



**Educate Together**

# **Annual Report of the National Executive**

**May 17 2003**











# Report of the National Executive May 17 2003

## Summary

The National Executive is pleased to report another year of substantial progress for Educate Together. This progress has been accomplished despite a sharp realignment of state funding for education and in particular, the cutbacks effecting provision for new schools that are a significant challenge for our movement.

The key areas of progress have been:-

The opening of seven new Educate Together schools. In 2002, Educate Together became the fastest growing sector in Irish education, opening more than double the number of schools than all other sectors combined in the year 2002/3.

Significant improvements in the geographical spread of Educate Together schools.

Progress in providing permanent buildings for Educate Together schools

Transformation of the national office to a complement of 5 full time and one part time professional staff, implementing independently validated procedures in recruitment and equipping the office to appropriate modern standards.

Radically augmented services for existing Educate Together schools, establishing a School Support Department to provide confidential advice, training, legal services, facilitation and other assistance.

The forming of a Development Department to manage the opening of new schools and in particular to press forward a strategy to build a national network of Educate Together schools.

Establishment of a Communications and Fund-raising Department to raise the profile of Educate Together in national and local media and to commence a national fund-raising programme.

Establishment of an Education Department on a part-time basis to consolidate Educate Together's thinking and experience in delivering its unique educational programmes.

This progress is consistent with the ten central objectives laid down in the November 2000 Strategy Statement. Although the current funding environment is presenting additional difficulties for all those involved in education in Ireland and are particularly effecting efforts to create new schools, the National Executive is confident that these achievements have created the basis for further progress in the coming year.

## Growth of the Sector

*A core legal requirement for Educate Together is to “promote a future where multi-denominational education will be as freely available to parents as any other educational option that they may choose” (Educate Together Charter). The context of a rapidly diversifying society is driving demand for the sector to assist groups who wish to open Educate Together schools.*

The graph shows the accelerating growth of the Educate Together sector. In its first 20 years, the sector was growing at an average rate of 3 schools every 4 years. By 2000 this had accelerated to one school per year. The additional resources available to the organisation in the past year has improved the services to associations seeking to open new schools and the rate of expansion has shot up to seven schools per year. The continued impact of this enhanced service is seen in the fact that for the current year (2003/4) there are currently seven more applications pending. In addition, plans for the year 2004/5 are already being actively developed.

By 2002, there are now Educate Together schools in every city in the 26 counties and the organisation

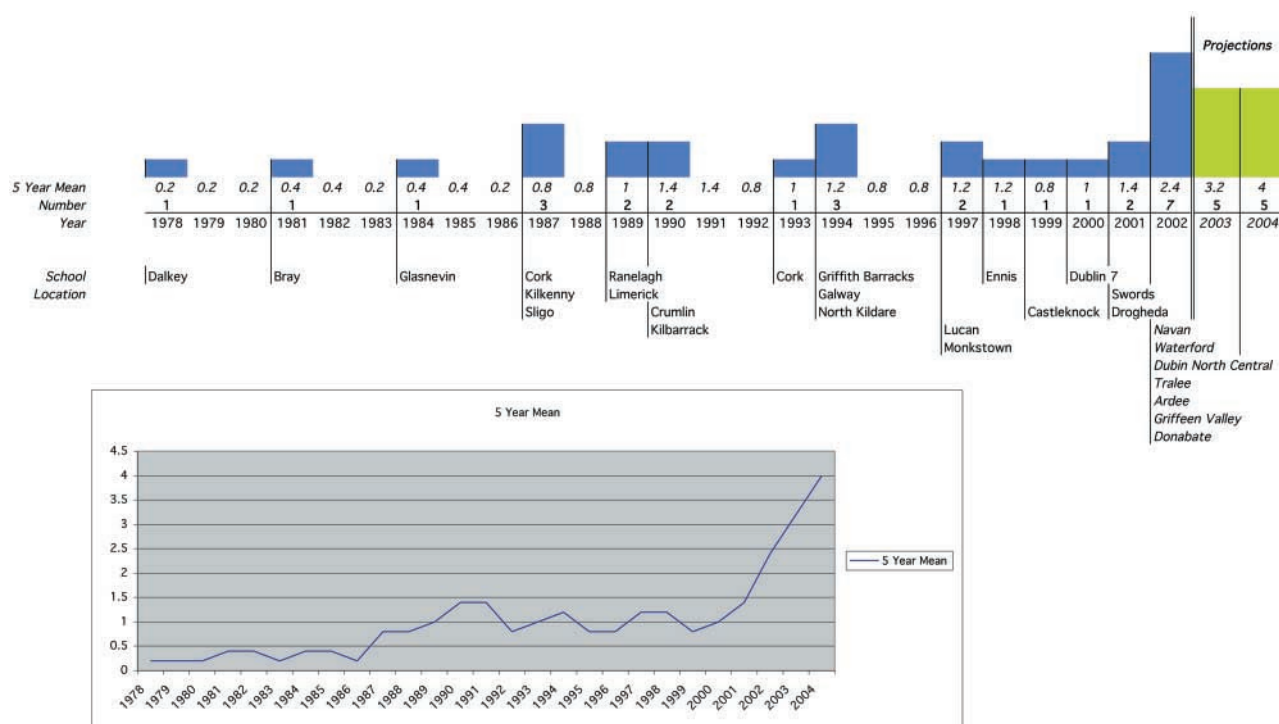
is now drawing up a national development plan. This will be integrated with the objectives of the recently published national spacial strategy and will be developed in partnership with the Department of Education and Science.

The map shows the enhanced geographical spread of the Educate Together sector. The employment of full-time staff has been critical to enable the support of such a number of new schools so far from existing schools. Without full-time staff, a significant number of new schools would have been unable to overcome the difficulties they faced in the Summer of 2002. The improved national spread of schools will spur organic development in neighbouring areas and will contribute to an accelerated national growth. At the same time, the National Executive is very conscious of the need to ensure that only well founded and viable projects are submitted and that our expansion keeps pace with our ability as a national organisation to provide support and quality assurance for new schools opening.

The table of statistics covering the schools in the sector show a healthy increases on all headings.

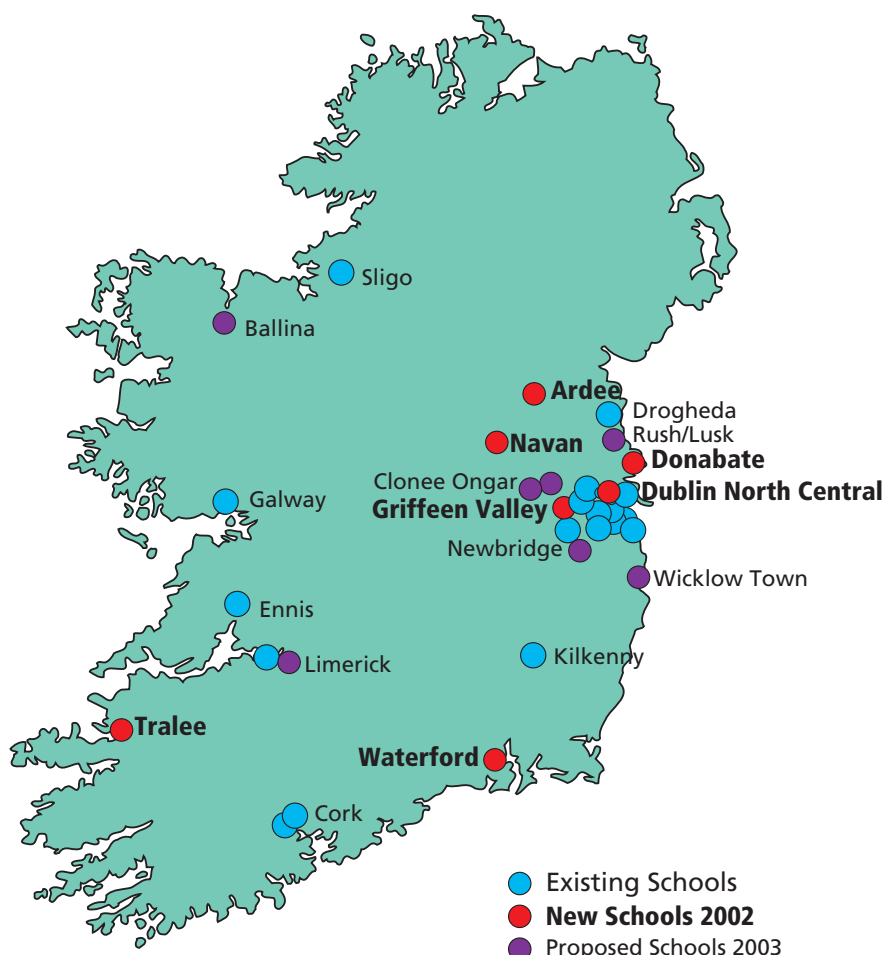
In September, the total number of children in the sector rose by 421 and the total number of mainstream teachers increased by 21. An especially

## Educate Together Schools Opening 1977 - 2004



welcome development is the increase in special needs and resource provision with associated class room assistants.

An interesting feature of this table is the decline in capacity of our oldest schools. This is due to the very welcome decline in the maximum class size in all Irish primary schools. However it emphasises our need to address the significant unfilled demand in these areas.



## Educate Together Schools 2002

All figures relate to September 2003

School	Name of Patron	Opened	Years Operational	Teachers	Change from last year	Status of Principal	Sp Needs	Resource	EFL	Learning Support	Home Liaison	Classroom Assistants	Pupils	Change from last year
001 Dalkey School Project N.S.	DSP	1978	24	10	0	A	1.5		0.5		4		241	-4
002 Bray School Project N.S.	BSP	1981	21	9	0	A		1	0.5				241	-3
003 North Dublin National School Project N.S.	NDNSP	1984	18	9	0	A	0.5		1				231	-7
004 Cork School Project N.S.	CSP	1987	15	9	0	A	1	1	1		2		239	-4
005 Sligo School Project N.S.	SSP	1987	15	8	0	A	2	3	0	1	5		176	-10
006 Kilkenny School Project N.S.	KSP	1987	15	9	0	A	1.5	1	0.4		3.5		245	4
007 Limerick School Project N.S.	LSP	1989	13	9	0	A		1	0.5		2		213	-2
008 North Bay Educate Together School	NBNSP	1990	12	9	-1	A	1.2	0	0	1	4		238	-12
009 Ranelagh MultiDenominational School	RMDS	1990	12	9	0	A	2		0.5		3		243	-5
010 Rathfarnham Educate Together N.S.	SCSP	1990	12	9	0	A	5	2					231	9
011 Gaelscoil An Ghoirt Alann	An Foras	1993	9	9	0	A	0.5		2				232	8
012 Galway Educate Together N.S.	GSP	1994	8	9	0	A	1	1.5	0.5	0.3	3.5		237	19
013 North Kildare Educate Together N.S.	NKSP	1994	8	9	0	A	1	1		0.5	2		255	14
014 Griffith Barracks N.S.	CSP	1994	8	5	1	T		0.5	0.5	0.5	1		123	0
015 Monkstown Educate Together N.S.	DSP	1997	5	9	0	A		2		1	7		215	2
016 Lucan Educate Together N.S.	LET	1997	5	11	0	A	2	1.5	1	1	10		309	35
017 Ennis Educate Together N.S.	EETA	1998	4	4	0	T	1		1	1	2		86	0
018 Castleknock Educate Together N.S.	D15ETA	1999	3	8	3	A		2	2	0.2	5		198	79
019 Dublin 7 Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2000	2	5	1	T		1			1		125	37
020 Le Chéile Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2001	1	5	2	T	1.2	0.2					96	47
021 Swords Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2001	1	3	1	T							52	29
022 Waterford Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2002	0	2	2	T							21	21
023 Navan Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2002	0	2	2	T		0.4					36	36
024 Tralee Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2002	0	2	2	T				1			22	22
025 Donabate/Portrane Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2002	0	2	2	T	0.1	0.1			0.5		33	33
026 Dublin North Central Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2002	0	2	2	T							28	28
027 Griffen Valley Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2002	0	2	2	T							24	24
028 Ardee Educate Together N.S.	Educate Together	2002	0	2	2	T			0.5				21	21
<b>Totals</b>			<b>211</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>21</b>		<b>21.4</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>4229</b>	<b>421</b>

## New Educate Together Schools

Seven new schools opened in September 2002, all opened with Educate Together as their patron. One was formerly a denominational school the other six were completely new developments. Of the six, two opened in scout dens, one in an order of Malta Hall, two in community facilities and one in recently vacated prefabs. Two of the new school communities have to pack the school furniture away each day. We would like to express our thanks to all the individuals and local bodies who have assisted the schools with temporary accommodation in the first year of their existence. As patron of these schools, the National Executive has taken great care to ensure that the process of establishment of Boards of Managements and selection of key staff has been carried out to the highest standards. Each of the schools has an experienced member or former member of an Educate Together board appointed as the patron's nominee on the Board. We would like to formally thank all those who are assisting new schools in this way. In addition, experienced principals of Educate Together schools sat on all selection boards for principal teachers. This voluntary contribution is an invaluable help to new schools for which the National Executive would like to formally express its gratitude.

The National executive has organised a number of seminars and training sessions for those involved in establishing these schools. We would like to acknowledge the great help that each of these communities has received from our members both in the form of encouragement, visits, resources and often extensive time for advice and assistance.

## Ardee Educate Together National School



As mentioned in the last report, the Church of Ireland national school in Ardee closed last July. The school community entered lengthy discussions with Educate

Together and the Department of Education to transform into an Educate Together school. Although the discussion were prolonged, the Department granted temporary recognition of the new school in August and the school continued with many of the former pupils. In October, Rosemary McGonagle, was appointed principal teacher. The school now has solid expansion plans and is preparing to establish a new prefab in order to expand its intake in the coming years. The school is well located at the north of the town with excellent access to the areas of housing growth to the south west of Dundalk and space to expand to fill this demand. Ardee Educate Together National School is operating with the patronage of Educate Together.

## Dublin North Central Educate Together National School



The Dublin North Central group were actively working to establish a school in the Marino/Fairview area of North Dublin. Unfortunately, they were unable either to access any of the extensive unused educational space in the area or win planning permission to open in Killester. Ultimately, the only option was to locate in the recently vacated prefabs on the old North Dublin National School Project site in Glasnevin. The school received recognition early in July. Attracta Hayden was appointed principal teacher during July and the school opened with pupils in September. The prefabs were extensively refurbished by the Office of Public Works and the school is now serving the unmet demand in the Glasnevin area. Future plans involve finding a permanent home for the school closer to its original intended location. Dublin North Central Educate Together National School is operating with the patronage of Educate Together.



## Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School



The Donabate Portrane school opened in September in the Donabate Scout den. The association were unable to access any other accommodation in the area after an exhaustive search. The school opened with a limited enrolment to suit the accommodation which involves parents moving equipment each day to and from a container. Principal Meave Corish was appointed in July 2002. The school has a buoyant pre-enrolment as a result of the rapid growth of housing on the Donabate Portrane peninsular. The school is seeking to access the site reserved for a new national school and is planning to move to this site as soon as possible. Donabate Portrane Educate Together National School is operating with the patronage of Educate Together.

## Griffeen Valley Educate Together National School



As a result of the high reputation of Educate Together schools and the drastic lack of provision in the Lucan area, the Griffeen Valley Educate Together Association

received record levels of pre-enrolments when the group proposed to open a second Educate Together school in the Lucan area. Despite the association having planning permission to develop a temporary complex on the site reserved by the local authority, the Department was unable to acquire or lease this site. The school opened in the Lucan scout den in September with a small intake of junior infants limited by the scope of the accommodation. In August, Tomás O'Dulaing was appointed principal teacher. Despite continual and active representations, the school currently has no space to expand in this September. The National Executive is working intensively to enable the school to access the reserved site and so begin to meet the large demand in the area for inclusive education. Griffeen Valley Educate Together National School is operating with the patronage of Educate Together.

## Navan Educate Together National School



The Navan school successfully opened in September 2002, in accommodation rented from the Order of Malta in Academy Street, Navan. This was a tremendous achievement after almost three years of disappointment while the school could amply prove viability of demand but was thwarted at every turn in its efforts to secure accommodation. Irrespective of the fact that the Department had identified the need and reserved a site for a school, they could provide no mechanism by which the school could be put on the site. In July, John Keaveney was appointed principal. Today the school has excellent numbers but is still encountering extreme difficulties in negotiating the move from temporary recognition and accommodation to a permanent site and building. This school also is operating with the patronage of Educate Together.

## Tralee Educate Together National School



The Tralee Educate Together school opened last September in temporary accommodation in Collis Sands house. In common with other schools opening last year, recognition from the Department came late, and the principal, Mike O'Donnell, wasn't appointed until mid-July. This is Educate Together's first school in Kerry, as previous efforts to open a school in the Dingle area were unsuccessful, despite a considerable amount of work and commitment at local level. The opening of the school in Tralee is a credit to the initial and ongoing hard work of the parents involved, and the staff.

The current accommodation is sufficient for another year. Given the school's geographical distance from other schools, we particularly thank the principals of both Cork School Project (Ger Ryan) and Limerick School Project (Eileen Kennelly) for their support. This school is operating with the patronage of Educate Together.

## Waterford Educate Together National School

The opening of an Educate Together school in Waterford in September 2002, after a wait of almost 20 years was an important date in the history of the sector. It was also a tremendous achievement for the Waterford association, who had faced the bitter disappointment of seeing their proposed accommodation fall through at the last moment in 2001. The school has opened for the initial period in youth outreach building in Lisduggan. In August, Margaret Boucher was appointed principal. The school is housed in a Community Centre, and although they have the exclusive use of their classrooms, there are particular difficulties - the classrooms are upstairs, while the toilets are downstairs, necessitating the presence of a parent at all times to escort children from the classroom to the toilet.



The school is actively seeking an alternative location in the Waterford area, preferably pre-fabs on a suitably zoned site, and is putting in place an extensive information programme in the area, explaining what the school is about. This task is made easier now that the school exists, and people can see for themselves the standards achieved. The school is operating with the patronage of Educate Together.





## Applications for 2003

### Ballina

The process of establishment of an Educate Together school in Mayo started with the publication of a letter in the local media alerting parents to the new deadlines for applications for new schools which have been established this year. After a radio interview, the National Office was contacted by a number of people from Mayo seeking to organise an information meeting. This was held in Swinford in October and further meeting was held in Kiltimagh. Two associations were set up one North East Mayo Educate Together Association and the other the East Mayo Educate Together Association. After a number of meetings it was decided to proceed with an application to open a school this September in Ballina. Despite the obvious difficulties in meeting the enrolment requirements in a semi-rural environment, the application was presented in January. The association is working hard to overcome the difficulties with temporary accommodation in the town and is confident that it will be successful.

### Clonee/Ongar

Dublin 15 Educate Together Association has for some years planned to open a second school in the Ongar Road area. This year a working group was established to propose a joint campus development on the site reserved by the Department in the area. This development would be for two educate together schools one of which would be a Gaelscoil. The working group and Dublin 15 have done extensive work on this proposal and submitted applications for recognition of the two schools in January. These applications were made with Dublin 15 Educate Together Association as the proposed patron. The New Schools Advisory Committee decided not to proceed with the application for the gaelscoil on technical grounds but have proceeded to assess the English medium application. An appeal against the decision on the Gaelscoil has been lodged. However, there is currently no appellate structure in place to properly hear this appeal and this is causing a further delay. The demand for the schools is very strong. When the Gaelscoil is established it will be the first multi-denominational Gaelscoil in the entire Greater Dublin area.

### Limerick

For some years now the Limerick School Project has been unable to meet the demand for places in the

school. In 2002, it was decided that the demand from all areas of Limerick warranted the set-up of a second school. A group of parents have formed an Action Group, and have located a temporary premises for the school in the city centre, however the permanent location of the school will be in the Raheen/Dooradoyle area of Limerick. 34 Junior Infants are pre-enrolled for 2003, and a healthy demand has been demonstrated up to 2006. The Limerick School Project continues to provide huge support to this group, and remain involved in the search for a permanent premises for the new school.

### Lusk/Rush

The Lusk and Rush villages of North County Dublin are large growth areas, and on foot of an Information Meeting held in December 2002, an Action Group was formed. This group has worked very hard over a short period of time, has located a temporary premises in Lusk, and has a rapidly growing pre-enrolment list up to 2006. The group plan to locate the school in a permanent location in Lusk and hope that a permanent building can be provided in the not too distant future.

### Newbridge

This group formed in October and has gained support from all sectors within the town, including the local clergy and other primary schools.

A very successful Pre-enrolment day was held in January and numbers have been increasing steadily since then. A temporary premises which will accommodate the school for a number of years has been located. This building has previously housed a Gaelscoil, but has some planning issues, which are currently under discussion with the owner and Kildare County Council.

### Wicklow Town

Wicklow Educate Together formed in October 2002 and have great support from a large geographical area, extending from Greystones to Arklow. 73 children are pre-enrolled for 2003, with an additional 85 Junior Infants to commence in the following 3 years, as well as all classes to 6<sup>th</sup> being catered for.

Temporary structures are to be placed on the grounds of Wicklow Rugby Football Club, and negotiations are at an early stage, regarding the location of a permanent premises for the school.



## Relations with the Department of Education and Science

During the past 12 months, there has been a significant retrenchment in the flow of funds for National School buildings and the operation of a systematic programme of cost cutting in the Department. This is posing increasing difficulties for the whole national school system. We are particularly concerned that the cost cutting measures are disproportionately effecting growing sectors of the system especially the provisions and supports for new schools. Whilst the open publication of the building lists and the criteria for assessment is greatly to be welcomed, the National Executive has serious objections to the fact that the criteria do not include the recognition of diversity which impinges on the constitutional obligations of the Minister or for new schools in developing areas.

Of particular concern is that in the budget allocation to the Department there is no fund assigned for new schools. The National Executive has worked to ensure that the underlying issues of rights in education, of appropriate measures to support new schools and an overall discussion on investment in education has been brought to the fore in any representations made to government or the media.

It is of particular concern that the fundamental case for increased investment in education should be seen not as a cost to the public purse, but as a vital investment in the future prosperity of the country.

The long overdue introduction of an independent New Schools Advisory Committee to consider the applications of new schools for recognition has been welcomed. But the National Executive continues to be concerned at the limited implementation of the recommendations of the Commission for School Accommodation on the Criteria and Procedure for the Recognition of New Schools.

It is of serious concern that the accommodation and funding implications of the procedure are being left aside whilst the restrictions on applications are being enacted. The National Executive has persisted in challenging and negotiating for the equitably and legally well founded implementation of all regulations concerning the opening of new schools.

During the period of this report, there has been considerable re-organisation within the Department of Education and Science. This has resulted in some difficulties with communication and decision making

some of which have occurred at particularly difficult times. However, we are encouraged that many of the measures being implemented should improve the services delivered to schools and should result in long-overdue increased efficiencies and streamlined access and communication. We are pleased to report that we continue to enjoy excellent working relations with officials in the Department and would like to acknowledge their hard work and goodwill in what are very difficult times.

### Building Programme

It is a matter for continued concern that of the 28 Educate Together National schools, no less than 15 still remain in temporary accommodation. Simple mathematics show that although we have two schools moving into permanent buildings seven more schools have entered the queue. It remains a central priority of the National Executive to address the inadequacies of the current system of school opening and advance the day that a school can open from day one in planned permanent accommodation. It continues to be a major concern that the current method of injection of funding into the capital building programme will reinforce the dominance of privately owned denominational provision and reduce the ability of the system as a whole to flexibly address changes in demand.

The National Executive remains committed to development of a state-owned primary school infrastructure that can be re-allocated according to changing demands. During the year, we have reiterated our commitment to the concept of campus developments of schools in which a variety of educational, recreational and specialist services can be delivered with added value for the local community. We are glad to report that this concept is increasingly being supported both at local and national government.

Despite the atmosphere of doom over the capital building programme, the published list of capital projects for the primary sector include two Educate Together National Schools due for completion this year.





### Lucan Educate Together National School

The new building for Lucan Educate Together National School is on target to be finished in time for September 2003. This is a 16 class school which also includes a full autism unit. It is a two story design on an excellent site at the centre of the community. It is a great credit to the Lucan Educate Together community that they have managed to advance to the stage of a permanent building in the relatively short period of six years since opening.

**Helena Murphy, Acting Principal of Lucan Educate Together National School with Michael O'Callaghan, Project Manager at the rear of the new school building to be completed by September 2003**



### **North Kildare Educate Together National School.**

After a wait of nine years, North Kildare Educate Together National School (formerly North Kildare National School Project) is moving into its permanent building on a five acre site in Celbridge in May this year. This new building, developed with the detailed participation of the North Kildare Educate Together National School community, is an outstanding example to the new integrated development that is possible for Educate Together schools. The school is built on a site provided by the local authority that includes a new Community College and extensive sports facilities. The school also has a specialist unit for autistic children that is fully funded by the Department.

**Rita Galvin, Principal, North Kildare Educate Together National School at the site of the new building to be completed by the end of May 2003.**



## Establishment of Head Office Team



In February 2002, Educate Together employed a team of consultants “the Centre for Corporate Community” to undertake a review of the options facing the organisation in the recruitment of a Chief Executive Officer. The report of the consultants advocated the advertisement of the post and the employment of a leading recruitment specialist to assist in this process. This report and its recommendations were approved by the National Executive in May 2002 just shortly before the last Annual General Meeting. The position of Chief Executive was advertised in the national media in April and the post was filled in June. The Chief Executive took up the position in August 2002, and the further recruitment of staff was delayed to avoid the holiday period. The recruitment process for all full-time staff was drawn up with the assistance of an external professional advisor. Full-time secretarial support was in place from the start of September, Development Officer from November and Foundation Officer (Communications and Fund-raising) from December. At the same time, the post of National Coordinator was transformed from a part-time to full time contracted position and a part time Education Officer was appointed.

The Head Office moved into larger premises in CentrePoint in July 2002, and now has room to expand which will provide space for a three year period. The offices have been properly equipped with up-to-date IT and communications infrastructure. Significant steps have been made to upgrade the visual identity of the organisation, with enhanced documentation and web site presence. Exhibition stands, projection and recording equipment have been acquired and the office is developing an integrated database system including document management facilities.

Educate Together has secured the services of Prospectus Strategy Consultants to advise on the next stage of its organisational development, particularly concentrating on the relationship between the new expanded professional team and the voluntary board governing the organisation. This work has now started.



**Deirdre O'Donoghue,**  
**National Coordinator**

## School Support Department

The establishment of the Schools Support Department, headed by the National Coordinator has enhanced the services that Educate Together can offer its schools. The "confidential service" to schools (where principals and chairpersons can contact the office to discuss sensitive issues that arise in all schools from time to time) has been expanded, and now includes mediation, facilitation, sourcing of legal and other advice, and training. In addition, development volunteers continue to work at individual level with schools, in particular as Patron Nominees to the seven schools that opened last year, and have applied for membership of Educate Together at this AGM. The decrease in funding from the Department has impacted on the training programmes for all partners in education. Despite this, we are continuing to offer small, focused training to individual schools, and clusters of schools where applicable. This involves working with schools across areas such as staff development, exploring the ethos, looking at the roles of the various committees in a school community and a weekend seminar for Principals. In addition, we are planning training sessions for Chairpersons of new Boards of Management in the autumn, ongoing work with the development volunteers, and training for the Boards of new schools opening in September 2003. The emphasis is always on the support element of the work, i.e. assisting schools to make the best use of their own resources, fostering and nurturing a belief in the community's own ability to resolve conflicts, within the Educate Together ethos.



**Jane McCarthy**  
**Development Officer**

## Development Department

The appointment of a full-time Development Officer, in November 2002, is transforming the services that the organisation can offer to new groups of parents who wish to establish schools and to schools still working to access permanent accommodation. These services include research,

training sessions, documentation, assistance with negotiations with Department of Education, local authorities and property owners. Also included are representation at public meetings and media interviews. The Development Officer is also coordinating the efforts of volunteers from existing schools who have come forward to assist new associations.



**Kate Morris**  
**Foundation Officer**

## Communications and Fund-raising

The appointment, in December 2002, of a Foundation Officer has begun to significantly raise the media profile of Educate Together. In the first three months of her work, she has concentrated on the communications element of her role. Educate Together is now on radio an average of three times per week and there is now a steady increase in newspaper awareness and coverage of the sector. The majority of this coverage is centred on areas in which we intend to open schools and involves local media, however, there is an increasing trend of coverage in the national media.

The current government policies towards investment in education and in particular in new schools have caused great difficulties for Educate Together. The Department has refused grants for a major Principal's course and for the annual Educate Together Ethos Conference and has yet to pay its annual core grant to the organisation. The sector is involved in a serious lobbying campaign to reverse these decisions and to win increased Departmental support for its activities.





### **Education Programme - Ethos Conference**

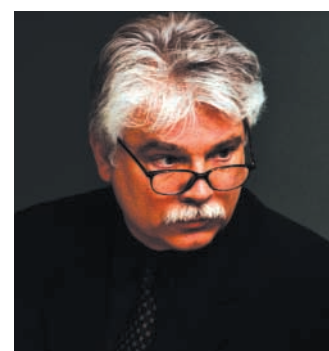


**Susan  
Kennedy-Bergmann  
Education Officer**

Educate Together had hoped that it would succeed in persuading the Department of Education to fund a full-time Education Officer to carry out the exciting work consolidating the unique body of theory and teaching practice that is a core asset of the sector. The Minister to-date has not replied to our

requests to make this funding available. At the same time, the organisation has faced increasing interest in its aspirations to move into second level education. Accordingly, Educate Together has decided to trim its programmes to facilitate the creation of a part-time Education Officer post. This post is being mainly financed by members' contributions. The organisation has also loaned the Education Programme funds to enable the Annual Ethos Conference and the Principal's Seminar to take place.

**Presenters of the 2003 Ethos Conference  
Mary Kelleher, Carmel Mulcahy, Paul Rowe, Frieda  
McGovern and Paddie Murphy with the Chairperson  
of Educate Together, David Denny**



**Ray Dooley, Chief Executive of the Children's Rights  
Alliance, Guest Speaker at the 2003 Ethos Conference**

The Third Educate Together Ethos Conference was held successfully this spring in CityWest Hotel in Dublin. There was an increased attendance from previous years and serious progress reported in documenting the ethical education curriculum that is at the core of the Educate Together philosophy of education.



## Prospects for the coming Year

With the full compliment of staff now established in Head Office, increasing demand for inclusive education evident throughout the country and continued vibrancy throughout the whole movement, the stage is well prepared for Educate Together to mount a serious campaign for a national change of heart towards rights in education and the necessity for a fresh approach to the provision of new schools.

At the same time, the National Executive has made solid preparations to address the additional funding needed to support this increased activity and has put into place a strong infrastructure to provide development services and enhanced school support.

Of particular note is the attention that has been paid by the National Executive to ensure that these additional services are backed by solid, professional administrative structures and policies.

In the context of the National Executive's obligation to advance the aims of our 2000 Strategy Statement, it is our opinion that Educate Together is now well placed to make significant advances in the coming year.

*David Denny, Chairperson May 17 2003*



## List of Directors and Attendance at National Executive Meetings

The list of Directors with their attendance record is as follows:-

Mary Aust	4/7
David Denny	7/7
Paula de Terra	1/7
Catherine Earley	5/7
Sheila Hanley	4/7
Colette Fitzpatrick	5/7
Marian Fitzpatrick	5/7
Lucy Keaveney	6/7
Mary Kelleher	5/7
Carmel Mulcahy	3/7
Paddie Murphy	2/7
Jacqui O'Dowd	1/7
Vincent O'Malley	3/7
Paul Rowe	1/1
Bernadette Ryan	3/7
Terry Twomey	5/7
Mel Thornton	5/7
Deirdre Tobin	2/7
Julie Warner	3/7

The list of member schools represented at the National Executive was as follows:-

Bray School Project	4/7
Castleknock E.T.N.S.	7/7
Cork School Project	3/7
Dalkey School Project	2/7
Dublin 7 Educate Together N.S.	4/7
Ennis Educate Together N. S.	0/7
Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn	5/7
Galway School Project	1/7
Griffith Barracks National School	2/7
Kilkenny School Project	2/7
Le Chéile Educate Together N.S.	0/7
Limerick School Project	7/7
Lucan Educate Together N. S.	1/7
Monkstown Educate Together N. S.	5/7
North Bay E.T.N.S.	5/7
North Dublin N. S. Project	6/7
North Kildare ETNS	0/7
Ranelagh MD School	7/7
Sligo School Project	2/7
Swords Educate Together N.S.	5/7
Rathfarnham E.T.N.S.	4/7