



Seirbhís Míchumais

Cúram Sláinte Pobail Thoir, Bloc B, Lárionad
Cathrach, An tSráid Mhór, Bré, Co. Chill
Mhantáin, A98 X329

Disability Service

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15th November 2022

Deputy Jim O'Callaghan
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Re PQ 54663/22:

“To ask the Minister for Health if the progressive disability service that operated for students at the schools (details supplied) can be reinstated rather than the students having to visit different psychologists and language therapists each month; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”

Detail supplied; the students at St. Augustine's School, Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.

Dear Deputy O'Callaghan,

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

Disability Services confirm that services were never removed from St. Augustine's School. St. John of God's team provided services until 12 September 2021. On 13 September 2021, children's services reconfigured into Children's Disability Network Team's (CDNTs), since this reconfiguration date, the CDNTs provide services to St Augustine's School.

Staff members did change on 13 September 2021. As part of an expression of preference process in November 2020, team members working in St. Augustine's School were, as were their colleagues in other services, offered to express a preference relating to which of the 7 CDNTs in Community Healthcare East they would like to work on. None of the existing St. Augustine's team pre-reconfiguration work on CDNT 2 Sandymount the 'school CDNT' post-reconfiguration. This resulted in a change in team members for both the families who chose to receive services from their 'home CDNT' or 'school CDNT' in 2021.

For children attending CDNT 2 Sandymount the 'school CDNT' a child's Psychologist and Speech and Language Therapist are not changing each month.

The total therapists allocated to St. Augustine's Special School was 5.34 WTE, below outlines the status of these posts:



Post	WTE	Status
Speech and Language Therapist	0.92 WTE	Post remains unfilled. Ongoing recruitment efforts
Senior Speech & Language Therapist	0.92 WTE	Post filled
Psychologist	1WTE	Post filled
Senior Psychologist	1WTE	Post filled
Senior Social Worker	1WTE	Post filled
Staff Grade Social Worker	0.5WTE	Post filled

I trust that this information is of assistance to you

Yours sincerely

Patricia McEvoy
Head of Service, Disability Services