

## Barbara Reilly

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**From:** Correspondence Unit <eCorrCorrespondenceUnit@education.gov.ie>  
**Sent:** 06 February 2019 11:59  
**To:** Barbara Reilly  
**Subject:** Department of Education and Skills

Ms. Barbara Reilly

[breilly@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:breilly@sdublincoco.ie)

PLEASE QUOTE REF NUMBER ON ALL CORRESPONDENCE.  
Our Ref: DES-CU-00494-2019

Dear Ms. Reilly

The Minister for Education and Skills, Mr. Joe McHugh T.D has asked me to respond to your recent email in relation to defects to schools in Lucan.

On 18th January last, the Department has commenced detailed investigations in each of the schools involved to determine and design permanent remediation solutions. This second-phase programme will focus initially on the bundle of 23 schools in which precautionary measures were implemented which includes Lucan East Educate Together, Griffeen Valley Educate Together and Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada in Lucan.

This second-phase assessment programme follows on from the initial structural assessments which were carried out in October and November 2018 at 42 schools constructed by Western Building Systems.

The initial assessments resulted in precautionary measures being put in place at 22 schools as an interim response.

John Sisk & Son has been appointed as the contractor to conduct the opening-up and testing works to facilitate the investigations. Ove Arup and Partners Ireland Limited (t/a Arup) has been appointed to carry out the investigations and to design the permanent engineering solutions as required for each individual school.

Five schools are scheduled for detailed assessments in the first tranche of the second phase programme. These are:

Presentation Convent NS Portarlinton

Carrigaline ETNS

Scoil Chaitlin Maude NS, Tallaght

Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada, Lucan

St. Paul's NS Ratoath

Investigation work in the primary schools will take place at weekends to prevent disruption to the schools. Three of those assessments have now been completed, the first at the Presentation Convent NS in Portarlinton, the second at Carrigaline ETNS in Cork and the third at Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada in Lucan. All

three were carried out over successive weekends to prevent disruption to the schools. Each school was open again on the following Monday morning.

With investigations in three of these schools now completed, a schedule for investigations in the remainder of the 23 schools in which precautionary measures were implemented is being developed on a rolling basis.

Building investigations in schools that did not require precautionary measures will be scheduled for the 2019 summer break, which includes Lucan Community National School.

The investigations will inform the permanent works required in the schools. The delivery of these works will be planned when the extent of the work needed is established. Works will be prioritised for delivery with the aim of maximising use of school holiday periods.

Precautionary measures will remain in place at the schools until permanent solutions have been implemented.

School principals are being kept fully informed and will be assisting with arrangements for the second phase assessments as these are arranged. School authorities are communicating directly with parents on developments.

Yours sincerely

Derek Newcombe

Private Secretary