



Oifig an Stiúirthóir Cúnta Náisiúnta,
Foireann Míchumais Náisiúnta,
An Chéad Urlár - Oifigí 13, 14, 15,
Áras Phlásóg na Rós, Coimpléasc Gnó na hOllscoile,
Páirc Náisiúnta Teicneolaíochta,
Caladh an Treoigh,
Luimneach.

Office of the Assistant National Director,
National Disability Team,
First Floor- Offices 13, 14, 15,
Roselawn House, University Business Complex,
National Technology Park,
Castletroy,
Limerick.

3rd May 2024

Deputy Alan Kelly,
Dail Eireann,
Leinster House,
Kildare Street,
Dublin 2.
E-mail: alan.kelly@oireachtas.ie

Dear Deputy Kelly,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply directly to you in the context of the following parliamentary question, which was submitted to this department for response.

PQ: 16404/24

To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth the number of student placements in CDNT based in Tipperary in the years of 2022, 2023 and to date in 2024, in tabular form.

HSE Response

91 Children's Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) are aligned to 96 Community Healthcare Networks (CHNs) across the country and are providing services and supports for children aged from birth to 18 years of age.

The CDNTs are currently providing services and supports for 45,741 children and strategies and supports for urgent cases on the waitlist where staffing resources allow.

All CDNTs are required to provide student placement programmes, pending staffing resources in place to support the students. All grades of HSCPs on CDNTs are required to supervise students based on individual staff's experience and competency.

The Roadmap for Service Improvement - Disability Services for Children and Young People 2023 – 2026 includes the following action of 55 that will be measured and reported on regularly:

3.4	All teams will provide student placements on a pro rata basis to the number of filled posts on their teams.	Sept 2023	Heads of Service Disabilities/Lead Agencies
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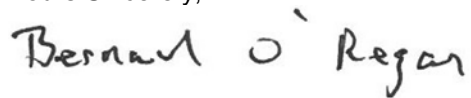


With regard to the question asked, data was gathered in recent months on the number of student placements provided by the CDNTs in the most recent full Academic Year - Sept 2022/2023. Below is the return for County Tipperary.

CDNT	Lead Agency	Discipline	College	Year of study	Length of placement
North Tipperary	Enable	Clinical Psychology	University of Limerick	3rd Year D Clin Psych	6 months
North Tipperary	Enable	Educational & Child Psychology	Mary Immaculate	2nd Year DECPsy	3 months
North Tipperary	Enable	SLT	UL	Final	8 weeks
North Tipperary	Enable	OT	UL	2nd	8 weeks

A national memo will issue shortly setting an annual target for all CDNTs to provide 1 placement per 2 WTE filled HSCP posts on CDNTs per year, commencing this year. This will increase student placements by 50% to 326 students nationally. In tandem, we will be working with National HSCP Office to develop the scaffolding required to grow and sustain a student placement programme across all CDNTs.

Yours Sincerely,



Bernard O'Regan
Assistant National Director
National Disability Team

