

IRISH ASSOCIATION AUTUMN LUNCH
Wynn's Hotel, Saturday 19th November 2016 at 1.00pm



Post-Lunch Speaker: Diarmaid Mac Aonghusa, Chair, Educate Together

Diarmaid has been a member of the Educate Together Board since 2009, becoming Chairperson in 2011 and is also on the board of the Educate Together Academy Trust in the UK. He is Managing Director of web and mobile app development specialists, Fusio Ltd.

Integrated education and, in particular, access to an education of choice is an increasingly important issue, North & South. **Educate Together** is the patron body of a growing network of schools in Ireland that guarantee equality of access and esteem to children "irrespective of their social, cultural or religious background", are learner centred in their approach to education and are run as participatory democracies, with respectful partnership between parents, pupils and teachers.

Educate Together has a network of 81 primary schools and nine second-level schools across Ireland. It opened its first school in England (Bristol) in 2014, with further schools to be opened in 2017. In addition to established schools there are start-up groups in communities hoping to have Educate Together primary or second-level schools opened in their area.

We also look forward to Irish Association members and others that have been or are currently involved in the Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education (NICIE) and related activities being present on Saturday 19th November.