

From: Correspondence Unit <education-correspondenceunit@corr.cloud.gov.ie>
Sent: 08 July 2026 10:29
To: Corporate Services <Corporate.Services@fingal.ie>
Subject: DES-CU-02475-2026



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Our Ref: DES-CU-02475-2026

Dear Corporate Services,

The Minister for Education and Youth, Ms. Hildegard Naughton TD, has asked me to thank you for your correspondence and to respond to you on her behalf regarding ☐ Gaelcholáistí and the establishment of a Gaelcholáiste in the Swords area.

By way of general information, new schools are only established in areas of demographic growth, as the resources available for school infrastructure have to be prioritised to ensure that every child has a school place.

The Programme for Government 2025, Securing Ireland's Future, includes a commitment to establish Gaelscoileanna and Gaelcholáistí where there is demand and support parents choosing Irish-medium education for their children.

In this regard, the department published a 'Policy for Irish-medium Education outside of the Gaeltacht'.

A key recommendation of this report was the establishment of a Taskforce on Models of Provision for Irish-medium Education, which commenced its work in November 2025.

The role of the taskforce is to provide a platform for collaboration between the department and key stakeholders to develop a pathway to increase provision of Irish-medium education nationally. The taskforce's work is expected to be completed within one year.

It will make recommendations to the department on areas such as the criteria for Irish-medium education provision, how to support schools transitioning to Irish-medium and mechanisms to facilitate expansion of provision.

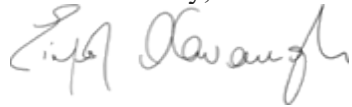
Finally, parental preferences from the primary school survey have now been published and this provides a comprehensive evidence base to underpin decision-making on the level of demand for Irish medium provision.

Primary schools have been given an opportunity to reflect on the outcome of the survey and indicate to the Department by 31 October if, following local consultations, they are interested in change - including in relation to moving to Irish medium provision.

These results will assist with forward planning for future educational provision.

While this survey is at primary level it will also assist with providing a guide on post-primary requirements into the future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Eimear Kavanagh', written in a cursive style.

Eimear Kavanagh

Private Secretary