



Message from the CDNM

We hope that all CDNT3 families are enjoying the summer holidays and finding opportunities for rest, fun, and quality time together.

Many families may be preparing for preschool or for a return to school and the routines that come with it. For some children and young people, this transition can bring excitement, while for others it may bring uncertainty or anxiety.

We encourage families to begin preparing gradually. You may find the following pages and resources helpful on our website:

- [Preparing for preschool](#)
- [Preparing for primary school](#)
- [Preparing for secondary school](#)

We wish everyone a smooth and positive transition to preschool or school and look forward to continuing to work with you in the months ahead.

To the young people transitioning to adulthood, we wish you very well. Congratulations!

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Staffing

CDNT3 operates at about 50% of our planned staffing levels. We continue our recruitment efforts for vacant posts.

We have reached a significant milestone as a team. All disciplines are now represented, strengthening our ability to provide interdisciplinary support to children and families.

We are particularly pleased to welcome Social Work to CDNT3. The addition of this vital discipline enhances our capacity to provide more holistic and family-centered support.

Caseload

Open and waitlist numbers

- **Open caseload: 257**
- **Children on our waiting list: 104**

Despite staffing challenges, the team continues to prioritise safety, quality, and meaningful supports for children and families.

Our last forum

Our family forum in June was an opportunity for parents and carers to connect with others experiencing similar challenges. Families found it helpful to hear about the experiences of others and to learn about available supports and resources.

The CDNM spoke about the strengths and expertise within the team, while acknowledging the impact that ongoing resource and staffing constraints can have on service delivery.

The forum included a workshop on the use of visual supports, highlighting practical strategies for families. For those who couldn't attend, you might find [our webpage on Visual Supports](#) helpful.

Thank you to our Family Representatives, Denise and Margaret, for their continued commitment and generosity in volunteering their time. Their contributions are greatly valued and play an important role in shaping and supporting the development of our family forums.

Our next forum



This will be on Tuesday, 3 November, from 7pm to 9pm. You will receive an invitation in the weeks beforehand. All parents and carers linked to our team are very welcome.

NCSE Parent Notify Form

The [National Council for Special Education \(NCSE\) Parent Notify Form](#) is for parents and guardians who are applying for a new Special Class or Special School placement for their child for September 2027.

The NCSE deadline for submitting the Parent Notify Form is **1 September 2026**.

Parents can submit the form through the online portal (linked to above).

Submit professional reports and supporting documents by **15 September 2026**, or as soon as possible after that date, if they are not yet available.

Any queries regarding the Parent Notify process or Special Class/Special School applications should be directed to the NCSE or your local SENO.

Further information can be found here:

<https://ncseproductionsa.blob.core.windows.net/assets/2026/07/Parents-Notify-Poster-English.pdf>

Getting Ready for School

Many children and young people will be starting in a new classroom or school setting. Changes in routine can bring a mixture of excitement and anxiety.

It can help to start getting back into routines a little at a time. Simple steps such as adjusting bedtimes, talking about school, looking at photos of teachers or classrooms, and using visual schedules can make the transition easier.

Every child is different and may need different levels of support. Focus on small successes, keep expectations realistic, and celebrate each step forward. We wish all our children, young people, and families a happy and positive start to the new school year.



Waiting list verification

Thank you to all the families who responded to our recent waiting list verification. These were sent out to families who have been on our waiting list the longest.

This process helps us make sure our information is up to date and that families still require our services. Keeping our records accurate helps us to plan supports and use our available resources as effectively as possible.

Please keep in touch and let us know:

- If your contact details change including home address
- If there have been significant changes in your child's needs or circumstances.

Calendar of events

We have recently run the following workshops for parents:

- Make and Take session – Visual supports
- Cygnet Programme for parents – Autism support

We will contact you about any training specific to you and your child as it becomes available.