



**Head of Social Care**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**  
Health Service Executive  
Model Business Park  
Model Farm Road  
Cork  
Eircode: T12 HT02

**Oifig Cúraim Shóisialta**  
**Cúram Sláinte Pobail Corcaigh Ciarraí**  
Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Páirc Gnó Model  
Bóthar na Modh Feirme  
Corcaigh Eircode: T12 HT02  
**T: 353 (0)21 4923854**

4<sup>th</sup> December 2018

Mr. Aindrias Moynihan, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 48367/18**

**“To ask the Minister for Health if extra funding will be provided to facilitate extra hours of speech and language therapy at a school (details supplied); and if he will make a statement on the matter.”**

**Details supplied: Our Lady of Good Counsel School, Ballincollig, Co Cork Roll Number 18208A**

Dear Deputy Moynihan,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question, which you have submitted to the Minister for Health for response.

Further to your query in relation to Our Lady of Good Counsel School, Ballincollig, Brothers of Charity have advised the following:

The enrolment at the school is currently 68 students, and the designation of the school is that of Moderate Intellectual Disability.

The current Multi-Disciplinary Team inputs to the school are below:

SLT	Physiotherapy	OT –	Social work	Psychology
0.80 wte	0.20 wte	0.40 wte	Referral only	0.40 wte

Unfortunately, limited access to additional resources in the disability sector, and the increasing numbers of children being referred for assessment for autism, has meant that there has been no opportunity to increase the resources available to the school. In line with the national policy on multi-disciplinary supports for children with disabilities, any additional resources are provided to Children Disability Teams who provide services across a geographic area rather than to a specific school.



Cork Kerry Community Healthcare area will re-configure Childrens Services in 2019 in the Cork area with the roll out Progressing Disabilities (PDS) for Children. Services in Kerry and in West Cork have already re-configured and are now structured according to the PDS model. Cork County North and Cork City will re-configure in the months ahead. Cork city and county will have ten Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNT's) once the reconfiguration is complete.

We are working with our partner organisations to implement '**Progressing Disability Services for Children and Young People Programme (PDS)**'. The key objective of PDS is to provide equity of access to all children based on their individual need, regardless of their diagnosis, where they live or go to school. This means that a child will have the same access to services whether they live in Donegal, Dublin or Dingle.

PDS is doing this by forming partnerships between all the disability organisations in an area and pooling their staff with expertise in the different types of disabilities to form local Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) who will provide for all children with significant disability, regardless of what their disability is. It is important to note that where these teams are already in place, services are more stream-lined. There will be an allocation of 100 posts to children's disability network teams across the HSE in 2019. The Childrens Disability Network Team Managers posts for Cork and Kerry were advertised on Monday 19th November.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



**General Manager  
Disability Services  
Cork Kerry Community Healthcare**

