobh na Coille	57	52	33	27	31	33	32	28	293
20190T	Holy Trinity National School	44	52	29	30	21	22	15	0	213

Roll No	School Name	2001 Enrol	06 Enrol	10 Enrol	Streams	LTPS
02872U	Sandyford Mxd NS	95	101	183	2 at Jnr level	P+8
20020R	Gaelscoil Thaobh na Coille	198	231	293	2 at Jnr level	P+16
20190T	Holy Trinity National School	0	20	156	2 at Jnr at level	P+24

As can be seen from the table above there are 3 schools in the Stepside area. All of these schools are of Catholic Ethos. One school is under the patronage of An Foras, therefore education is provided through the medium of Irish.

There is no multi-denominational school in this area

(b) Will the applicant patron(s) provide a school with an ethos not already catered for in the area?

YES - Educate Together will provide with an ethos that is not already catered for i.e English speaking Multi-denominational

YES An Forás will provide for an Ethos that is not already catered for i.e. Multi-denominational. There is an All-Irish school in the area and this has increased from one stream to two streams over the past three years.

(c) The proximity of school(s) of similar ethos to those proposed by the applicant patron(s)

According to the 2006 Census, of the 448,367 5 to 12 year olds in school, 256,378 or 57% of them travelled 4km or less to school while 73% of them travelled under 9kms.

It is therefore unlikely for children to travel further than this to primary school. Travel distances within city areas tend to be shorter with schools serving a relatively tight hinterland.

There is one Educate Together School to the north of the Ballinteer/Stepaside feeder area, however it is 7.4km away from the area to be served.

Educate Together also have a school outside the feeder area which is 7.1km away from the area to be served.

An Forás are the patrons of a school within the area to be served.

Thus any of the proposed new schools will equally improve access to additional choice of school provision in the area.

(d) Will the proposed school or schools under the prospective patron(s) provide for extending or strengthening diversity of provision in each area having regard to the views of parents?

Given that all schools in the immediate area are Catholic each of the applications will provide religious diversity which does not currently exist. There is an Irish Language school already present and this has recently expanded to 2 streams on foot of local demand. An Foras have stated that there are 80 children in the local Naoínraí which is an indication that up to 3 streams will be required in future years.

Educate Together states in their application that they “would consider; should there be significant demand and should the school reach a size big enough to support it, the provision of an Irish-medium stream, within an Educate Together School.” It already has one Gaelscoil in its membership.

(e) Has the applicant patron demonstrated that there is a demand for this type of school in the area (Comment on the applicant’s demonstration of parental demand for the school type proposed. Take into consideration the extent or range of diversity offered across existing schools in the identified area, having regard to the views of parents)

According to the Child Benefit Data there are a potential 351 children in the Stepside area who could start school in 2012. There are a potential 355 children who could start school in 2013.

Educate Together stated in their application that it made a previous application to DES for a school in the Stepside area. This application was prompted by parental demand. Educate Together has provided a list of names to demonstrate the demand for an Educate Together school in Stepside. The total number of names on the list was 308, 104 of these were in the Stepside area with a further 99 in the Ballinteer-Stepaside feeder area. The breakdown of pupils by Date of birth and year to commence Junior Infant is outlined in the table below.

Educate Together Stepside				
	2012	2013	2014	2015
JNR INFANT	14	13	13	18
Outside Stepside Catchment				
	2012	2013	2014	2015
JNR INFANT	6	0	2	1

*Children born Pre 1/7/2006	
Stepaside	Outside Stepaside
4	0

An Forás stated in their application that Gaelscoil Thaobh na Coille, which is located in the Stepaside Feeder Area will be completely full in 2016. This is a two stream school and there currently are 150 names on the waiting list for 2012 for this school however it does not state what class groups this waiting is for. If it is for Junior Infants then it is clear evidence of a strong demand for further all-Irish places in the area. An Forás believes that this school will not be able to cater for the demand as issues arise due to demographics. In effect this school is completely full at Junior Infant level as it cannot take in an extra stream. At a meeting, parents expressed a demand for another Irish medium school in the area. An Foras has provided a list of names to demonstrate the demand for their school in Stepaside. The total number of names on the list was 29, of these 8 are within the immediate Stepaside area, there are 10 names in the broader Ballinteer-Stepaside feeder area and 11 outside the feeder area. The breakdown of pupils by DOB and year to commence Junior Infants is outlined in the table.

An Foras Stepaside				
	2012	2013	2014	2015
JNR INFANT	1	2	2	1
Outside Stepaside Catchment				
	2012	2013	2014	2015
JNR INFANT	0	3	5	8

There are no names for other class groups with the feeder area.

*Under the Education (Welfare) Act, attendance at school (or receiving an education) is compulsory from the age of 6. Thus, children born before July 2006 will already be in school before September 2012.

(f) Has the applicant patron demonstrated that the school will, as a priority, cater for children in the area in which the school is located (or an area defined by the DES).

Yes. **The Educate Together** charter states that “all children having equal rights of access to the school, and children of all social, cultural and religious backgrounds being equally respected” *ET confirm in their application that enrolment in the proposed school will be open to all children from Stepaside who wish to apply.*

Yes ***An Foras*** states in their declaration that “An Foras Pátrúnachta confirms they are willing to enrol children in the area where the Department identifies a need for a school.

(g) If this area is to be served by a single school, can proposed school meet the needs of all pupils in the area.

N/A.

3 (a). Conclusions and recommendations 2012 and 2013

There are two schools to be opened in the area one in 2012 and one in 2013. While the current Gaelscoil clearly has room to grow in the senior class groups it is full at Junior Infant level. Given the Naíonraí list of names and waiting list for the current Gaelscoil there is a demand for an additional all Irish multi-denominational stream. Educate Together has demonstrated a long standing strong demand for their school model in the area. It is recommended that Educate Together should be the Patron of the school to be opened in 2012 and it should have the facility to grow to 3 streams. It is recommended that An Foras Pátrúnachta should be the patron of the school to be opened in 2013 and it should have the facility to grow to 2 streams.

Forward Planning Section

26th January 2012