



**Cúram Sláinte  
Pobail Thoir**

ag freastal ar Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Thoir Theas, Baile Átha Cliath  
Theas agus Cill Mhantáin

**Community  
Healthcare East**

servicing Dublin South East,  
Dublin South and Wicklow

Cúram Sóisialta

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7th July 2020

Deputy Boyd Barrett  
Dáil Eireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**PQ ref 12538/20**

**\*To ask the Minister for Health if the commitment given in 2017 by him to a school (details supplied) that the HSE will not reduce or change the services provided and will not redeploy four clinical staff at the school including disciplines of psychology, speech and language therapy and social work until after a review of the school is complete, remains; if the school will continue to have these skilled professional staff to work with the children and young persons in the school; and if he will make a statement on the matter?.**  
**-Richard Boyd Barrett**

Dear Deputy Boyd Barrett,

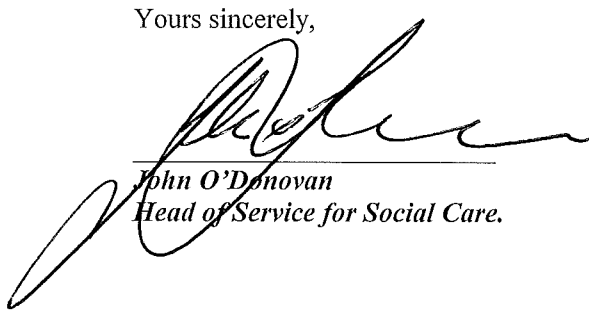
Thank you for your recent correspondence. The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Representation. I have examined the matter and the following outlines the current position.

St Augustine's Special School is in receipt of a number of health and social care services to children via the Order of St John of Gods which is funded by the HSE. These services include Allied Health Professional supports, vocational training and educational supports, afterschool and overnight respite support services.

There is and has been no change to the range on services delivered/planned to be delivered as agreed with the HSE with the exception of Allied Health supports which will be delivered in future in line with National Health policy as defined by Progressing Disabilities. This policy sets out the plan to deliver specialist disability supports to children through the creation of Disability Network Teams. Each team developed under Progressing Disabilities will be responsible for the provision of specialist disabilities to children residing within its catchment area. This is the model of services prescribed for all children requiring such services throughout Ireland. Children who currently attend and receive their allied health supports at St Augustine's School will in future receive such supports through the Disability Network Team at the local network centre and/or by prior at St Augustine's School with the prior agreement of the relevant disability network manager.

I trust that this information is of assistance to you but should you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

  
John O'Donovan  
Head of Service for Social Care.

Seirbhís Sláinte  
Níos Fearr  
á Forbairt

Building a  
Better Health  
Service