

11<sup>th</sup> November, 2024

Mr. Sean Sherlock, T.D.,  
Dáil Éireann,  
Dublin 2.

**PQ ref 37328/ 24**

**“To ask the Minister for Children; Equality; Disability; Integration and Youth if he will instruct the HSE to release funds to allow interim funding arrangements to be progressed for a school (details supplied) in Mayfield, and any other school that is seeking same.”**

**Details supplied: St. Killian’s Special School**

Dear Deputy Sherlock,

The Health Service Executive has been requested to reply to you in the context of the above Parliamentary Question which you submitted to the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for response.

Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNTs) have been established to provide services and supports for all children with complex disability needs within a defined geographic area. The Government has prioritised the reinstatement of health and social care supports in special schools. In that regard, Cork Kerry Community Healthcare (CKCH) is continuing to engage with its CDNT lead agencies to progress this work.

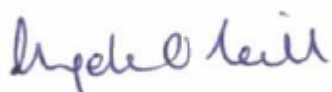
Approximately 10% of children on the CDNT caseloads in Cork attend special schools. This aligns with the position nationally. St. Killian’s Special School is aligned to CDNT 8 which has a caseload of 563. There are four special schools in its catchment area.

Dr. Andy Philips, REO of HSE South West, approved a once off grant of €40,000 to support St. Killian's Special School to procure private therapy supports in the current school term. CKCH is awaiting Grant Aid Agreement documentation from the school to facilitate the transfer of the agreed funding.

A new nationally agreed Special Schools Pilot Project is underway. I understand that St. Killian's Special School is to be included in phase two of the pilot which will commence in early 2025.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,



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**Angela O'Neill,**  
**Head of Disability Services,**  
**Cork Kerry Community Healthcare.**

