



31st March 2025

Mr Roderic O' Gorman, TD,
Dáil Éireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2

Email: Roderic.OGorman@oireachtas.ie

PQ 10550/25 *"To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if a school (details supplied) will be provided with an additional allocation of WTE therapist hours for the new 12 children it is to admit as it has for the existing 36 students; and if she will make a statement on the matter."* - **Roderic**

O'Gorman, TD

Details Supplied: Danu Community Special School (CSS)

Dear Deputy O'Gorman,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you with information in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted for response. I examined the matter and the following outlines the position.

Danu Community Special School (CSS) is based in Blanchardstown and is supported by Avista Blanchardstown Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT). HSE Disability Services Integrated Health Area Dublin North City & West (IHA DNCW) allocated a resource to Avista Blanchardstown CDNT in 2022, in recognition of the support needs of children who attend Danu CSS. Avista CDNT recruited Speech and Language Therapy (SLT), Occupational Therapy (OT) and Behavioural Therapy hours within the resource.

Children attending Danu CSS may receive support from other disciplines linked to the school according to their needs and priorities identified if available based on priority need.

IHA DNCW notes a department of education plan for expansion of the school in 2025 and a potential increase of 50% in pupil numbers. Disability Services IHA DNCW has not received an allocation of multi-disciplinary staff for CDNTs in 2025 and is therefore not in position to provide additional resource to Avista Blanchardstown CDNT.

I trust this information clarifies your query.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Olive Hanley
Head of Service for Disability
Covering Integrated Health Areas of Dublin North County and
Dublin North City & West