

Contents

1. [This Week in the Houses of the Oireachtas 04-08 March 2013](#)
2. Oireachtas Questions and Debate 25 February – 01 March 2013

[Education: including special needs, minorities, disadvantage, literacy and numeracy, school staffing, school buildings, school patronage, curriculum](#)

[Asylum/Immigration](#)

[Child Services/ Children in Care: including foster care and social work services, HSE staffing, youth services](#)

[Family: including adoption](#)

[Child Abuse/Child Protection: including vetting, child abduction](#)

[Health and Wellbeing: including disability, mental health, substance misuse, primary care, health services, hospital services, obesity, sports facilities](#)

[Child Benefit/Social Welfare/Poverty/Housing](#)

[Justice Issues/ Human Rights/Equality](#)

1. This week in the Oireachtas (04 March - 08 March 2013)

<http://www.oireachtas.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=22983&&CatID=60>

2. Oireachtas Questions and Debate (25 February -01 March 2013)

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

Dáil Éireann 27/02/2013 School Staffing:

Deputy Finian McGrath asked a number of questions on school staffing of the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022700075?opendocument>

Dáil Éireann 28/02/2013 Further Education and Training Bill 2013: Second Stage

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022800013?opendocument#L00500>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: School Enrolments

Deputy Michelle Mulherin asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn the number of children who were no more than five years of age when they first enrolled and attended primary school in each of the past five years; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600061?opendocument#WRK00550>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: Early Childhood Education

Deputy Michelle Mulherin asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn the reason an apparent policy is being pursued of facilitating public primary schools for extensions for early childhood care and education rooms in view of the consequent displacement of a significant number of community and private childcare facilities which exist many of which have been funded under EOCP; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600061?opendocument#WRK00950>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: School Enrolments

Deputy Joanna Tuffey asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn the position regarding the review of school enrolment policies; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600061?opendocument#WRK01750>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: School Curriculum

Deputy Joanna Tuffey asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn if he will provide an update on proposals to bring in politics as a leaving certificate subject; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600061?opendocument#WRK01750>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: Early Childhood Education

Deputy Michelle Mulherin asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald if she will examine the operation of the early childhood care and education scheme which allows payment for three hours a day for tuition but nothing for planning the practical detail and implementation of the curriculum for the children; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600078?opendocument#WRBB03150>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: Early Childhood Education

Deputy Michelle Mulherin Information on Michelle Mulherin Zoom on Michelle Mulherin asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Information on Frances Fitzgerald Zoom on Frances Fitzgerald if she will consider re-instating the choice for parents of extending the early childhood care and education scheme to 50 weeks; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600078?opendocument#WRBB03150>

Dáil Éireann 28/02/2013: Special Educational Needs

Deputy Bernard Durkan asked the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn the most likely primary school available to meet the educational needs of the children of a person (details supplied) in Dublin 24; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022800053?opendocument#WRP01250>

Asylum/Immigration

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: Immigration Policy

Deputy Maureen O'Sullivan asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter in view of President Obama's proposal to allow 11 million illegal immigrants to move toward a path of citizenship over eight years, if he will consider a similar incentive such as a regularisation scheme to include certain undocumented migrants to move towards citizenship if they comply with a list of requirements; if not, if he will consider other initiatives that seek to relieve the situation that illegality contributes to undocumented migrants here; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600074?opendocument#WRX01150>

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

Seanad Éireann 28/02/2013: Youth Services

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/seanad2013022800021?opendocument#W00700>

Joint Committee on Health and Children Debate 28/02/2013: Child and Family Support Agency: Discussion

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/committeetakes/HEJ2013022800003?opendocument>

Family: Including adoption

Dáil Éireann 27/02/2013 Written Answers: Foster Care Policy

Deputy Joanna Tuffy asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald if she will provide an update on the rules regarding the age that children leave foster care (details supplied); and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022700090?opendocument#WRDD01150>

Dáil Éireann 27/02/2013 Written Answers: Foster Care Provision

Deputy Róisín Shortall asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald the action she is taking on foot of the Health Information and Quality Authority report inspection of the Health Service Executive Dublin North West Local Health Area Fostering Service in the Health Service Executive Dublin North East Region; and the way she proposes to ensure that the action plan is fully implemented.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022700090?opendocument#WRDD01150>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: Social and Affordable Housing Provision

Deputy Gerry Adams asked the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government Information on Phil Hogan Zoom on Phil Hogan if as part of the process of social housing reform, a

review of the 2011 social housing assessment regulations has been carried out; if the review has been completed; if any revised regulations or guidance has been issued on foot of the review; if consideration has been given to giving wider discretion to housing authorities to deal with complex cases such as those involving newly separated persons or situations where persons flee the family home as a result of domestic violence and are in need of long term housing.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600070?opendocument&highlight=child%20care#WRT03725>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: Family Law Cases

Deputy John Lyons asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter further to Parliamentary Question No. 151 of 7 November 2012, if he will provide an update on his efforts to reform the family court system; if he will provide an up to date timescale for the introduction of a Bill to promote mediation as a viable and cost effective alternative to court proceedings in family law cases to the benefit of all parties.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600072?opendocument>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: Foster Care Policy

Deputy Michael McGrath asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald if grandparents generally have any right to have some level of access to their grandchildren who are in foster care arrangements in circumstances where the children's parent is deceased; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600078?opendocument#WRBB03150>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: Foster Care Agencies

Deputy Seán Ó Fearghaíl asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Information on Frances Fitzgerald if she will detail the accredited adoptive agencies handling inter country adoptions in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013; the level of State funding provided to these agencies together with the number of inter country adoptions completed by each agency; the number of adoptions anticipated by each agency; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600078?opendocument#WRBB03150>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: Adoption Services

Deputy Seán Ó Fearghaíl asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald the number of persons that have registered with the National Adoption Contact Preference Register since its inception; the number that have been matched; the percentage of birth parents that registered the following preferences, willing to meet, exchange of letters or information or contact by phone, no contact but willing to share medical information, no contact but willing to share some information, no contact at the moment; and if she will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/debates%20authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600078?opendocument#WRBB03150>

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<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022700090?opendocument#WRDD01350>

Dáil Éireann 27/02/2013 Written Answers: Foster Care Policy

Deputy Róisín Shortall asked the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald further to Parliamentary Question No. 572 of 22 January 2013, the target date for the finalisation of a national register of foster parents who are deemed unsuitable and no longer have children placed with them.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022700090?opendocument#WRDD01350>

Child Abuse/Child Protection: including vetting, child abduction

Joint Committee on Health and Children Debate 28/02/2013: Child and Family Support Agency: Discussion

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/committeetakes/HEJ2013022800003?opendocument>

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

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013 Written Answers: National Substance Misuse Strategy

Deputy Nicky McFadden asked the Minister for Justice and Equality Alan Shatter if he will give statutory effect to Section 9 of the Intoxicating Liquor Act 2008 which provides for the structural separation of alcohol products from other products in supermarkets, convenience stores, petrol stations and any other licensed premises which are deemed to be mixed-trading; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600073?opendocument#WRW00550>

Dáil Éireann 26/02/2013. Topcial Issue Debate: Child Safety

Deputy Paudie Coffey: I raise this matter in the public interest following another very sad and tragic death of a child on the island. Three year old Daniel Grant from Mayobridge, County Down died in a tragic accident involving a window blind cord. I take the opportunity to convey my sympathy and that of other Deputies to Daniel's parents, Brian and Paula, on their tragic loss.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022600035?opendocument#HH00300>

Child Benefit/Social Welfare/Poverty/Housing

Seanad Éireann 26/02/2013 Report on Child and Family Income Support: Statements.

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/seanad2013022600008?opendocument#G00100>

Justice Issues/ Human Rights/Equality

Dáil Éireann 27/02/2013 Magdalen Laundries Report: Statements (Resumed)

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/dail2013022700008?opendocument#F03600>

Seanad Éireann 28/02/2013 Equality Legislation

<http://oireachtasdebates.oireachtas.ie/Debates%20Authoring/DebatesWebPack.nsf/takes/seanad2013022800018?opendocument#T00700>

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