

## 4 Essentials for Equality in Education

Educate Together is working towards a day when all children have access to a school that is truly inclusive and equality-based. Ireland needs a national network of Educate Together primary and secondary schools - schools that don't demand proof of religion at the school gate and don't segregate children along religious lines during the school day.

Educate Together is determined to make equality in education an election issue, and we need your help to do so. Please keep this canvas card handy so that you can ask election candidates when they call to your door to commit to **Educate Together's 4 Essentials for Equality in Education**.

**Your story:** please let us know how you get on. You can share your experiences on our Facebook page and you can tweet us @EducateTogether using the hashtags #GE16 and #EducateTogether. You can also email us candidates' replies on [election@educatetogether.ie](mailto:election@educatetogether.ie). For further information on these issues, please visit: [www.educatetogetherGE16.com](http://www.educatetogetherGE16.com).

**Thank you!**

### COMMITMENT

1

### PROVIDE 300 EQUALITY-BASED PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Currently there are only 77 Educate Together primary schools and more than 3,000 religious-run primary schools in Ireland. Candidates must commit to establishing a national network of 300 Educate Together primary schools. This would mean that all families in Ireland would have access to an equality-based school within 30 minutes travel time from their home.

### COMMITMENT

2

### PROVIDE 30 EQUALITY-BASED SECOND-LEVEL SCHOOLS

Currently there are only 4 Educate Together second-level schools in Ireland. Candidates must commit to developing a network of 30 Educate Together second-level schools. All students should have the choice of attending these groundbreaking schools that move away from 'teaching to the test' and towards an emphasis on the student.

### COMMITMENT

3

### PROVIDE REALISTIC FUNDING FOR ALL NEW SCHOOLS

Candidates must commit to providing the necessary grants for the establishment of all new schools in Ireland. Current funding doesn't come close to covering the real financial costs incurred by voluntary school patrons. Educate Together receives zero Government funding for the opening, establishment and support of our second-level schools. This needs to change.

### COMMITMENT

4

### PROVIDE FOR ALL CHILDREN EQUALLY

Candidates must commit to increasing investment in our education system. Funding for schools must be radically improved. Realistic, targeted funding must be in place so that children with additional needs can receive proper supports. All children deserve an equal chance.

Make **EQUALITY IN EDUCATION**  
an Election Issue in 2016



Educate  
Together

## EDUCATE TOGETHER'S ELECTION MANIFESTO

#GE16

#EducateTogether

[election@educatetogether.ie](mailto:election@educatetogether.ie)

[www.educatetogetherGE16.com](http://www.educatetogetherGE16.com)

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For Equality  
in Education