



Educate Together

New Schools 2019

Press Pack

Educate Together 2019

2019 is proving to be a bumper year for Educate Together. This August and September, the organisation will open 12 new schools - 8 at primary level and four at second-level. This is the highest number of school openings in Educate Together's history and is reflective of the unwavering demand for our equality-based model of education.

Educate Together was granted patronage of these schools largely on the basis of need for greater diversity of provision and increasing parental demand its model of education. Educate Together also recognises the commitment of local campaigners who worked hard to advocate for Educate Together's model of education for their communities.

As with all Educate Together campaigns, these were parent-led. Said Orla Burke of the South Lee Educate Together National School start-up group:

'Our campaign came from the heart. It came from a community that was yearning for change, that wanted a more inclusive future for our little ones. Every step of the way I was astounded by the level of commitment from fellow volunteers, many of whom were local parents of pre-school children themselves- the type of person who had the least amount of spare time or head space to devote to such a campaign. And yet they barreled through with ideas and personal stories, reaching out to others so that they too might have say in their children's future.'

Prior to this was an online survey for four second-level schools. This survey ran over six weeks in the summer of 2018 and in October 2018 Educate Together was announced as the successful patron in all four areas.

In addition to opening eight new primary schools and four new second-level schools this August / September, Educate Together will apply to open six more second-level school in 2019, and the organisation expects to apply for four national schools due to open in 2020.

This pack contains information on our newschools opening this year. If you have any queries, contact the communications team:

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New Educate Together Primary Schools

From December 2018 to January 2019 the Department of Education and Skills ran a process during which it requested that parents in 12 areas around Ireland express their preference as to which patron they would want to run their new local primary school. Educate Together was the patron of choice in seven of these areas and we are delighted to open these schools this year in Cork, Dublin, Kildare and Wicklow.

In addition to these schools, Educate Together and the Department of Education and Skills have worked towards the opening of Westport ETNS this year. Westport ETNS is a 'divestment' school and is opening as part of the 2012 divestment process designed to provide more school choice for areas where demographics do not warrant the opening of a new school. With the opening of Westport ETNS there will be 13 areas still waiting for their divestment schools.

New Schools:

Dublin: Dublin 13 ETNS; Harold's Cross ETNS; Goatstown ETNS; Killester Raheny Clontarf ETNS.

Cork: South Lee ETNS

Kildare: Leixlip ETNS

Wicklow: Newtownmountkennedy ETNS

Mayo: Westport ETNS

Dublin 13 ETNS

Principal Clodagh Farrell

Dublin 13 ETNS will open in its temporary accommodation in Malahide Road Site, Belmayne alongside the new Dublin 13 Educate Together Secondary School before moving to its permanent accommodation



Clodagh Farrell,
Dublin 13 ETNS

Principal Clodagh Farrell was a teacher in St John Bosco Junior Boys School in Dublin 7 for 16 years before being appointed Principal in 2012. Having spent seven years as a Principal, Clodagh understands how important a strong leadership team is in any school. She is looking forward to the challenge of leading a start-up school, of building a strong, committed team and being an integral part of a school growing from small beginnings into a vibrant community.

Says Clodagh:

'I believe that Dublin 13 Educate Together National School should be a place where all children can grow and learn under the guidance of teachers who are committed, caring, encouraging, open-minded and fair; where self-discipline is fostered and where good self-esteem is nurtured. I am very excited about this opportunity to work with parents, teachers and the Board of Management to build an inclusive school which is learner focused in its approach.'

Goatstown Stillorgan ETNS

Principal Diane Devereux

Goatstown Stillorgan ETNS will open in temporary accommodation at Grafton House, Ballymoss Rd, Sandyford. Its permanent accommodation will be on the site of the Old Glass Bottle Factory in Goatstown.



Diane Devereux,
Goatstown Stillorgan ETNS

Principal Diane Devereux is a graduate of Dublin City University and has been working as a teacher for the past ten years. Diane has extensive experience of working in schools with diverse populations and has an excellent knowledge of the initiatives and programmes that can be used to improve outcomes for all learners. Says Diane:

'I'm extremely excited to have this opportunity to lead Goatstown/Stillorgan Educate Together National School. I look forward to collaborating with colleagues, parents, Educate Together and the wider school community to create a school environment which nurtures and respects the talents and skills of all of the children in the school.

The Educate Together ethos and values will resonate throughout all aspects of school life in our new school. We are committed to providing learning experiences that will assist our students to achieve their greatest potential to adapt and adjust to a diverse and ever changing world. The students will be encouraged to meet academic challenges with openness,

enthusiasm, and a willingness to solve problems. We aim for an atmosphere of cooperation and collaboration, with respect for individual differences and the understanding that diversity of gender, physical or mental ability, culture, and background is a strength to be respected."

Elaine McDonald and John McEntagart parents of twins starting in the school in September.

'We're excited about our two children starting in the new Goatstown Educate Together. Everything about our contact with the school team so far has reinforced our confidence that this is a wonderful opportunity for our family to be part of a new school community - we've felt warmly welcomed by a committed and organised team. We're delighted that our hopes and ideas have been listened to and respected. Our children are curious about the world in its widest sense and we see that Goatstown Stillorgan Educate Together is preparing to foster and encourage their interest. Roll on the start of the school year!'

Harold's Cross ETNS

Principal Cian Gleeson

Harold's Cross ETNS will open in prefabs on the site of its permanent accommodation in the former Harold's Cross Greyhound Stadium.



Cian Gleeson,
Harold's Cross ETNS

Principal Cian Gleeson has been working as a teacher for 10 years, having spent 8 years in St. Patrick's Boys National School in Donabate, Co. Dublin, and most recently two years in Canalway ETNS in Dublin 8.

Says Cian:

'I am very excited to be leading the opening of Harold's Cross Educate Together National School. It is a special time for our Junior Infant families and it is an exciting time for the local community. I am looking forward to working with pupils, parents and the wider school community of Harold's Cross ETNS and to leading the development of the school. My vision is that the school will be at the heart of the community and a place where children will be challenged to reach their full potential whilst developing as critical thinkers in a happy, caring and respectful environment.

Educate Together will apply for patronage of a new secondary school on the same site in Harold's Cross to open in 2020. More information [here](#).

Killester Raheny Clontarf ETNS

Principal: Niamh O'Toole

Killester Raheny Clontarf Educate Together National School will open in September 2019 in temporary accommodation in Suttonians Rugby Club on Station Road while the Department of Education sources its permanent accommodation.



Niamh O'Toole,
Killester Raheny Clontarf ETNS

Principi Niamh O'Toole is a graduate of Coláiste Mhuire, Marino and Trinity College Dublin, Niamh holds a Certificate in Multi-Denominational and Ethical Education from St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra/DCU and a Postgraduate in Educational Leadership (Tóraíocht). She is currently in her second year of a Masters in Education (Specialism in Leadership: M.EdL) in Maynooth University.

Says Niamh:

'I relish the incredible opportunity which has being granted to me in being the founding principal of Killester, Raheny, Clontarf Educate Together National School (KRCETNS). Our children will be given ample opportunities to explore their immediate school environment and its' surrounding area. I envisage school/educational trips to St. Anne's Park, The Bull Wall and various other green areas/beaches of benefit to our children.

KRCETNS will offer the whole school community an active learning environment whereby children are confident, happy and engaged in exploratory, child-centred and inquiry-based learning. It is the beginning of an extraordinary, exciting journey for us all.'



Killester Raheny Clontarf Educate Together campaigners at parent-led event held in St Anne's Park - families attended the event to express their support for a new Educate Together national school for their area.

South Lee ETNS

Principal: David Cashman

South Lee ETNS will open in temporary accommodation in Forge House in Forge Hill. The school will serve families in the Glasheen, Pouladuff and South City area with David Cashman as founding Principal.



David Cashman,
Principal of South Lee ETNS

Principal David Cashman is a native of Blackrock, Cork, and comes to South Lee Educate Together National School from Sundays Well Boys National School, where he has been Principal since 2015. David has a particular interest in outdoor play as a learning methodology. David believes children learn through play and it is important for schools to provide the opportunity for children to play outdoors where they can run, climb and explore.

Says David:

'It is an honour to be appointed Principal of South Lee Educate Together NS. My vision for the school aims to create an environment of inclusivity and equity. Children will be at the heart of everything we do and I hope to make school an active learning environment that is child-centred and where children are safe, happy, confident, engaged, respected and not afraid to make mistakes or ask questions. I hope to achieve this using a relationship based approach where positive relationships are built between the school, children and parents but also where pupils and parents voices are heard.

August 30th is a monumental day for South Lee ETNS as we open our doors for the first time. It is such an exciting time for the teachers, parents and children as we make history in setting up a new school to provide a great education for the community in South Cork City.'

Leixlip ETNS

Principal: Mary McDowell

Leixlip ETNS will open in temporary accommodation in the Leixlip Amenities Centre under Principal Mary McDowell.



Mary McDowell,
Leixlip ETNS

Principal Mary McDowell is a graduate of Hibernia College and Trinity College Dublin. She has an extensive background in education which includes ten years experience as principal of Staplestown NS in Donadea. Mary had previously been teaching in that school since 2006 and has also taught in Scoil Uí Riada in Kilcock. Says Mary:

‘With ten years’ experience of principalship , it is wonderful to be afforded the opportunity to lead a start-up school, and in particular an Educate Together school. Leixlip is a fast-growing town, but up until now, there has been no choice for parents in terms of school patronage. Our temporary premises has the most fantastic and up-to-date sports facilities and which they are making available to our pupils

I have always been an ardent advocate of the Educate Together philosophy and the equality based inclusive education it provides for all children. In Educate Together schools, no child is ever excluded based on religion, background or culture, and this is the main reason I, myself chose Educate Together for my own children.

Educate Together schools have a wonderful ‘Learn Together’ ethics curriculum, which teaches children about equality and justice, ethics and the environment, different belief systems and which also gives the pupils an awareness and understanding of moral and spiritual standards, such as honesty, respect, justice, integrity, trust and responsibility.’



Olly Hayden and family, Educate Together
Leixlip supporters and campaigners

Newtownmountkennedy ETNS

Principal: Nicola Hodgins Martin

Newtownmountkennedy ETNS will open in temporary accommodation in prefabs opposite the Newtownmountkennedy Community Centre in Kilmacullagh.



Nicola Hodgins Martin,
Newtownmountkennedy
ETNS

A dedicated Primary teacher for over 18 years, psychologist and Doctor of Education as well as a specialist in leading childhood wellbeing and resilience interventions at school, Principal Nicola Hodgins Martin has had roles as Mainstream teacher, Special Education Co-ordinator, Assistant Principal and Acting Deputy Principal. In this time, she tapped into the wealth of diversity within schools and worked alongside children, families and staff in illuminating the latent power of the pupil's voice in education.

Says Nicola:

'I am excited and honoured to play a part in leading the establishment of the first Educate Together Primary school (NTMK ETNS) within the expanding and thriving communities of Kilcoole and Newtownmountkennedy. A local resident for over 19 years, I look forward to celebrating the diversity and talents within Kilcoole and Newtown at our new school. The aim of NTMK Educate

Together is to ensure our families and pupils experience first-hand the positive impact of being part of a co-educational, child centred, equality based, democratically run school.

At the heart of NTMK ETNS' vision is the empowerment of pupil wellbeing alongside then creation of a stimulating learning environment that fosters high levels of academic discovery, mutual respect and creativity. Our vision at NTMK ETNS recognises the potential of schools to be vibrant and safe places of learning which encourages experiential knowledge in children as they "use themselves as bridges over which they invite their pupils to cross".'

Educate Together will apply for patronage of a second-level school to serve Kilcoole and Greystones and to open in 2020. More information [here](#).

Westport ETNS

Principal: Niall Quinn

Westport ETNS will open in the Sharkey Hill Community Centre until September 2020 when it will move to its permanent location at the former Social Welfare Office on Prospect Avenue.



Niall Quinn,
Westport ETNS

Unlike the other Educate Together national schools opening this year Westport ETNS is a [‘divestment’](#) school. This means that it opens as a result of a survey of parental preferences on school types that was one of the recommendations of the 2012 report of the [Forum on Patronage and Pluralism](#) and was carried out in 2013. Parental surveys were conducted in 43 areas around Ireland and recommendations were made for Catholic primary schools in 25 areas to ‘divest’ to Educate Together - Westport was one of these areas.

Principal Niall Quinn holds a Bachelor of Education Degree and a Master’s Degree in Additional Support Needs. His Master’s research focused on the impact of a literacy intervention on children in upper primary classes. He began his teaching career in Finglas on Dublin’s north side in 2003 and has been Principal of Holy Family NS, Dún Laoghaire since January 2017.

Says Niall:

“I consider it both an honour and a responsibility to lead Westport Educate Together National School into the next decade. Together with children, parents, guardians, staff and families, we endeavour to create a school environment that values and respects difference and is committed to meaningful inclusion. The mantra ‘no child an outsider’ will be a guiding principle in the development of Westport ETNS.”

New Educate Together Second-level Schools

In the summer of 2018 Educate Together applied for patronage of four second-level schools to open in 2019. An online patronage survey was run by the Department of Education during which a number of patrons sought parental support for their model of education. Educate Together was successful in all surveys and this year will open:

- Dublin North East Educate Together Secondary School
- Drogheda Educate Together Secondary School
- Galway Educate Together Secondary School
- Wicklow Educate Together Secondary School

At second-level, Educate Together schools build upon the primary Learn Together curriculum with innovative methods of teaching. Using the unique Ethical Education curriculum, these second-level schools provide students with a grounding in morality and ethics that is all the more robust for being developed by the student themselves without institutional or religious influence. Subjects are taught through cross-curricular projects. Students are encouraged to challenge orthodoxies and think and learn constructively.

On August 19 the Department of Education and Skills [invited patrons](#) to apply for patronage of six new second-level schools to open in Blanchardstown, Citywest/Saggart, Dublin 6 and Goatstown in Dublin, Enfield/Kilcock and Greystones/Kilcoole. Educate Together will apply for all six schools and hopes to bring more Educate Together secondary schools and their unique Ethical Education Curriculum to these areas next year.



Dublin North East ETSS

Principal Ashling Kenevey

Dublin North East Educate Together Secondary School will open in temporary accommodation in prefabs in the Grange Community College campus. This site will be share with the new Dublin 13 Educate Together National School also opening this year.

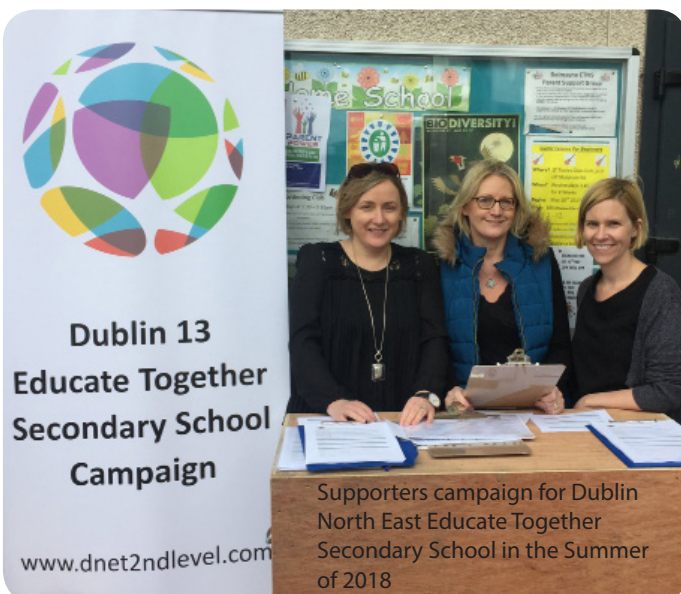


Ashling Kenevey
Dublin North East ETSS

Principal Ashling Kenevey started her career in the IT industry before following her passion into the teaching profession in 2012. She taught Maths, Business and IT in Ringsend College and Coláiste Dhulaigh. She holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Leadership and Management from NUI Maynooth, a Postgraduate Diploma in Education from Hibernia College, a Higher Diploma in Computer Science and a B.A. Hons Degree in Maths and Economics from UCD. Ashling is also a Leaving Certificate Maths Examiner with the SEC. Says Ashling:

“I am both honoured and excited to be the founding Principal of Dublin North East Educate Together Secondary School, a school dedicated to providing a positive progressive learning environment where student voice is of the utmost importance. I am passionate about education and wish to instil this passion in our students so they will become responsible global citizens, creating a more just and sustainable society.

The school will strive to create a safe, happy space where friendships are nurtured, leadership skills are developed and where every student can reach their potential. This will be built on the foundations of respect, equality and a culture of care. The teachers share my vision who, alongside the students will work as an ally with the community to create a school that will deliver the highest quality of education, a school everyone can be proud of.”



Supporters campaign for Dublin North East Educate Together Secondary School in the Summer of 2018

Drogheda ETSS

Principal Susan Campbell

Drogheda ETSS will open in temporary accommodation in the Laytown, Bettystown Youthreach education centre on Coast Road, Bettystown.



Susan Campbell
Drogheda ETSS

Originally from East Meath Principal Susan Campbell worked as a marketing manager before embarking on her teaching career in 2002. Susan taught French, Spanish and Business in St. Peter's College Dunboyne before moving to Coláiste na hInse in Bettystown. Here Susan gained vital experience in a start-up environment as Acting Deputy Principal.

Susan worked as Deputy Principal in Sacred Heart Secondary School in Drogheda before moving to Clonturk Community College as Principal. Clonturk Community College is a co-educational post-primary school under the patronage of CDETB with Educate Together as trustee partners and, since its opening in 2016, Susan has led the establishment of this vibrant and rapidly growing school in Dublin City. Says Susan:

'I am delighted and very excited that we have finally reached the day where we will welcome all of our students through the doors of the newest school in South Drogheda/East Meath. As a native of this area it gives me great pride to have been given the opportunity to lead this school. Together with a team of seven teachers we have committed to providing the second .with a vibrant and innovative learning community which will be framed within a culture of positivity and mutual respect.'



Supporters of Educate Together's
Drogheda Laytown campaign

Galway ETSS

Principal Sarah Molloy

Galway ETSS is the result of a successful campaign by committed Educate Together supporters in the city. Lobbying since 2011, the group made the case that Galway needed another secondary school and ran a dynamic campaign during the patronage process. Galway ETSS will open to First Years in temporary accommodation in Grianach House near Merlin Park.



Sarah Molloy
Galway ETSS

Principal Sarah Molloy is a native of Birr, Co. Offaly, comes to Galway Educate Together Secondary School from Calasanctius College, Oranmore, where she has been Deputy Principal since 2017. Previous to this Sarah held a Deputy Principal position and was part of the start-up team in Stepside Educate Together Secondary School in Dublin. Sarah began her teaching career in Mount Anville Secondary School in Dublin where she taught as an English and Religion teacher and worked as a member of the senior management team in her capacity as Year Head for several years.

'I am very excited to be part of the development of the long awaited Educate Together secondary school in Galway. Galway Educate Together Secondary School will be the first Post Primary Educate Together school in the area.

We are Co-educational, Equality Based, Democratic and Student Centred. We aim to provide an innovative, 21st Century approach which is values based. We will promote excellence in learning and teaching as well as prioritising wellbeing, resilience, student voice and active citizenship. Each student will be encouraged to reach their potential in a happy, safe and inclusive environment where they are engaged in and excited about their learning.

We have a brilliant team on board who really believe in this approach to learning and we

are really looking forward to opening the doors to our 1st Year students in August.'



Advocating for Educate Together in Galway in the Summer of 2018 - the Galway Educate Together Secondary School Start-up Group was one of the longest-standing and most dedicated groups having been formed in 2011.

Wicklow ETSS

Principal: Colm Kehoe

Wicklow ETSS will be based initially in temporary accommodation in Crinion Park in Wicklow town under Principal Colm Kehoe.



Colm Kehoe
Wicklow ETSS

Colm is returning to Ireland from Belgium having been on secondment from Oatlands College, Mount Merrion, for the past ten years as a teacher of English with the European Schools and coordinator of Model United Nations conferences in Brussels for the past two years. Previous to that, he was a teacher of English at Oatlands College for fourteen years.

Colm has worked in education in five countries – Ireland, England, Spain, Belgium and Guatemala. He studied at University College Cork, University College Dublin and the University of Kent and holds Bachelor's Degrees in Arts and Law and Master's Degrees in International Law and Educational Leadership & Management. Says Colm:

'The opening of our new school is another landmark in the history of education in Wicklow Town and a huge day for all students, families, staff and the community. We know about the great tradition of commitment to education in Wicklow which goes back hundreds of years and we are pleased that from this year forward, from the moment our new school opens, families in Wicklow have another choice, another option for the education of their children.

Our goal is clear - to create the very best conditions towards excellence in student achievement. We are very fortunate to have a new team of innovative and inspirational teachers to help us work towards our goal. Our school culture is committed to diversity and democracy - this will be clear in the day to day life of the school right from day one. A special mention too for those who campaigned for the school and worked tirelessly as part of the set up team. This is your day too and you have the gratitude of the entire school community for helping make our new school community a reality.'