



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

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás,  
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**26 February 2024**

**Patrick Costello  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2**

**Ref: PQ 55587/23**

**Re: Our Lady of Hope school in Crumlin**

*“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the vacancies that exist in Our Lady of Hope for therapist positions, nurses and other special school support staff, in tabular form; the estimated recruitment time for the vacancies; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”*

**- Patrick Costello**

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**Dear Deputy Costello**

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.

Children's Disability Network Team 3 (CDNT 3) are currently recruiting four therapy assistants who are allocated to provide a service to Our Lady of Hope School. Two of these therapy assistant positions are filled and CDNT3 are currently recruiting and securing supervision for these therapy assistants. An Assistant Psychologist and Physiotherapy Assistant will be able to start providing support to Our Lady of Hope by the end of February 2024, pending Physiotherapist commencing employment with CDNT3 mid-February 2024.

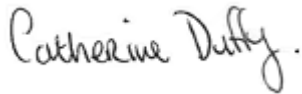
This services will be provided by way of direct intervention and the supports will be provided on a tiered based model of supports as per the PDS model and therefore will not offer supports like IFSOP or home based goals in the absence of resources on the teams currently. The responsibility for IFSOP/Home Based goals will be provided by the CDNTs in the area.

In relation to Nursing Supports in the schools. This does not fall under Disabilities as we are not responsible for the nursing support needs of the schools. It may be more appropriate for the Department of Education to reply to the nursing needs for the school.

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Duffy." The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the "P.P" text.

Margaret O'Neill

**Interim Head of Service, Disability Services**

**Dublin South, Kildare and West Wicklow Community Healthcare.**