

Catholic Institute for Deaf People
40 Lower Drumcondra Road
Dublin 9
17th October 2008

Notice providing information about the setting up of an amalgamation review committee regarding the proposed amalgamation of St. Joseph's School for Deaf Boys and St. Mary's School for Deaf Girls and a request seeking representation to participate on the committee

Dear all,

As you are aware the Board of CIDP (the trustees of both schools) have with the support of the Archbishop of Dublin (Patron), begun a process to investigate the possibility of amalgamating both schools, into either one school, or one primary and one secondary school under separate management and sections of the Department of Education and Science.

In order to investigate this proposal in an objective manner, CIDP have engaged Mr. Eoin O'Mahony, a consultant with experience in this area, to produce a review of the impacts of an amalgamation, the concerns that would need to be dealt with prior to an amalgamation and the best method of implementing the amalgamation, if, it is in the best interests of the children.

Mr. O'Mahony will begin his work at the end of November and in order to ensure that his work is informed by all stakeholders in this process, CIDP wish to establish a consultative committee comprised of one representative from each of the groups mentioned on the list attached to this letter. The role of the committee is to review the terms of reference for the work to be undertaken by Mr. O'Mahony, to serve as a sounding board for him during his work, to keep the stakeholders who the representatives are appointed by, informed of progress, to receive Mr. O'Mahony's report in March 09 and to make a recommendation on the basis of same to the CIDP Board in respect of the proposed amalgamation.

I would be grateful if each of the groups mentioned on the attached sheet recommend one person to attend the committee on their behalf. The committee will in my view meet three times, initially to meet Mr. O'Mahony and input to the terms of reference for his work, on a second occasion to act as a sounding board for him during his work, and finally to meet with him to receive his report and input to its recommendations to the CIDP Board. I would be keen to have the first meeting of the committee on Monday the 1st of December at 4.00pm in St. Joseph's School so the names of representatives from the stakeholders mentioned in this invitation need to be returned to me by Friday the 21st of November. The names and contact details of the representatives should be sent to me at alison@cidp.ie or to the address on this letter.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Liam O'Dwyer CEO

Attachments:

1. Draft Terms of Reference for Mr. O'Mahony.
2. Groups to participate on amalgamation review committee.
3. Contact details for the individuals to be represented on the committee.