

**8<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

Deputy Cian O'Callaghan  
Dáil Éireann  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2

**Re: PQ 25519 /20**

**Question: “To ask the Minister for Health if he will report on the 113 plus schools experiencing Covid-19 infections and clusters; the breakdown of infection amongst teachers, students, staff and SNAs; the areas nationally in which the schools are; when the infections were identified; the length of time testing took at the schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter”.**

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Health to the Health Service Executive for direct response.

I wish to apologise for the delay in issuing a response to your above question.

Due to the current demands of the Covid-19 pandemic and the numerous queries we have received to date it has taken longer than I would've liked to respond.

I'm sure you will understand we cannot comment on individual cases or educational facilities but I wish to confirm that a total of 304 facilities have undergone mass testing to date in educational facilities following Public Health risk assessments. There have been 125 detected cases, which is a positivity rate of 1.7%, identified across 47 schools confirming 20 individuals are over 18 and the remaining 105 are under 18. Please see below the number of educational facilities broken down by Public Health Department:

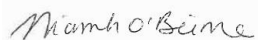
PH Department	No. of Facilities	%
East	182	60
Midlands	21	7
Mid-West	17	6
North East	25	8
North West	15	5
South	17	6
South-East	8	3
West	19	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>304</b>	<b>100</b>

We have undertaken testing in childcare, primary, post primary and special education facilities where a total of 7,175 staff and students have been tested. Of all those tested, 14% (1,010) are aged over 18 and the remaining 86% (6,165) are under 18. The results of these tests are presented in the below table;

Facility Type	No. facilities	No. Tested	No. Detected	No. Not detected	No. Pending	No. not tested/invalid
<b>Childcare Facility</b>	68	1,279	35	1,212	32	0
<b>Post Primary</b>	73	1,623	21	1,506	94	2
<b>Primary</b>	151	3,793	59	3,542	188	4
<b>Special Education</b>	12	480	10	468	1	1
	<b>304</b>	<b>7,175</b>	<b>125 (1.7%)</b>	<b>6,728</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>7</b>

I trust this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,




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**Niamh O'Beirne**  
**National Lead for Testing and Tracing**