



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

Teach Darach, Páirc na Mílaoise, An Nás,  
Co. Chill Dara, W91 KDC

Head of Service, Disabilities  
Dublin South Kildare and West Wicklow  
Community Healthcare

Oak House, Millennium Park, Naas,  
Co. Kildare, W91 KDC2

[www.hse.ie](http://www.hse.ie)  
[hsecho7@hsecho7](mailto:hsecho7@hsecho7)

t (045) 882 597  
e [cho7.pqreps@hse.ie](mailto:cho7.pqreps@hse.ie)

**26 February 2024**

**Bríd Smith  
Dáil Éireann  
Leinster House  
Kildare Street  
Dublin 2**

**Ref: PQ 55674/23**

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

*“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth when the much-needed therapists for ASD children at a school (details supplied) will be in place; when a nurse will be recruited for the school, given that some children cannot attend a full day at school due to the lack of a nurse; and if he will make a statement on the matter.”*

**- Bríd Smith**

---

**Dear Deputy Smith,**

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.

CDNT 3 is currently recruiting therapy assistants and clinicians to their team. Staff will be allocated to provide direct supports to Our Lady of Hope School in Crumlin. Clinical staff are required to support and guide the intervention of therapy assistants. A Physiotherapist is due to start in February and following a period of induction there will be supervision for the Physiotherapy Assistant. A Psychology Assistant has been recruited and supervision is now in place. Additional therapy assistants will be provided to the school as they are recruited and we are also in the process of putting in place supervision for these assistant therapists.

These 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 IFSP or home based goals in the absence of resources on the teams currently. The responsibility for IFSP/Home Based goals will be provided by the CDNTs in the area.

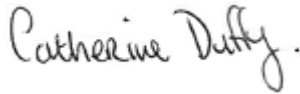
The services to the school will take on a variety of forms, based on the tiered based model of supports as per the PDS model. In order to meet the needs of the school and the individual children and provide input in an evidence informed manner, it will be necessary to identify the needs of the school and the individual children and meet these needs.

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 typed name "P.P".

Margaret O'Neill

**Interim Head of Service, Disability Services**

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