



De La Salle Provincialate

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Mr Batt O'Keeffe TD
Minister for Education and Science
Office of the Secretary General
Department of Education and Science
Marlborough Street
Dublin 1.
29 October 2009.

Dear Mr O'Keeffe

"Re: An Taoiseach's request for a Contribution from the 18 Congregations in light of the findings of the Ryan Report".

The current Administration Team of the De La Salle Congregation in Ireland has been considering the Taoiseach's statement to the leaders of eighteen Religious Congregations on Wednesday 3 June 2009, in particular the following two points:

"The systemic nature of the findings and the sheer scale of the suffering endured by children and the grievous abuse of many of them in the care of organisations represented here mean that there is a moral responsibility to be faced ..."

"I want to convey to you directly the view of the Government that further substantial contributions are required by way of reparation"

In response, the current Administration Team wishes to state that the De La Salle Congregation does not consider that it has any "moral responsibility" in relation to the findings of the Ryan Commission because:

- the Congregation is not named in the Ryan Report;
- the Congregation takes all allegations of abuse seriously and treats complainants with justice and compassion;
- the Congregation cooperates fully with the Garda Síochána in any investigation into an allegation against any of its members; and
- compensation in response to allegations of abuse in any De La Salle school or institution is dealt with under civil law.



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However, as the De La Salle Congregation, was one of a number of Congregations and of other State establishments involved in the education of young people throughout this country, some of whom suffered abuse in the course of their education, it is prepared to make an ex gratia donation of €1m to a registered independent charitable trust.

This trust is to be set up:

- to promote the safeguarding of children now and into the future and
- to provide programmes to benefit and assist those who suffered abuse in the course of their education in any school or institution in this country.

This donation is subject to the terms of this trust being acceptable to the Congregation and the donation being in compliance with applicable charity and trust law.

Yours sincerely

Br Francis Manning.
Provincial.