

Bíodh Oideachais i mbéal an phobal don Toghchán / *Make Education an Election Issue*

Ceisteanna Samplacha / *Possible Questions*

Dear Parents,

As we approach a likely general election, we must seize the opportunity to raise key issues affecting our children's education with canvassers and candidates. Education is the cornerstone of our society, and right now, our schools are facing significant challenges that the next government must address. Education was not an election issue in the previous election, only parents can ensure it is one this time.

We ask you to keep the following issues in mind when speaking with canvassers in the coming weeks and to raise these critical questions:

- What are your party's top priorities in education if elected?
- How does your party plan to address the enormous shortfalls in school funding?
 - Will there be any commitment to increasing capitation grants, and by how much?
- Ireland has the largest class sizes in the EU. What will your party do to reduce class sizes and ensure children get more individual attention from teachers?
- The current government set a target of having 400 multi-denominational schools by 2030, but the progress has been very slow, with only around 150 to date. What will your party do differently to meet this goal?
- How will your party ensure that students with additional needs receive the necessary resources and support in mainstream and special schools?
- Teacher recruitment and retention is a major issue, particularly in urban areas with high housing costs. How will your party make teaching an attractive profession and address housing concerns for teachers so that children have a qualified teacher teaching them?