



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Patronage Assessment Report

School: Donaghmede _ Howth _ D13
(Designated Gaelscoil)

Level: Primary

Year: 2021

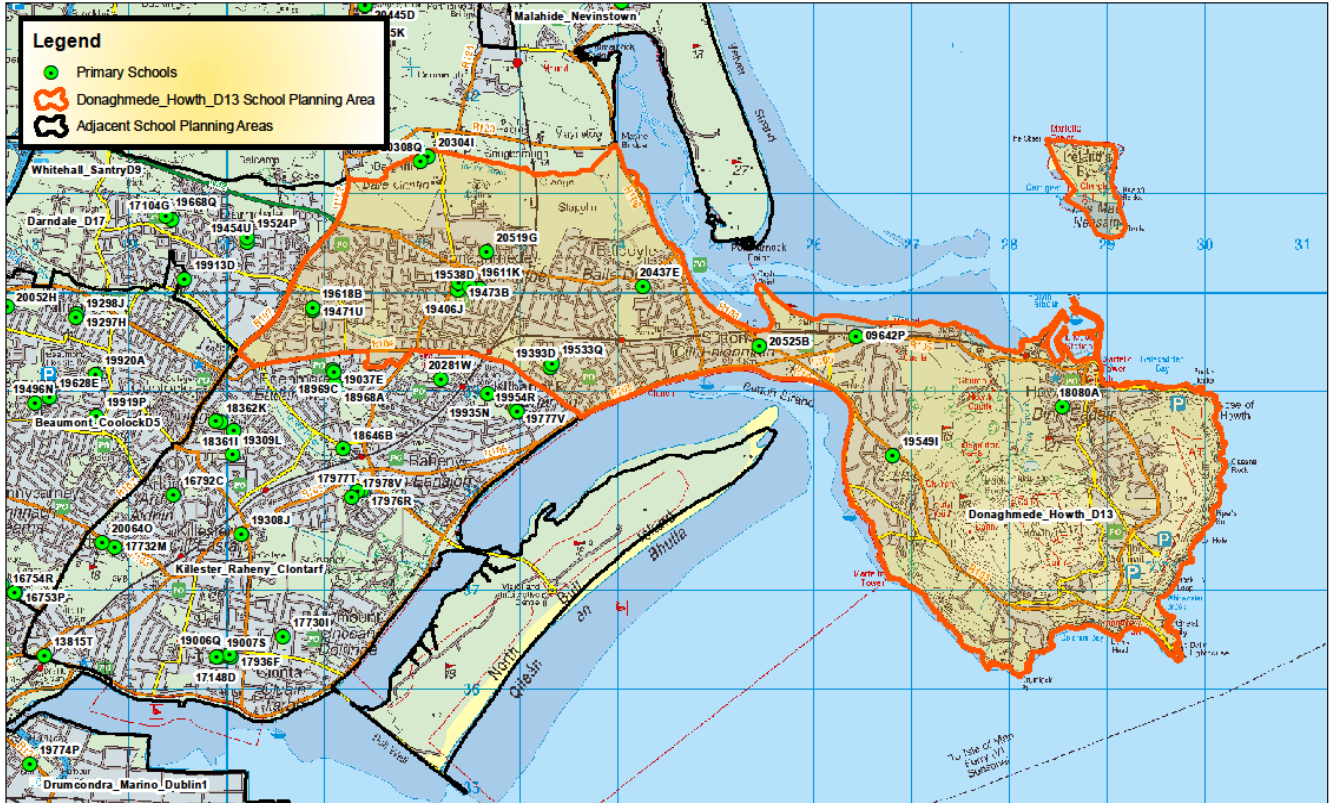
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Report to the New Schools Establishment Group
Department of Education
February 2021

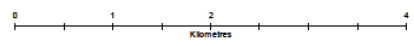
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1. School Planning Area Map

Donaghmede_Howth_D13





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2. Applications Received

Two 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 following table.

Applicant Patrons	Profile of Applicant	School type proposed		Number of primary schools currently under this patronage	
	<p>An Foras Pátrúnachta is a private charitable company limited by guarantee and the patron of a number of Irish-medium primary and post-primary schools throughout the country.</p>	Ethos:	Multi-Denominational	70	
		Language of Instruction proposed:	Irish		
		Also willing to offer (if sufficient demand):	N/A		
	<p>Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB) 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	10	
		Language of Instruction proposed:	Irish		
		Also willing to offer (if sufficient demand):	N/A		

3. Demographic details

The decision to announce a new school for the northern area of this school planning area was on the basis of the demographic exercises carried out in 2018 as set out below.

The analysis which informed the decision to establish the new school was predicated on the 2017 enrolment base, being the most recent available enrolment data at the time of the exercise. The 2017 enrolment across the 14 primary schools in this school planning area was 4,855.

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 including any development arising from the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF); and
- current or planned spare capacity in existing primary schools in the area.

Demographics:

The estimated peak year was 2019 with projected enrolments of 4,936. Based on the demographic projection, it was estimated that there would be a need for an additional 3 classrooms between 2017 and 2019 (peak year).

Additional Residential Development:

Based on information on planned residential development in the area which was received from the local authority, a demand for 15 mainstream primary classes was estimated to be associated with Additional Residential Development in the school planning area and a further requirement for an estimated 27 mainstream primary classes was associated with an approved LIHAF project.

Spare Capacity:

Existing or planned capacity increases totalling 10 mainstream primary classes were identified within the school planning area.

Net Primary Class Requirement:

Based on the above analysis, including additional residential development planned in the area, there was a net requirement for 35 classrooms which could not be accommodated in existing schools or through temporary accommodation / expansion of existing schools.



Determination:

Based on the above analysis, including additional residential development planned in the area, there was a net requirement for 35 classrooms which could not be accommodated in existing schools or through temporary accommodation / expansion of existing schools. This projected demand was primarily driven by additional residential development. Two new 16 classroom schools were announced for this school planning area, one of which was established in 2019 and a second to be established in 2021.

However, 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 projected a peak gross requirement for an additional 10 mainstream classes by 2023.

While there appears to be some capacity in the school planning area that will contribute to meeting this 10 classroom requirement, given the significant continued growth in the area and the absence of alternative Irish-medium provision in Donaghmede_Howth_D13, it was determined that the proposed new school should proceed but be restricted to 8 classrooms of Irish-medium provision initially.

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 and each applicant patron has confirmed that it will comply with the Patronage Code of Conduct.

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

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

4.1 Patronage

4.1.1 Existing Primary Provision

There are currently 16 primary schools in the Donaghmede_Howth_D13 school planning area:

Roll No	School Name	Patron	Ethos*	Language	Gender	DE IS	Total Enrolments 2019/20
09642P	Burrows N S	Archbishop Of Dublin & Bishop Of Glendalough COI	Church Of Ireland	English	Mixed	N	215
18080A	Scoil Mhuire MXD	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	436
19393D	Mhuire Iosef Junior	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Junior Mixed	N	409
19406J	Holy Trinity Sen N S	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	369
19471U	St Pauls Junior National School	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	226
19473B	Scoil Bhríde	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	398
19538D	St Kevins Junior N S	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	192
19549I	St Fintans NS	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	470
19611K	Scoil Naomh Colmcille	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	192
19618B	St Pauls Sen NS	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	233

20304I	St. Francis of Assisi National School	Archbishop Of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	455
20308Q	Belmayne Educate Together National School	Educate Together	Multi-D	English	Mixed	Y	437
20437E	St Laurence's National School	Archbishop of Dublin	Catholic	English	Mixed	N	465
19533Q	S N Muire Agus Iosef	Archbishop of Dublin	Catholic	English	Senior Mixed	N	431
20519G	Stapolin Educate Together National School**	Educate Together	Multi-D	English	Mixed	N	19
20525B	Killester Raheny Clontarf ETNS**	Educate Together	Multi-D	English	Mixed	N	7

*Ethos : Multi-D = Multi-denominational

**These schools were established in September 2019.

Note: While Killester Raheny Clontarf ETNS was established to serve the Killester_Raheny_Clontarf school planning area, the school's interim accommodation is located in the Donaghmede_Howth_D13 school planning area, hence the school's inclusion in the above table.

Of the 16 primary schools in the school planning area 12 are Catholic, one is Church of Ireland and three are multi-denominational.

All proposed models would increase multi-denominational provision in the area.

4.1.2 Parental Preferences

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

Applicant Patron	Valid First Preferences
An Foras Pátrúnachta	39
Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Education and Training Board (DDLETB)	8
Total Valid First Preferences	47

4.2 Language

On 3 September 2019, the Minister for Education announced measures to increase access to Irish-medium education as part of the patronage process for new schools. As part of these measures the Minister amended the criteria which are considered in determining the ethos and language of instruction of new primary schools as part of the patronage process for new schools.

In this regard, the following applies:

- If there is no existing Irish-medium provision in a school planning area, and a new primary school is being established to meet demographic demand, the new school will be designated as a gaelscoil before the Online Patronage Process System for that area opens. This will happen unless there are particular local circumstances where this would not be appropriate.
- Where a number of new primary schools are due to be established in the same school planning area during the period 2019-2022, at least one of these schools in that school planning area will be Irish-medium, unless there are particular local circumstances where this would not be appropriate.

In cases other than the above, the language of instruction will be determined following a patronage process.

In this context, the Minister announced that five of the new primary schools to be established over the period 2020 to 2022, including the new school for Donaghmede_Howth_D13, are designated as Irish-medium gaelscoileanna.

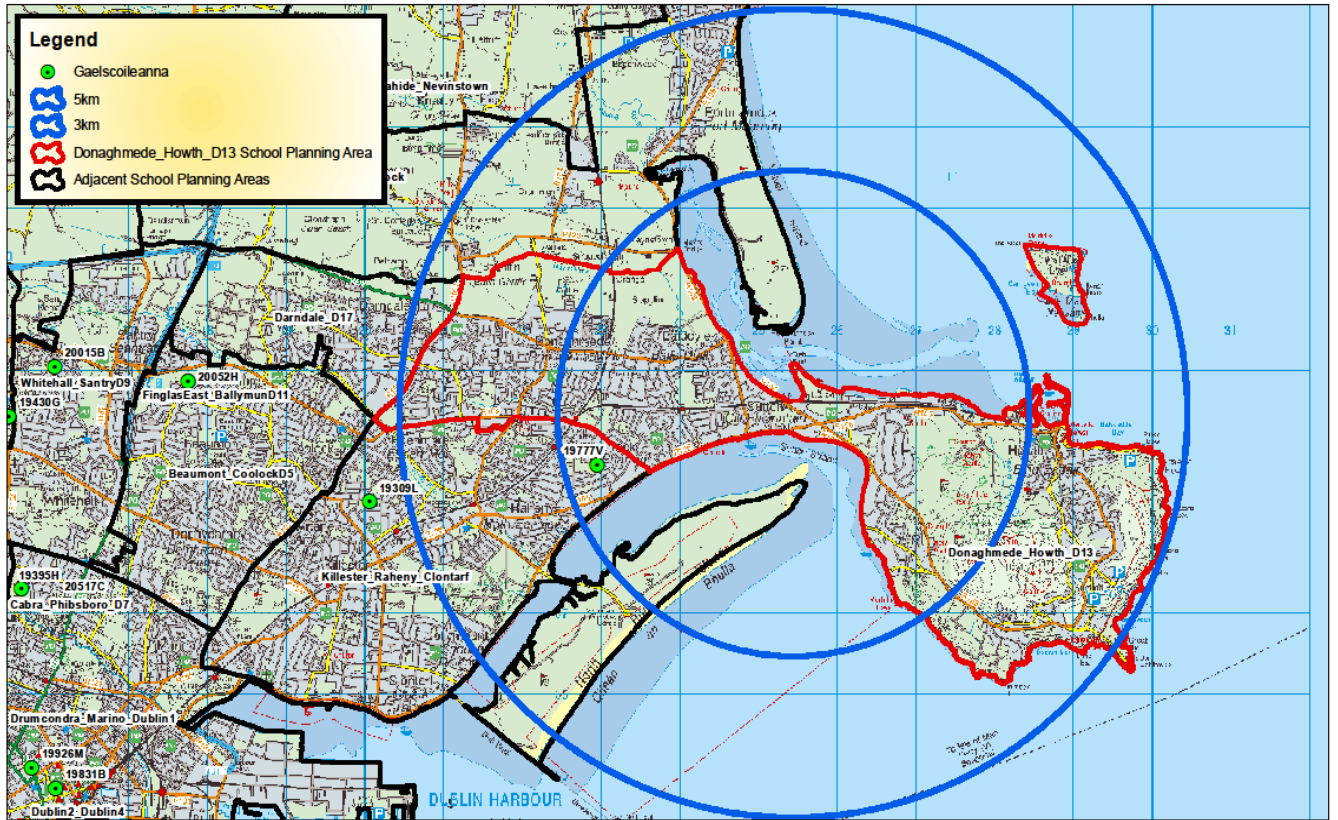
In the case of Donaghmede_Howth_D13, this met both of the criteria listed above. Two new primary schools were announced for this school planning area, one of which was established in 2019 and there is currently English-medium educational provision only in this school planning area. Accordingly this school has been designated as a Irish-medium gaelscoil.

5. Conclusions

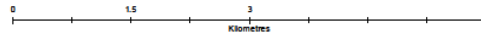
- All patrons have confirmed that they will satisfy the requirements as set out by the Department for the patronage of new schools.
- All proposed models would increase diversity in the area by providing multi-denominational provision in the area.
- This school has been designated as a gaelscoil and this will provide an Irish-medium option for parents in the area.
- An Foras Pátrúnachta received the highest number of valid first preference votes i.e 39 or 83%.
- 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 gaelscoil for the Donaghmede_Howth_D13 school planning area should be awarded to An Foras Pátrúnachta to provide a multi-denominational primary school with Irish as the language of instruction.

Appendix A - Map of Gaelscoileanna in the area

Donaghmede_Howth_D13



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