



Delegates Guide to AGM 2022

Timetable of the Day

09:15	Registration
09:30	Workshops
10:00	Opening and Welcome
10:05	Adoption of Standing Orders
10:20	Election of Tellers
10:25	Approval of Minutes
10:30	Financial Report and appointment of auditors
10:40	Annual Report 2021
10:50	Report on 2021 Motions carried and referred
11:00	Election of Directors
11:05	Admission of New Members
11:10	Break
11:30	Adoption of Strategic Plan
11:35	Adoption of Senior Cycle Ethical Education Curriculum
11:40	Policy Motions
12:25	Chairperson's Address
12:35	Close of Annual General Meeting

The Board of Directors of Educate Together would like to welcome you to our 2022 Annual General Meeting.

[Bremore Educate Together Secondary School](#) are delighted to be hosting the 2022 AGM. Bremore ETSS opened its doors in August 2016 in Balbriggan, North Co. Dublin. The school opened with 41 students on the first day and currently has 630 students in the school. Since 2016 the school has experienced rapid growth and development, and moved to this permanent building in August 2018. Bremore ETSS currently provide Junior Cycle, Transition Year, Leaving Certificate and LCVP, and there are two classes for students with autism. The school has a diverse student and staff population; they value and embrace the range of backgrounds, experiences, energy and enthusiasm that the students and staff bring to the school.

Registration and Voting

Please ensure you nominate one voting delegate to represent you at the AGM **at least five days in advance of the meeting**. Delegates can be nominated from another member organisation to vote on your behalf if no one from your school community is available to attend.

On the day, please ensure your school's delegation has picked up its voting card(s) before the meeting begins. There are different cards for different types of members.

Primary schools with Educate Together as Patron	Red
Primary schools with Independent Educate Together Patrons	Blue
Second-level schools with Educate Together as Patron	Green
Second-level schools with Joint Patronage	Orange

The Chairperson of the Board of Directors will chair the meeting with the support of the Standing Orders Committee. The CEO and some national office staff will be there to assist the Chairperson and to provide information to the delegates. Please be aware that neither the CEO, nor any staff member, has a right to speak at the meeting unless specifically requested to do so.

Members of Educate Together 2021-2022

“Patron”= Independent Educate Together Patron, “BoM-IP”= Board of Management of a school with an independent patron, “BoM” = Board of Management of a National School with Educate Together’s patronage, “SL-BoM” = Board of Management of a second-level school with Educate Together’s patronage, “SL-BoM-JP”= Board of Management of a second-level school of which Educate Together is a joint patron.

National Schools

Adamstown Castle ETNS	BoM	Letterkenny ETNS	BoM
Ardee ETNS	BoM	Leixlip ETNS	BoM
Ashbourne ETNS	BoM	Limerick City ETNS	BoM
Aston Village ETNS	BoM	Limerick School Project NS	BoM
Balbriggan ETNS	BoM	Lucan East ETNS	BoM
Ballinteer ETNS	BoM	Lucan ET Association Ltd.	Patron
Belmayne ETNS	BoM	Lucan ETNS	BoM
Blessington ETNS	BoM	Malahide/Portmarnock ETNS	BoM
Bracken ETNS	BoM	Maynooth ETNS	BoM
Bray School Project Ltd.	Patron	Midleton ETNS	BoM
Bray School Project	BoM-IP	Monkstown ETNS	BoM-IP
Broombridge ETNS	BoM	Mulling ETNS	BoM
Canal Way ETNS	BoM	Navan ETNS	BoM
Carlow ETNS	BoM	Newbridge ETNS	BoM
Carrigaline ETNS	BoM	New Ross ETNS	BoM
Castaheany ETNS	BoM	Newtownwhite ETNS	BoM
Castlebar ETNS	BoM	North Bay ET Association Ltd.	Patron
Castleknock ETNS	BoM	North Bay ETNS	BoM-IP
Citywest ETNS	BoM	North Dublin National School Project Ltd.	Patron
Cherrywood ETNS	BoM	North Dublin National School Project	BoM-IP
Claregalway ETNS	BoM	North Kildare ETNS	BoM
Cork School Project Ltd.	Patron	Owenabue ETNS	BoM
Cork ETNS	BoM-IP	Pelletstown ETNS	BoM
Dalkey School Project Ltd.	Patron	Portlaoise ETNS	BoM
Dalkey School Project NS	BoM-IP	Powerstown ETNS	BoM
Donabate/Portrane ETNS	BoM	Rathcoole ETNS	BoM
Dublin 7 ETNS	BoM	Ranelagh Multi-Denominational School Ltd.	Patron
Dún Laoghaire ETNS	BoM	Ranelagh Multi-Denominational School	BoM-IP
Ennis ETNS	BoM	Rathfarnham ETNS	BoM
Esker ETNS	BoM	Riverview ETNS	BoM
Fermoy ETNS	BoM	Rochestown ETNS	BoM
Firhouse ETNS	BoM	Rush and Lusk ETNS	BoM
Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn	BoM	Shellybanks ETNS	BoM
Galway ETNS	BoM	Skerries ETNS	BoM
Glasnevin ETNS	BoM	Sligo School Project Ltd.	Patron
Goatstown Stillorgan ETNS	BoM	Sligo School Project N.S.	BoM-IP
Gorey ETNS	BoM	South Lee ETNS	BoM
Grace Park ETNS	BoM	Stapolin ETNS	BoM
Greystones ETNS	BoM	Stepaside ETNS	BoM
Griffen Valley ETNS	BoM	Swords ETNS	BoM
Griffith Barracks Multi-Denominational School Ltd.	Patron	Thornleigh ETNS	BoM
Griffith Barracks Multi-Denominational School	BoM-IP	Tralee ETNS	BoM
Harcourt Terrace ETNS	BoM	Tramore ETNS	BoM
Harold's Cross ETNS	BoM	Trim ETNS	BoM
Holywell ETNS	BoM	Tuam ETNS	BoM
Kilcolgan ETNS	BoM	Tullamore ETNS	BoM
Kildare Town ETNS	BoM	Tyrrelstown ETNS	BoM
Kilkenny School Project Ltd	Patron	Westport ETNS	BoM
Kilkenny School Project	BoM-IP	Waterford ETNS	BoM
Killester Raheny Clontarf ETNS	BoM	Wexford ETNS	BoM
Kilcolgan ETNS	BoM	Wicklow ETNS	BoM
Knocknacarra ETNS	BoM	Woodstock ETNS	BoM
Le Chéile ETNS	BoM		

Second level

Ballymakenny College	SL-BoM-JP
Belmayne ETSS	SL-BoM
Bremore ETSS	SL-BoM
Celbridge Community School	SL-BoM-JP
Cork ETSS	SL-BoM
Drogheda ETSS	SL-BoM
Firhouse ETSS	SL-BoM
Galway ETSS	SL-BoM
Goatstown ETSS	SL-BoM
Hansfield ETSS	SL-BoM
Harold's Cross ETSS	SL-BoM
Limerick ETSS	SL-BoM
Malahide/Portmarnock ETSS	SL-BoM
North Wicklow ETSS	SL-BoM
Sandymount Park ETSS	SL-BoM
Stepaside ETSS	SL-BoM
Wicklow ETSS	SL-BoM

Total number of members	121
Total member schools	111
Total member schools with Educate Together's sole patronage	97

Quorum for AGM (40% of Member schools)	44
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Progress of the Meeting

The meeting will commence with the adoption of the Agenda for the meeting. This year motions were received to amend the Standing Orders that govern how we will run our Meetings. These motions will be dealt with at the start of the meeting when the Standing Orders are proposed and, if accepted as part of the Standing Orders by the delegates, will take effect once the Standing Orders are accepted (where possible). These are labelled “Standing Order Motions”. The Standing Orders Committee will explain the process of debate and voting and there will be an opportunity to ask questions on anything you are unclear about.

Motions and Voting

At the AGM, a motion can be put to members once it has followed a simple two-step procedure. It must be presented by or on behalf of the proposing member and must also be seconded by another member. If it is not seconded, it is regarded as not having sufficient support to merit the attention of the AGM.

The proposer has a short (maximum 4 minutes) opportunity to present the motion. Members who wish to speak for or against the motion have up to 3 minutes each. If you wish to speak on a motion, please indicate clearly so that no time is wasted. Points of order or information may be taken from the floor during the course of the debate. When the debate is finished the proposer is afforded the opportunity to reply to the points raised (maximum 2 minutes). The vote is then taken by show of voting cards, or electronic equivalent, and is decided by majority.

Different Types of Votes

If a motion will affect how Educate Together acts as patron to its schools, the Chairperson will declare this a motion that can only be voted on by those schools operating with Educate Together’s patronage. If a motion relates only to national school members or only to second-level members, this will also be declared by the Chairperson of the meeting. However, if the motion relates to Educate Together’s other activities, all members will be entitled to vote and all voting cards will be counted. This is the reason for the different colour voting cards when the AGM is held in-person.

We hope that this provides a useful guide to the AGM. If you have any further questions, please ask the members of the Standing Orders Committee.

Standing Orders Committee Members

The Standing Orders Committee members are volunteers appointed by the board of directors. The standing orders committee currently consists of five members: two serving directors and three non-board members.

The two director members are Aidan Clifford, chair of the governance sub-committee of the board as well as the standing orders committee, and Richard Woulfe, Company Secretary to the Board of Directors.

Padraig Mannion is a long-standing supporter of Educate Together. He has been Chairperson of Bray School Project N.S. and a Board member of Wicklow ETNS. He has served on the Standing Orders Committee since 2006.

Pat Crowe is principal of North Kildare ETNS in Celbridge, Co. Kildare where he has taught since 1996. He is a former member of the Central Executive Committee of the INTO and has served on the Educate Together Standing Orders Committee since 2009.

Brian Smith was appointed chairperson of Adamstown Castle ETNS in December 2015. He served as a local and national trustee and director of Scouting Ireland for several years and joined the Educate Together Standing Orders Committee in 2018.

Educate Together 2022 AGM

10:00am Saturday 7 May 2022.

1. Adoption of Standing Orders

The Standing Order Rules can be found [here](#).

Standing Orders Motions

The following motions relate to changes to the Standing Orders for Annual General Meetings of Educate Together, and as such will be dealt with before other policy motions.

2022/SO1 *Insert new rule 3.7 and renumber all subsequent rules. 3.7 The SOC will also issue, with the Draft Agenda, a Prioritisation Form to all member organisations for the purposes of prioritisation of the order of motions to be heard at the AGM. The Prioritization Form must be submitted, to the SOC, no sooner than two weeks and no later than three weeks from the date of circulation of the Draft Agenda. The Standing Orders Committee, in the name of The Board of Directors, shall determine the running order of motions in the Final Agenda based on the Prioritisation Forms of the member organisations.*

2022/SO2 *Amend rule 8.4 as follows: 8.4 Procedural motions 8.1 (a-c) shall be voted on without debate. If these procedural motions fail debate, the original motion shall continue.*

2022/SO3 *Amend rule 8.8 as follows: 8.8 Procedural motion 15 (d) shall not be voted on without debate. Debate of the original motion, and the procedural motion can continue in tandem, until all speakers, as permitted by the Chairperson, have been heard and the proposer of the original motion has been offered the Right of Reply. Voting on the procedural motion 15 (d) shall take place prior to any vote on the original motion. If the procedural motion 15 (d) passes, the original motion shall be referred as specified in this procedural motion. If the procedural motion 15 (d) fails, the original motion shall be put to a vote.*

Board of Management of Stepside ETSS

2. Election of Tellers

As there are the same number of nominations to the board of directors as vacancies there will be no election of directors held this year, so no teller elections are required.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Educate Together AGM 2021

Meeting held on 8 May 2021. The Minutes of the meeting can be found [here](#).

4. Financial Report

Presentation of the [2021 Financial Statements](#)

5. Appointment of Auditors

Board is proposing the appointment of KSI Faulkner Orr as the company auditors for the coming year.

6. Annual Report

CEO will present the Annual Report for 2021.

7. Board of Directors Report on the motion passed at AGM 2021

School Admissions Policies

2021/03 *This AGM calls upon Educate Together to investigate how the children of families who choose an Educate Together school at Primary level can be given priority when applying for a place in an Educate Together school at Second level.*

Board of Management Castleknock ETNS

Proposed by Castleknock ETNS, seconded by Gorey ETNS

Carried

Actions:

The board of directors set up a working group to review policy in this area and to consider and action the school admissions policies motions carried and referred to them at the AGM. As part of their work, the group conducted a survey of schools, and engaged with the Department of Education, and a General Members Forum was held in December 2021. The group completed their work and submitted a report to the board in January, with recommendations to allow for schools to apply for certain variances to their admissions policies. The board accepted the group's recommendations in full and procedures have been drafted for schools to apply for approval of these variances in their policy. A link to the admissions working group report can be found [here](#).

2021/04 *This AGM declares that Boards of Management of Educate Together secondary schools can include a priority category for children coming from Educate Together 'feeder' primary schools in their Admissions policy.*

Board of Management Stepside ETSS

Proposed by Stepside ETSS and seconded by Castleknock ETNS

Referred to the board

See above

2021/05 *This AGM calls on Educate Together to give the Boards of Management of Educate Together second-level schools the choice to include feeder schools in the selection criteria in their admission policies, until there are sufficient second level places in the area to cater for the demand.*

Boards of Management Malahide Portmarnock ETNS/ Belmayne ETNS/ Holywell ETNS

Proposed by Malahide Portmarnock ETNS and seconded by Drogheda ETSS

Referred to the board

See above

2021/06 *This AGM requests the Board of Directors to instruct Educate Together to permit schools to add local schools of all patronages to a priority list within their admission policy.*

Board of Management Drogheda ETSS

Proposed by Drogheda ETSS and seconded by Le Chéile ETNS

Referred to the board

See above

Amended motion 2021/07 To ensure full equality of access and to continue to support parents choosing an Educate Together secondary school this AGM mandates the patron body to negotiate with the Department of Education that the catchment area priority for admissions is removed for Educate Together secondary schools and that applications can be made by parents regardless of where they live. *In the event that a catchment area priority for admissions needs to stay in place, then this should be extended to reach towards the midpoint to the nearest Educate Together Secondary School.*

Board of Management Stepside ETSS

Proposed by Stepside ETSS and seconded by Shellybanks ETNS

Amendment Citywest ETNS

Proposed by Citywest ETNS and seconded by Shellybanks ETNS

Carried

See above

2021/01 *This AGM, in keeping with the principle of equality of access to all Educate Together schools as laid out in the organisation's Charter that 'all children having equal rights of access to the school', confirms that Educate Together schools* will not give priority to children of staff in their admissions policies.*

*member schools, including joint and independent patrons and partnership schools.

Board of Directors

Proposed by Board of Directors and seconded by Wicklow ETNS

Carried

No action required

2021/02 *This AGM, in keeping with the principle of equality of access to all Educate Together schools as laid out in the organisation's Charter that 'all children having equal rights of access to the school', policy, confirms that Educate Together schools* will not give priority to children attending any particular primary school(s), unless instructed to do so by the Department of Education.*

*member schools, including joint and independent patrons and partnership schools.

Board of Directors

Proposed by Board of Directors and seconded by Lucan East ETNS

Referred to the board

See above

School Insurance

2021/09 *This AGM calls upon the Minister for Education to increase capitation grants to take account of the significant rises in school insurance costs.*

Board of Management Carrigaline ETNS

Proposed by Carrigaline ETNS and seconded by Wicklow ETNS

Carried

Action: Seeking opportunities to raise this directly with the Minister

2021/10 *This AGM calls upon member schools to join a group scheme so as to ensure schools are in a stronger position when it comes to dealing with insurance providers.*

Board of Management Carrigaline ETNS

Proposed by Carrigaline ETNS and seconded by Citywest ETNS

Carried

Actions:

1. Group scheme membership figures reviewed with Bradys
2. Letter sent to members in January 2022 encouraging participation
3. Further advertising and encouragement through Newsletter, networks
4. Included in new principal induction

2021/11 This AGM calls on the Minister for Education to extend State Indemnity, managed by the State Claims Agency, to all schools and not limit this to Community & Comprehensive Schools.

Board of Management Carrigaline ETNS

Proposed by Carrigaline ETNS and seconded by Fermoy ETNS

Carried

Action: Seeking opportunities to raise this directly with the Minister

Inclusion and Students with Additional Educational Needs

2021/12 This AGM:

- a) notes that full inclusion of every student is the aspiration of all Irish primary schools.
- b) reaffirms that, where appropriate, special schools and special classes are a more suitable educational setting for children with complex needs in order for them to fulfil their full potential.
- c) instructs Educate Together to enter into talks with the Minister for Education and the Government regarding improving funding and resources for primary schools to support current inclusion policies.
- d) instructs Educate Together to enter into discussions with the Department of Education and the National Council for Special Education outlining educational concerns regarding the current lack of investment in additional education supports.
- e) instructs Educate Together to enter into talks with the Minister for Education and the Government regarding a separate mechanism for new and developing schools for SET allocations.

Board of Management Firhouse ETNS

Proposed by Firhouse ETNS and seconded by Midleton ETNS

All sections carried

Actions on motions 12 – 16 (most of which were initially submitted in 2020):

- Ongoing meetings and correspondence with the Department on these issues
- Submission to and meeting with the Minister for Special Education in 2020
- Engaged with partners to mount a joint campaign for a review of the allocation model and increased support for developing schools in 2021
- Joint media release and coverage of specific developing schools issues in April 2021
- Letters to both Ministers in March and October 2021 (and again in March 2022)
- Two surveys of schools in 2021
- Two meetings held with the NCSE in 2021
- Submission to the NCSE's new strategic plan in 2021
- Briefings to other organisations to garner support (Children's Rights Alliance, ASIAM, etc)
- Secured specific additional resources for schools in 2022/23 staffing allocations (additional SETs for developing schools, administrative principal for two special classes)

2021/13 This AGM calls on the Minister for Education to simplify and speed up the pathway to sustained and suitable support for children with additional educational needs by:

- a. Preserving the current model of a continuum of provision, as opposed to any move to full inclusion;

- b. *Speeding up the implementation of the Progressing Disability Model with adequately and equitably resourced clinical teams serving geographical areas, as designed;*
- c. *Putting in place a system whereby a consistent link person/service takes responsibility for an individual child;*
- d. *Providing schools annually with a clear outline of up-to-date services with contact details and pathway relating to the range of additional needs.*

Board of Management Glasnevin ETNS

Proposed by Glasnevin, ETNS and seconded by Midleton ETNS

Carried

See above

2021/14 *This AGM calls upon the Board of Directors and members to lobby the Minister for Education to ensure that the implementation of the proposed new SNA Model and proposed new Inclusion Model are paused until current NCSE initiatives/models are adequately resourced and reviewed in relation to funding, staffing, school placements, HSE diagnostic services and HSE intervention services, in consultation with relevant stakeholders.*

Board of Management Midleton ETNS

Proposed by Midleton ETNS and seconded by Citywest ETNS

Carried

See above

School Supports

2021/15 *This AGM requests members to support their principal in volunteering as a mentor with the Centre for School Leadership with a view to mentoring another Educate Together principal. This support can include practical supports such as release time and additional administrative support hours.*

Board of Management Grace Park ETNS

Proposed by Grace Park ETNS and seconded by Wicklow ETNS

Carried

Action: Ongoing engagement between national office, schools and CSL. Letter sent to members in January 2022

2021/16 *This AGM recognises that NABMSE is best placed to provide support to schools in setting up and running special classes and encourages member schools with special classes to join NABMSE.*

**Board of Management Grace Park ETNS
and Board of Management Citywest ETNS**

Proposed by Grace Park ETNS and seconded by Citywest ETNS

Carried

Action: Ongoing engagement between national office, schools and NABMSE. Letter sent to members in January 2022

2021/17 *This AGM calls upon Educate Together for clear template policies for all new legislations and legislative changes impacting upon running of schools, in a timely manner e.g. Admissions Act, Child Protection etc.*

Board of Management Midleton ETNS

Proposed by Midleton ETNS and seconded by Leixlip ETNS

Carried

Actions:

- Template admissions policies provided to schools annually
- Department provides templates to schools for child safeguarding, anti-bullying and GDPR
- Information and resources are provided through Moodle on admissions, Covid, etc.
- Seeking resources through the Strategic Plan to develop a more comprehensive online information hub

2021/18 *This AGM calls upon Educate Together to provide*

- a. *A resource bank for campaigning for/setting up second-level schools that are supported by the patron (Start Up Campaign).*
- b. *Communication forums to educate start up groups on a step-by-step approach to a successful campaign.*

Board of Management Midleton ETNS

Proposed by Midleton ETNS and seconded by Shellybanks ETNS

Carried

Action: Seeking resources through Strategic Plan to develop a more comprehensive online information hub

2021/19 *This AGM calls on the executive and members to lobby the Minister for Education to put in place standing arrangements for DLPs and DDPLs to have appropriate support supervision in place when addressing Child Protection cases.*

Board of Management Pelletstown ETNS

Proposed by Pelletstown ETNS and seconded by Wicklow ETNS

Carried

Action: Seeking opportunities to raise this directly with the Minister

Quality Standards

2021/20 *This AGM calls on members to adopt the agreed Ethos Quality Standards and Statements of Effective Practice which were developed through a consultative process between 2019 and 2020 and requires all member schools to strive to implement these standards.*

Board of Directors

Proposed by the Board of Directors and seconded by Wicklow ETSS

Carried

Action: The Quality Standards, SSE tools and Ethos Guidance Platform that make up the Ethos Quality Framework have been shared with members. The framework was launched publicly by DCU in 2021 and the tools have been shared in network meetings with principals, teachers and board members. The board and national office plan to promote engagement with the standards and ethos tools as part of the new strategic plan as resources become available.

8. Election of Directors and Officers

This year is the third year in the rotation for election of Directors. Three persons will be elected to the Board of Directors for a three-year term.

Nominations for Directors of Educate Together (listed in alphabetical first name order)

Three nominations for three vacancies

Lesley Byrne

Lesley Byrne is Principal of Clogher Road Community College which is a DEIS school in Crumlin under the patronage of CDETB and in partnership with Educate Together. Lesley also works with Maynooth University on the Turn to Teach programme, which aims to promote diversity in the teaching profession through a series of social-justice orientated widening participation initiatives. Prior to her current role, she was Deputy Principal in Belvedere College with special responsibility and a particular passion for the Social Diversity Programme. She started her teaching career in Newall Green High School in Manchester, which was a full service school serving one of the most deprived wards in the UK. It was here that her passion for social justice within education really grew. Lesley is currently a PHD candidate with Maynooth University and her particular area of research is how marginalised communities are represented in current and historic educational policy and is looking at how we can move from a deficit model of disadvantage to one that holds the values of different communities in equal standing. She worked closely with Project Sums, set up by Senator Lynn Ruane in providing free grinds to students who would not be able to access them otherwise. She is currently on the NAPD Senior Cycle Reform committee and is also on the steering committee for the Nurture Ireland project with Educate Together. A strong advocate for Senior Cycle Reform, Lesley strongly believes that the Irish education system needs a research based approach to becoming more equitable and a true praxis of Democracy.

Miriam Hurley

Miriam Hurley has been Principal of Dalkey School Project (DSP) for 13 years. She is a committed member of Educate Together network since joining the teaching staff of Monkstown ETNS in 1999. Miriam has contributed to Educate Together AGMs and General Forum group meetings regularly over the past 20 years. Miriam brings a broad range of educational knowledge and community building skills. An activist on equality issues, she is particularly interested in supporting Educate Together schools to be inclusive educational settings where all children's needs are met and the Educate Together ethos is nurtured and fostered. Miriam was a founding and committee member of the first LGBT teachers' group in Ireland through the INTO from 2004-2011. She has delivered workshops at ethos and equality conferences. Promoting restorative practices and student voice is central to her vision for building strong communities who change the world in positive and inclusive ways. During her time as Principal at DSP, the school community has become a leader in the Forest School network and DSP is one of 20 schools nationally in the DCU Changemaker network. The DSP community set up Kids Behind the Cuts group 2019 – 2020, garnering the support of hundreds of schools nationally, thus influencing policy on resources for children with additional needs. Miriam believes Educate Together has a vital role to play in shaping educational vision in Ireland and is committed to the strengthening and growth of Educate Together.

Theresa Burke

Theresa Burke became a Director of Educate Together in November 2020, after joining the Board's Finance Sub-committee in March of that year. Head of Governance and Finance with the Children Rights Alliance since 2018, Theresa qualified with the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA) in 2005, becoming a fellow in 2010. She has worked as audit manager in accountancy practice, gaining extensive experience across many areas in the public and private sector dealing with small, medium and large organisations. Theresa also brings significant experience in the charity sector to the role, with up-to-date knowledge of the Charities Governance Code, and charity financial reporting requirements including Financial Reporting Standard 102 Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP).

9. Admission of new members**Blackrock ETSS**

Blackrock Educate Together Secondary School opened on 31 August 2021 in temporary accommodation in the Sandymount Building, Simonscourt Road. Patronage of the school was awarded to Educate Together following a patronage determination process that was held at the end of 2020. Donal Evoy, principal and

Simon Rogers, deputy principal, welcomed 37 pupils on opening day. The school's permanent location will be located in Blackrock and a planning application has been lodged. When fully developed the school will cater for up to 1,000 students.

Gorey ETSS

Gorey Educate Together Secondary School opened on Wednesday 1 September 2021 following a patronage determination process held at the end of 2020. The school opened in temporary accommodation on the Fort Road in Gorey. Principal Conor Berry and deputy principal John Murphy and their team welcomed 35 students on opening day and when fully developed the school will cater for 500 students. The Department of Education are currently seeking a permanent home for the school.

10. Adoption of the Strategic Plan

Stronger Together – Educate Together's Strategic Plan 2022 – 2026 was finalised by the board of directors in January 2022. This plan was developed by the CEO and national office team in collaboration with the board over two years. The development process included engagement with member schools, consultation with external stakeholders and partners, review of the demographic, educational and policy context and reflection on our values, constitution and charter.

The board is now asking members to formally adopt this plan, which will guide the organisation's work over the next five years.

11. Adoption of Senior Cycle Ethical Education Curriculum

The Senior Cycle Ethical Education Curriculum was finalised in 2021 after a three-year development process which involved consultation, piloting and external evaluation by the School of Education in UCD. A report on the curriculum and the development process is available to members [here](#).

The board is now asking members to formally adopt this curriculum, which will be taught at senior cycle in Educate Together schools.

12. Policy Motions

Policy motions for this year can be voted on by all members.

2022/01 This AGM calls on the Board of Directors to establish a working group including representatives from different Educate Together members for the purpose of researching and providing guidance to schools regarding good practice related to including and actively supporting LGBTQ+ children and families and addressing relevant issues of equality in keeping with the Educate Together ethos.

Boards of Management Kilcolgan ETNS, Knocknacarra ETNS and Galway ETSS

2022/02 This AGM requires that Boards of Management of Educate Together secondary schools can include a priority category for children coming from Educate Together 'feeder' primary schools in their Admissions policy.

Board of Management of Stepside ETSS

Rationale

Boards of Management are already able to have a Priority 1 for siblings. The interpretation of the Education (Admission to Schools) Act 2018 allows for this. The equality of access argument, whereby priority is not given to any child (other than siblings) in Educate Together Admissions policies is recognised as important. However, it does not take account of the competition for school places that is a feature of moving from primary to secondary school. Many secondary schools have feeder schools named in their Admissions policy. Thus where ET secondary schools do not have ET primary schools named as feeder

schools the children from ET primary schools are at a disadvantage when seeking secondary school admission. Also, an important cohort of parents make a conscious choice to align with the Educate Together ethos for their child(ren). As such they purposefully and deliberately opt for the Educate Together philosophy and approach. They begin by seeking admission to Educate Together primary schools. This often entails additional travel and logistical burdens that the parents are prepared to incur and support in pursuit of their choice. Those leaving ET primary schools and seeking admission to an ET secondary school are an important part of the Educate Together community and it is reasonable that they can expect that the Educate Together secondary school admission policies will support their choice of an Educate Together education ethos at second level and take account of the competing considerations to the equality of access principle.

2022/03 This AGM calls on the Board of Directors to open discussions with the Education and Training Boards to extend their co-patronage relationship at second level to primary schools with a view to working together in the future to open and manage primary schools in Ireland.

Board of Management Carlow ETNS

Rationale

There are now 23 CNS schools and they are expanding more quickly than our own schools. While we celebrated opening 7 primary schools in 2019, they had opened 10. It appears that almost all divested schools are being taken on by the ETB. Rather than waiting for the inevitable when they become bigger than our own network, we have an opportunity now to get involved so that if we were to join forces, we could ensure that certain conditions, precious to ET, can become central to any future relationship.

NOTE: a short briefing outlining Educate Together's current partnership work with ETBs is available to members [here](#).

