

Draft Offaly County Development Plan 2021-2027". This submission relates to Chapter 9 section 6 entitled "Educational Services". To date there is no secondary school providing an education in Tullamore or the County of Offaly through the medium of Irish. Education through the Irish language is provided at pre-school level for example Naíonra Gaelach An Tulach Mhór <https://naionragaelach.wixsite.com/naionra> and at Primary School level for example Gaelscoil an Eiscir Riada <https://eriada.weebly.com/> since 1st September 1993. Students wishing to continue their education through the medium of Irish need to leave the county and travel as far as Cónaiste Íde in Dingle, Co. Kerry. Neighbouring towns of Athlone and Portlaoise both operate a co-location arrangement to facilitate teaching at secondary school level through the medium of Irish. As part of the 2021 – 2027 County Development Plan and as part of the Planning Role provision should be made that "adequate serviceable land is available in an appropriate location to meet current and envisage future requirements beyond the plan period." The serviced site needs to be close to an institute or institutions that can cater for both male and female students that wish to pursue a second level education through the medium of Irish

