



Ceann Seirbhíse, Míchumais
Baile Átha Cliath Theas, Cill Dara & Iarthar
Chill Mhantáin

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás,
Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC

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26 February 2024

Catherine Murphy
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Ref: PQ 44830/23

Re: “To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number and location of therapist posts including speech and language therapists, psychological and others appointed to special schools within CHO7 in the years of 2021, 2022 and to date in 2023, in tabular form”

- Catherine Murphy

Dear Deputy Murphy,

I refer to the above Parliamentary Question which has been referred by the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth to the Health Service Executive for direct response. I requested the Business Manager in Disability Services to examine the matter and the following outlines the position.

Below is the location of therapist posts including speech and language therapists, psychological and others appointed to special schools within Dublin South Kildare & West Wicklow in the years of 2021, 2022, and to date in 2023, in tabular form.

CDNT 1 provides an allocation of .3WTE of Occupational Therapy, .3WTE Psychology and 0.3WTE SLT service directly to Libermann Spiritan School. This service commenced with the opening of the school in September 2023. This equates to one day a week of service provision directly to the school. The supports from CDNT1 are provided to the school as tiered model of supports as per the PDS Model and therefore do not offer supports like IFSP or home based goals and nor provide services in the absence of resources on other teams.

CDNT 3 is currently recruiting therapy assistants and clinicians to their team. Staff will be allocated to provide direct supports to Our Lady of Hope School in Crumlin. Therapy assistants work under the direction and instruction of clinicians. Therapy assistants will be provided to the school as they are recruited and when supervision is in place, which we are in the process of securing.

At this time, CDNT3 are expecting a Physiotherapist to commence in post in February and following a period of induction supervision will be in place for the Physiotherapy Assistant.

A Psychology Assistant has been recruited and supervision is now in place.
All other CDNTs in CHO7 provide support to the schools indirectly.

The below is the direct support for Special Schools in CHO7.

CDNT	Lead Agency	Discipline	Grade	WTE	In place
CDNT1	HSE	SLT	Senior	.3WTE	Yes
CDNT1	HSE	OT	Senior	.3WTE	YEs
CDNT1	HSE	Psych	Staff grade	.3WTE	YEs
CDNT 3	HSE	SLT	Assistant	1WTE	Recruiting
CDNT 3	HSE	OT	Assistant	1WTE	Recruiting
CDNT 3	HSE	Psych	Assistant	0.5WTE	Yes
CDNT 3	HSE	Physio	Assistant	1WTE	Yes but no supervision in place

I trust this information is of use to you. If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

P.P



Margaret O'Neill

Interim Head of Service, Disability Services

Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare.