



CSSC appoints Mark Baker as Chief Executive

CSSC Chair, Mark Orr QC is delighted to announce the appointment of Mark Baker as Chief Executive for the Controlled Schools' Support Council (CSSC). It is expected that Mark will take up the position in mid-June. [Read full story here.](#)



Leading ethos in controlled schools

Principal, Wayne Brown, Tandragee Junior High School talks to CSSC Schools' Support Officer, Andrew Brown, about the importance of ethos and the role of Governors in developing and leading ethos in schools. [Watch video here.](#)



Renewed focus on educational underachievement welcomed by CSSC

The Expert Panel on Educational Underachievement in Northern Ireland has released its interim report. The document focuses on eight key themes, which have been identified through a robust evidence gathering process. The themes identified range from early years to school leadership. [Read interim report here.](#)



Department of Education consultation

The Department of Education (DE) has launched a consultation to review the current legal requirement that pre-school education settings must prioritise children from 'socially disadvantaged circumstances' in their admissions criteria. View the consultation [here.](#)



Communication Workshops

CSSC is planning a number of communication workshops for controlled schools. If you are interested in these workshops [please complete this quick survey.](#)

Grants for Investigative Research Projects for Students with SEND (UK)

The Royal Society has now released

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funding for special schools for STEM projects. Schools can apply for funding of up to £3,000 to support investigative research projects that are specifically tailored for students with SEND. Deadline end of May. [Find out more here.](#)



Minister visits Fountain Primary School and Nursery Unit

Education Minister, Peter Weir MLA was welcomed to Fountain Primary School where he was interested to hear about the school's 'nurture provision'. The Minister toured the school and took time to chat to pupils and staff. [Full story here.](#)



Braniel Nursery and Primary School celebrate return to school

Braniel Nursey and Primary School received a warm welcome on their return to school. [Read full story here.](#)



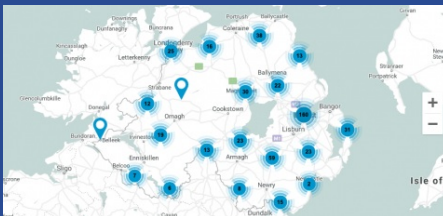
Down High scores £3,000 sports Investment

Congratulations to Down High School, one of 40 secondary schools awarded £3,000 worth of vouchers to secure essential brand new sports equipment as part of Lidl NI's Sport for Good initiative. 23 controlled schools received funding through initiative. [Read full details here.](#)



Big Breakfast for Belfast Boys Model School

Belfast Boys Model School welcomed back pupils in Years 12, 13 and 14 with an extra special Big Breakfast. [Read more here.](#)



Find your school support officer

You can find your CSSC school support officer through our [interactive map](#). Please get in touch if you have anything you wish to discuss, or we can support in any way.

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