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1. This week in the Oireachtas (02-06 June 2014)

<http://www.oireachtas.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=26199&&CatID=60>

2. Oireachtas Questions and Debate (26-30 May 2014)

Education: including special needs, ECCE, minorities, disadvantage, literacy and numeracy, school buildings, school patronage,

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Enrolments (29 May 2014)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the expected number of children likely to need accommodation at primary and second level annually over the next ten years; the extent to which it has been found possible to plan the accommodation and educational requirements arising therefrom; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-29a.151>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Management (27 May 2014)

Micheál Martin (Leader of the Opposition; Cork South Central, Fianna Fail) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the avenues of redress parents or pupils have, in the event that a dispute arises between a person and the board of management of a school that cannot be resolved and remains an outstanding grievance; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.624>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Special Educational Needs Services Provision (27 May 2014)

Derek Keating (Dublin Mid West, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will examine a difficult situation (details supplied) whereby a young boy who has moderate learning disabilities cannot find appropriate educational accommodation and they are currently in a school that caters for children with mild intellectual disabilities and, therefore, they are not receiving any of the related Health Service Executive services and this matter is now very urgent.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.647>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Special Educational Needs Service Provision (29 May 2014)

Mick Wallace (Wexford, Independent) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will provide an update on his plans for the full implementation of the Education for Persons with Special Educational Needs Act 2004 in view of the fact that it is now a decade since this Act was passed by the Oireachtas; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-29a.110>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Autism Support Services (28 May 2014)

Mattie McGrath (Tipperary South, Independent) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the State's current statutory obligations in relation to the provision of educational services for children and young adults clinically diagnosed with autism and Asperger's syndrome; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-28a.129>

Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children: Help us to Help More Campaign: Irish Medical Organisation (27 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/committees/?id=2014-05-27a.337>

Other Questions: School Guidance Counsellors (29 May 2014)

Charlie McConalogue (Donegal North East, Fianna Fail) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his views on a survey showing a 59% drop in one-to-one guidance counselling hours since the removal of the ex-quota allocation to schools; his views on the impact of this cut on student welfare in view of the fact that the service is provided by trained guidance practitioners who are required to undergo constant professional supervision, which means this is not a service that can be safely provided as a whole-school activity; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2014-05-29a.50>

Joint Oireachtas Committee on Education and Social Protection: Youth Guarantee: Department of Social Protection (28 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/committees/?id=2014-05-28a.6>

Questions - Priority Questions: Special Educational Needs Staffing (29 May 2014)

Charlie McConalogue (Donegal North East, Fianna Fail) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the way he proposes to address the deep concerns that have been expressed with regard to the recently published Circular 0030/2014 on special needs; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2014-05-29a.7>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Autism Support Services (29 May 2014)

Maureen O'Sullivan (Dublin Central, Independent) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills further to Parliamentary Question No. 243 of 4 February 2014, his views on the way his Department's early intervention preschools, set up to support children with a diagnosis of autism, are functioning; if there has been engagement with the primary school teachers and special needs assistants working in these preschool classes as to their capacity, ability, skills and training to work with children with autism and children with challenging behaviour; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-29a.34>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Special Educational Needs Expenditure (29 May 2014)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the extent to which he continues to be in a position to meet the educational requirements of children with special needs at primary and second level, with particular reference to the availability of special needs teachers, special needs assistants and adequate appropriate school places; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-29a.66>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Special Educational Needs Expenditure (29 May 2014)

John Halligan (Waterford, Independent) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he or his Department has plans to make additional funding available for psychological services and employment of special needs assistants within the system; his views on whether cutbacks to the services over the past few years have resulted in hundreds of students who are in desperate need of assistance failing to qualify for same; if he will acknowledge that in order to create a calm and productive educational environment for all students, those both with and without special needs requirements, it is vital that all students who require assistance are provided with same; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-29a.93>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Special Educational Needs Expenditure (29 May 2014)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the extent to which he continues to be in a position to meet the eating requirements of children with special needs at primary and second level; his expectations for the future in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-29a.154>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Staffing (29 May 2014)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the extent to which teacher numbers, including special needs teachers and special needs assistants, in the various schools throughout north Kildare remain adequate to meet requirements; if he expects to augment such numbers in the short and medium term; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-29a.171>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Special Educational Needs Services Provision (27 May 2014)

Michael McGrath (Cork South Central, Fianna Fail) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills further to Parliamentary Question No. 95 of 7 May 2014, if he will consider introducing an exemption from maths for children with the rare diagnosis of dyscalculia; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.511>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Special Educational Needs Data (27 May 2014)

Michael McNamara (Clare, Labour) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the number of special needs assistants in primary and secondary schools in County Clare; the number of children to whom they provided support in 2012 and 2013; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.588>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Services for People with Disabilities (27 May 2014)

Michael McGrath (Cork South Central, Fianna Fail) To ask the Minister for Health if parents with special needs children are entitled to know the identity of the parent representatives on the local implementation groups established around the country for the reconfiguration of therapy services; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.2187>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Child Care Services Funding (27 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.2821>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Patronage (29 May 2014)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the extent to which he continues to have discussions with representatives of various religious groups in respect of whom commitments in regard to education were made or implied in the past; if he has had satisfactory discussions with the Church of Ireland, Presbyterian or other church representatives in this regard; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-29a.148>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Schools Establishment (27 May 2014)

Dessie Ellis (Dublin North West, Sinn Fein) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills further to Parliamentary Question No. 257 of 13 May 2014, the plans in place for an Educate Together secondary school for the areas Dublin 7, 9 and 11 as the Hansfield school is not an option for parents in this area. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.696>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Patronage (27 May 2014)

Terence Flanagan (Dublin North East, Independent) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills his plans for change in relation to school patronage for primary schools and secondary schools; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.702>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Departmental Strategies (27 May 2014)

Jonathan O'Brien (Cork North Central, Sinn Fein) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the names of the strategy documents his Department is currently implementing.
<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.535>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: Disadvantaged Status (29 May 2014)

Clare Daly (Dublin North, United Left) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills the way elements of the DEIS programme are being protected in view of the move of aspects of the programme to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-29a.78>

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: School Completion Programme (27 May 2014)

Robert Troy (Longford-Westmeath, Fianna Fail) To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if he will not make further cuts to the school completion programme funding this year, 2014-2015; if he will restore funding to 2008 levels over an agreed timeframe; and if he will declare all DEIS initiatives exempt from cuts to funding. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.2817>

Written Answers — Department of Education and Skills: School Transport Administration (27 May 2014)

Patrick O'Donovan (Limerick, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Education and Skills if he will provide in tabular form the total number of routes, the total number of children carried and the cost per child carried for primary and post-primary schools; the total revenue of Bus Éireann and the percentage increase or decrease year on year from 2004 to date under the school transport scheme; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.594>

Child Services/ Children in Care: including foster care and social work services, HSE staffing, youth services

Written Answers — Department of Children and Youth Affairs: Children in Care (27 May 2014)

Jerry Buttimer (Cork South Central, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs if he will consider liaising with management at the Child and Family Agency with a view to directing all social care and educational establishments that children in care should not be allowed or encouraged to break the law by being allowed to smoke and drink while under age and in State care; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.2860>

Seanad: Adjournment Matters: Child Care Services Provision (29 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/sendebates/?id=2014-05-29a.217>

Health and Wellbeing: including disability, mental health, substance misuse, primary care, health services, hospital services, obesity, sports facilities

Health (General Practitioner Service) Bill 2014: Second Stage (Resumed) (29 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2014-05-29a.263>

Written Answers — Department of Health: Obesity Strategy (27 May 2014)

Brendan Griffin (Kerry South, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Health if he will consider appointing health promotion officers to schools to help tackle issues such as childhood obesity and poor diet; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.1993>

Topical Issue Debate: Mental Health Services Provision (29 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2014-05-29a.296>

Child Benefit/Social Welfare/Poverty/Housing

Written Answers — Department of Social Protection: Qualified Child Increase Payments (27 May 2014)

Aengus Ó Snodaigh (Dublin South Central, Sinn Fein) To ask the Minister for Social Protection the number of children with respect to whom a qualified child increase is being paid.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.1103>

Written Answers — Department of Environment, Community and Local Government: Water Charges Exemptions (27 May 2014)

Damien English (Meath West, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government in the case of dependant children aged over 18, for example those attending college, his plans to facilitate a water allowance for households containing such persons; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.1451>

Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform: Joint Sub-Committee on Global Corporate Taxation: Ireland's Corporate Tax System: Discussion (27 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/committees/?id=2014-05-27a.152>

Written Answers — Department of Finance: Homeless Accommodation Provision (27 May 2014)

Joe Higgins (Dublin West, Socialist Party) To ask the Minister for Finance if the National Asset Management Agency has been required to take any urgent, special steps to make suitable accommodation available to deal with the crisis of homelessness.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.448>

Written Answers — Department of Social Protection: Rent Supplement Scheme Eligibility (27 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.983>

Written Answers — Department of Environment, Community and Local Government: Homelessness Strategy (27 May 2014)

Mattie McGrath (Tipperary South, Independent) To ask the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government the number of children and families currently availing of emergency accommodation in south Tipperary; the types of that accommodation hostels, hotels, bed and breakfasts; the amount her Department has spent in providing emergency accommodation in south Tipperary since the Governments term of office began; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.1444>

Written Answers — Department of Environment, Community and Local Government: Social and Affordable Housing Provision (27 May 2014)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government the extent to which provision can be made to revive the local authority house building programme without impacting negatively on the Government's balance sheet; if the launch of a specific bond might be considered in this context; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.1447>

Written Answers — Department of Environment, Community and Local Government: Social and Affordable Housing Provision (27 May 2014)

Bernard Durkan (Kildare North, Fine Gael) To ask the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government the extent to which provision can be made to revive the local authority house building programme without impacting negatively on the Government's balance sheet; if the launch of a specific bond might be considered in this context; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.1447>

Written Answers — Department of Environment, Community and Local Government: Housing Data (27 May 2014)

Michael McGrath (Cork South Central, Fianna Fail) To ask the Minister for Environment, Community and Local Government if his Department or any agency under the aegis of his Department has conducted an inventory of unoccupied houses and apartments in Dublin and around the country irrespective of who they are owned by; if not, if there are plans to do so; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.1587>

Joint Oireachtas Committee on Education and Social Protection: Youth Guarantee: Department of Social Protection (28 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/committees/?id=2014-05-28a.6>

Written Answers — Department of Finance: Tax Exemptions (27 May 2014)

Finian McGrath (Dublin North Central, Independent) To ask the Minister for Finance if he will clarify the exact situation for disabled families in respect of the local property tax and exemptions; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.273>

Justice Issues/ Human Rights/Equality

Written Answers — Department of Justice and Equality: UN Conventions Ratification (27 May 2014)

Clare Daly (Dublin North, United Left) To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality the reason the Government has not ratified the second UN CRC optional protocol on the sale of children, their use in prostitution and pornography. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.1809>

Written Answers — Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade: Middle East Issues (28 May 2014)

Maureen O'Sullivan (Dublin Central, Independent) To ask the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade if his attention has been drawn to the latest report by Defence for Children International - Palestine, published on 12 May 2014, which details the alarming rise in numbers of Palestinians being subjected to solitary confinement; his views on whether solitary confinement solely for interrogation purposes amounts to torture; if he will condemn Israel's use of solitary confinement against Palestinian children; if he will make representations to the Israeli Government, which is a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the UN Convention Against Torture, in order to raise this issue and press Israeli authorities to cease this degrading treatment of Palestinian children held in Israeli custody; if he will call for the release of the imprisoned members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, including Marwan Barghouti; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-28a.40>

Garda Síochána (Amendment) Bill 2014: Second Stage (Resumed) [Private Members] (28 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2014-05-28a.493>

Written Answers — Department of Justice and Equality: Proposed Legislation (27 May 2014)

Kevin Humphreys (Dublin South East, Labour) To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality her plans to introduce laws targeting sex buyers to end exploitation, abuse and trafficking; if her attention has been drawn to the fact that it is nearly a year since the publication of the Oireachtas joint justice committee's report on this matter; if she will take urgent action to implement legislation which would protect women and girls from exploitation and trafficking into the sex trade; and if she will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.1848>

Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality: Guerin Report: Department of Justice and Equality (28 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/committees/?id=2014-05-28a.383>

Joint Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality: Garda Oversight: Discussion (Resumed) (28 May 2014)

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/committees/?id=2014-05-28a.191>

Written Answers — Department of Justice and Equality: Legal Services Regulation (28 May 2014)

Mattie McGrath (Tipperary South, Independent) To ask the Minister for Justice and Equality if she will consider making it easier and less expensive to access digital audio recordings in order to protect citizens' legal rights and simplify the process; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-28a.264>

Other

Written Answers — Department of An Taoiseach: Grant Aid (27 May 2014)

Catherine Murphy (Kildare North, Independent) To ask the Taoiseach if he will itemise in tabular form all grants and grant-in-aid paid by his Department each year for the previous five years and to date in 2014, including the amounts, recipients and purpose in each case; and if he will make a statement on the matter. <http://www.kildarestreet.com/wrans/?id=2014-05-27a.109>