

## Dominican College, Portstewart



2 Strand Road, Portstewart, Northern Ireland BT55 7PF Tel: (028) 7083 2715 Fax: (028) 7083 4807 www.dcpni.net

Feb 22

Dear Parent, Guardian, Carer

Re: Integrated Education Bill

You may be aware the Integrated Education Bill is reaching the final stages in the Northern Ireland Assembly with the Further Consideration Stage due to be debated shortly. If the Bill is passed it will become law and recognised as an Act of the NI Assembly.

As a school community we are deeply concerned about the provisions contained in the Bill, and in particular, the elevated status and priority that it provides for Integrated schools above all other schools. The legislation, in its current form, creates significant inequalities which can lead to sustainability, funding and capital building disparities.

Our school is diverse and inclusive, attracting pupils from a large catchment area and from a wide range of religious, cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds. With strong community roots we have a proud tradition of providing a holistic, quality, value added education. Unfortunately, this Bill does not acknowledge or support the work carried out in most schools across the wider education system.

We are urging you to engage with your local MLAs about the Bill and we have attached a brief template and useful contacts which you may find helpful.

Thank you for your support

Yours faithfully

Rosemary Ronan

Principal

Sharing Excellent Practice

Laureate Winner 2004

Schools Curriculum

Award