



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Patronage Assessment Report

School: Gorey

Level: Post-Primary

Year: 2021

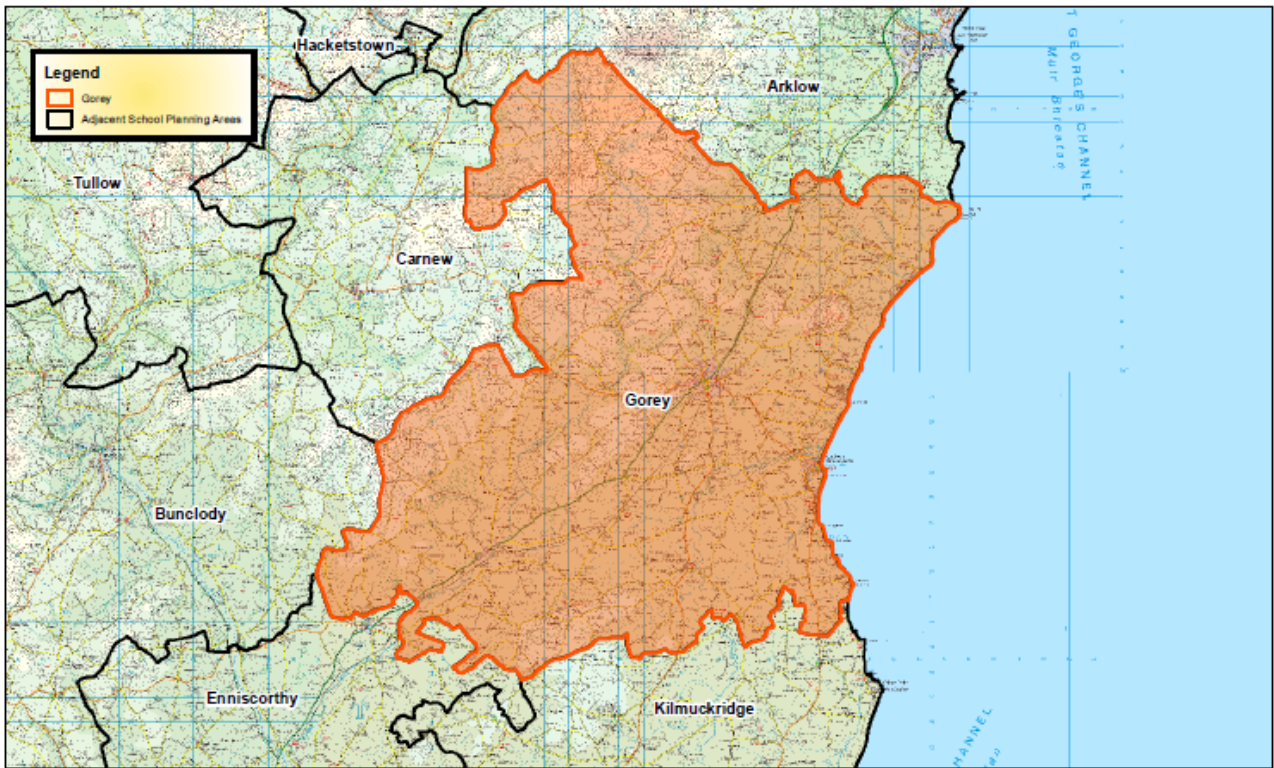
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Report to the New Schools Establishment Group
Department of Education
December 2020

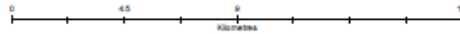
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1. School Planning Area Map

Gorey






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An tAon Oideachais
Department of Education

2. Applications Received

Three applications were received from applicant patrons in respect of this school. A brief profile of the applicants together with a synopsis of the school type proposed is set out in the follow table.

Applicant Patrons	Profile of Applicant	School type proposed		Number of Post-primary schools
	<p>CEIST is a private charitable company limited by guarantee and the patron of a number of post-primary schools with a Catholic ethos throughout the country.</p>	Ethos:	Denominational	107
		Model:	Voluntary Secondary School	
		Language of Instruction proposed:	English	
		Also willing to offer:	Irish	
	<p>Educate Together is a private charitable company limited by guarantee and the patron or representative organisation of a number of primary schools and post-primary schools throughout the country.</p>	Ethos:	Multi-denominational	19
		Model:	Voluntary Secondary School	
		Language of Instruction proposed:	English	
		Also willing to offer:	N/A	
	<p>Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board (WWETB) is a statutory authority which has responsibility for managing and operating a range of education services including second-level schools and is patron of a number of primary and post-primary schools.</p>	Ethos:	Multi-denominational	15
		Model:	Community College	
		Language of Instruction proposed:	English	
		Also willing to offer:	N/A	

3. Demographic details

Demographic exercises undertaken in 2018 identified a requirement for 42 new schools to be established between 2019 and 2022. New school requirements have continued to be kept under review in the interim and an update of the demographic projections for all school planning areas was undertaken in 2020. This refreshed data indicated a requirement for a new post-primary school to serve the Gorey school planning area to be established in 2021.

The analysis which informed the decision to establish the new school was predicated on the 2019 enrolment base, being the most recent available enrolment data at the time of the exercise.

There are two public post-primary schools in this school planning area neither of which are fee-paying. The 2019 enrolment was 2,359.

In order to identify additional school accommodation requirements analysis was undertaken in respect of:

- underlying demographic trends in the existing population;
- potential school place requirements associated with Additional Residential Development (ARD) in the area; and
- current or planned spare capacity in existing post-primary schools in the area.

Demographics:

The estimated peak year is 2023 with projected enrolments of 2,610. On that basis it was estimated that there will be a need for an additional 251 places by 2023.

Additional Residential Development:

A total additional requirement for 189 school places was estimated to arise from current or planned Additional Residential Development in the school planning area, as notified to the Department by the Local Authority. For estimation purposes the increase in school places associated with ARD is apportioned equally across the years 2020-2024.

Gross School Place Requirements:

The peak gross additional school place requirements in the school planning area were projected to be 414, being peak demographics and 80% of the total ARD requirements (the proportion of ARD estimated to have materialised by 2023).

Spare Capacity:

There was identified current or planned spare capacity for circa 200 school places in the school planning area.

Net School Place Requirements:

Having considered the spare capacity in the school planning area, a net school place requirement of over 200 places was determined to remain to 2024.

Determination:

Given the net post-primary school place requirement to 2024, and the constrained capacity at the two existing post-primary schools in the school planning area, it was determined that a new 500 pupil school should be established in Gorey in 2021.

4. Assessment of Applications

All patrons have agreed to the Patronage Commitments as set out in the Section D of the Patronage Application Form attached to main report.

The invitation letter to patrons, also attached to the main report, sets out in detail the:

- Arrangements for the Establishment and Patronage of New Post-Primary Schools due to open in September 2021; and
- General Information for Prospective Patrons.

4.1.1 Patronage

4.1.1 Existing Post-Primary Provision

Gorey

Roll No	School Name	School Planning Area	Patron	Ethos*	Language	Gender	Fee Paying	Total Enrolment 2019/20
76127D	Creagh College	Gorey	Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board	Multi-D	English	Mixed	N	821
91492N	Gorey Community School	Gorey	Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board & Loreto Sisters of Ireland	Inter-D	English	Mixed	N	1538

*Ethos : Multi-D = Multi-denominational, Inter-D = Inter-denominational

Of the two post-primary schools currently in the school planning area, 1 is has a multi-denominational ethos and 1 has an inter-denominational ethos.

Two of the three proposed models would increase multi-denominational provision in the area.

Adjoining School Planning Areas

There are five school planning areas adjoining the Gorey school planning area, with 12 post-primary schools as set out in the table below:

Roll No	School Name	School planning area	Patron	Ethos*	Langu age	Gender	Fee Paying	Total Enrolment 2019/20
76106S	Gaelcholáiste na Mara	Arklow	Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board	Multi-D	Irish	Mixed	N	273

61780A	St Marys College	Arklow	CEIST	Catholic	English	Girls	N	552
61770U	Arklow CBS	Arklow	Edmund Rice Schools Trust	Catholic	English	Boys	N	375
70790E	Coláiste Bhríde Carnew	Carnew	Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board	Multi-D	English	Mixed	N	871
70740M	Glenart College	Arklow	Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board	Multi-D	English	Mixed	N	416
63570W	Coláiste Bride	Enniscorthy	CEIST	Catholic	English	Girls	N	719
71620H	Vocational College Bunclody	Bunclody	Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board	Multi-D	English	Mixed	N	219
63550Q	F.C.J. Secondary School	Bunclody	Le Chéile Schools Trust	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	934
68080H	Meanscoil Gharman	Enniscorthy	An Foras Pátrúnachta	Inter-D	Irish	Mixed	N	253
63560T	St. Mary's C.B.S.	Enniscorthy	Edmund Rice Schools Trust	Catholic	English	Boys	N	692
71630K	Vocational College	Enniscorthy	Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board	Multi-D	English	Mixed	N	406
71650Q	Coláiste an Átha	Kilmuckridge	Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board	Multi-D	English	Mixed	N	326

**Ethos : Multi-D = Multi-denominational, Inter-D = Inter-denominational*

4.1.2 Parental Preferences

The table below sets out the valid first preferences received by each applicant patron:

Applicant Patron	Valid First Preferences
Catholic Education An Irish Schools Trust (CEIST)	188
Educate Together	260
Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board (WWETB)	192
Total Valid First Preferences	640

4.2 Language

4.2.1 Existing Provision

(i) Gaelscoileanna (Primary Level)

The following are the details of the Irish–medium gaelscoileanna located within the school planning area, and in the adjoining school planning areas.

A) Within the school planning area

Roll No	School Name	School planning area	Patron	Ethos*	Enrolment 2019/20		Approx. distance from nearest existing gaelcholáiste	Approx. distance from centre of Gorey
					TOTAL	6th		
20165U	Gaelscoil Mhoshíológ	Gorey	An Foras Pátrúnachta	Inter-D	220	31	19.6km (Gaelcholáiste na Mara)	1.9km

*Ethos : Inter-D = Inter-denominational

B) In adjoining school planning areas

Roll No	School Name	School planning area	Patron	Ethos*	Enrolment 2019/20		Approx. distance from nearest existing gaelcholáiste	Approx. distance from centre of Gorey
					TOTAL	6th		
20057R	Gaelscoil Inis Corthaidh	Enniscorthy	An Foras Pátrúnachta	Catholic	188	22	3.5km (Meánscoil Gharman)	30.1km
20080M	Gaelscoil An Inbhir Mhóir	Arklow	An Foras Pátrúnachta	Inter-D	363	44	1.9km (Gaelcholáiste na Mara)	17km

*Ethos : Inter-D = Inter-denominational

(ii) Gaelcholáistí/Irish–medium Aonaid (Post-Primary Level)

The following are details of any Irish-medium Gaelcholáistí or, where relevant, English-medium schools with an Irish-medium Unit (Aonad) within the school planning area, and in the adjoining school planning areas.

A) Within the school planning area

There are no Gaelcholáistí/Irish-medium Aonaid within the school planning area.

B) In adjoining school planning areas

There are 2 Gaelcholáistí within the adjoining school planning areas as follows:

Roll No	School Name	School Type	School planning area	Patron	Ethos*	Enrolment 2019/20	Approx. distance from centre of Gorey
76106S	Gaelcholáiste na Mara	Irish	Arklow	Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board	Multi-D	273	17.8km
68080H	Meánscoil Gharman	Irish	Enniscorthy	An Foras Pátrúnachta	Inter-D	253	32.9km

*Ethos : Multi-D = Multi-denominational, Inter-D = Inter-denominational

Attached at Appendix A to this report is a map of the school planning area and surrounding areas, including the locations of the above Irish-medium schools for information. Gorey Town was chosen as the mid-point of the map given that the location of the new school is not yet confirmed.

4.2.2 Parental Preferences

Breakdown of valid first preferences by language preference

Language Preference	Catholic Education An Irish Schools Trust (CEIST)		Educate Together		Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board (WWETB)		Total Preferences	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
English	175		252		184		611	
Irish	7		3		1		11	
Aonad*	7	0	3	0	1	0	11	0
No Preference	6		5		7		18	
Total first preferences	188		260		192		640	

*In order to have more clarity in relation to a parental preference for Irish-medium education at post-primary level, an additional question was added to this OPPS survey. For those parents who indicated a preference for Irish-medium in response to the question on their preferred language for the new school, the following question was also asked: "If you selected Irish as your language preference, would you consider sending your child to an Aonad (Irish-language unit) in an English-language school in the event that a Gaelcholáiste (Irish-language school) was not established in the area?". The options were "yes" or "no". An information box providing a short description of Aonaid was also provided.

The level of parental preferences for Irish-medium instruction is low (11 or 1.72% of first preferences) compared with 611 (95.47%) of preferences for English-medium while 18 (or 2.81%) of parents did not specify a preference in relation to language. Of those who expressed a

preference for Irish, all indicated that they would consider sending their child to an Aonad in the event that a Gaelcholáiste was not established in the area.

The only gaelscoil in the Gorey school planning area is located *circa.* 1.9km from the centre of Gorey and is located *circa.* 19.6km from Gaelcholáiste na Mara. This gaelscoil had an enrolment of 31 6th class pupils in 2019/20.

There were 66 pupils in sixth class in total in the two gaelscoileanna located in the adjoining school planning areas in 2019/20. Both these gaelscoileanna are located closer to an existing Gaelcholáiste than they are to Gorey.

All of the applicant patrons propose an English-medium school with CEIST expressing their willingness to offer an Irish-medium school if demand exists for same. All applicants have confirmed they are willing to open an Aonad should the demand require it.

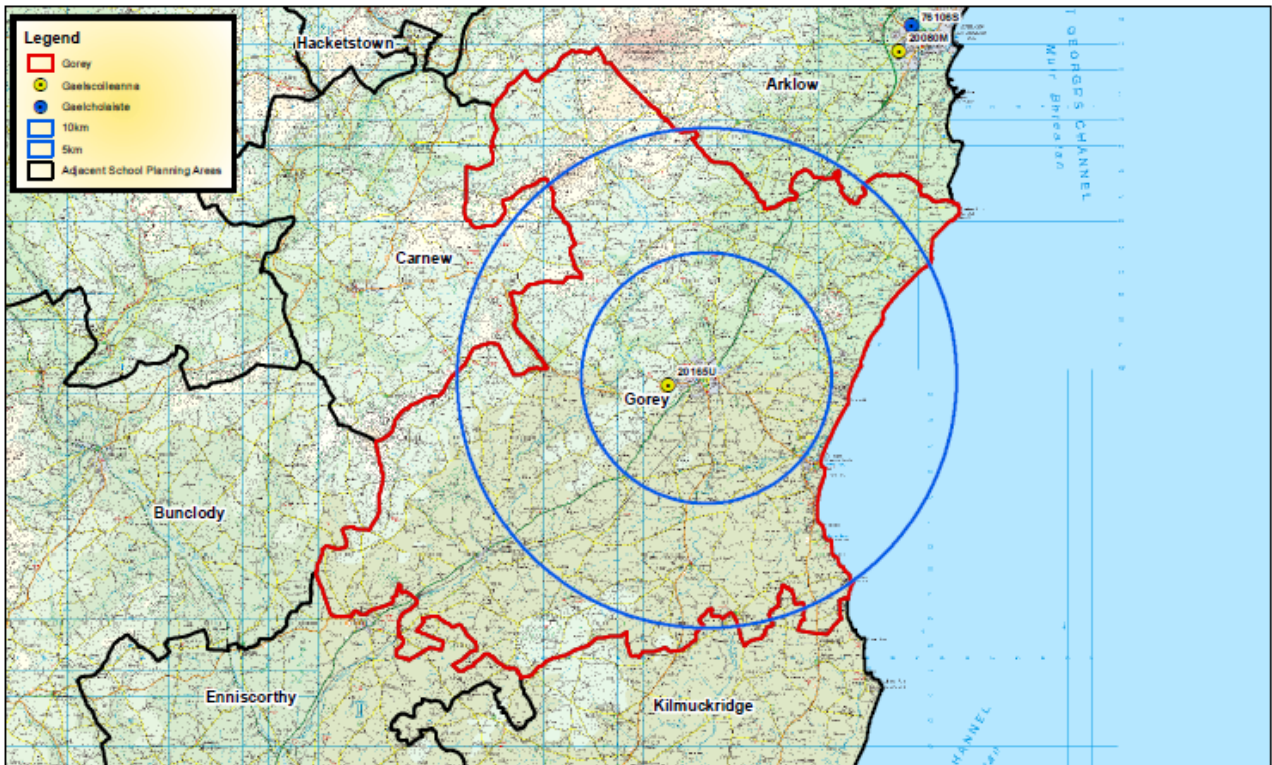
5. Conclusions

- All patrons have confirmed that they will satisfy the requirements as set out by the Department for the patronage of new schools.
- Two of the three models would increase provision for diversity in the area by increasing multi-denominational provision in the area.
- Educate Together received the highest number of valid first preferences i.e. 260. The total first preferences for multi-denominational provision amounted to 452 of 640 preferences.
- The level of parental preferences for Irish-medium instruction was 11 of 640 valid first preferences (1.72%) compared with 611 of 640 valid first preferences (95.74%) for English-medium instruction.
- Based on the results of the parental preferences and broader analysis, including the extent of diversity currently available in this and the adjoining school planning areas, the analysis indicates that the patronage of the new post-primary school for the Gorey school planning area should be awarded to Educate Together to provide a multi-denominational Voluntary Secondary School with English as the language of instruction.

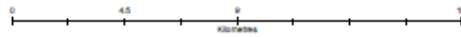
**Forward Planning Section
Department of Education
December 2020**

APPENDIX A

Gorey



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An Bliain Ollscoile
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