1st February 2021

Dear Families,

I hope you are keeping well during these challenging times.

I am writing to inform you of an update on Progressing Disabilities Services (PDS) for Dublin North City and County (DNCC). Some families and guardians are very familiar with PDS and for others it is very new. St. Michael's House is very aware that PDS will mean a change in the model of service for your child.

As you may be aware, PDS is a national programme that will change the way children (aged 0-18 years) and their families' access and receive disability services. It aims to provide a fairer pathway to clinical supports. PDS has already happened in other parts of the country and is being rolled out in Dublin this year.

The agencies providing clinical services to children with disabilities in north Dublin are all working together to keep you fully informed of forthcoming changes. These include; Central Remedial Clinic, Daughters of Charity, St. Michael's House and the HSE.

The enclosed leaflet details the 12 Children Disability Network Teams (CDNT) for north Dublin. It also shows the service provider for each network team. Your child will receive their service from one of these teams.

The network team will be formed with staff from St Michael's House and other providers. Each will be managed by a Children's Disability Network Manager (CDNM). St Michael's House is the service provider for 4 of these network teams.

PDS services are based on where you live this will mean that some families will no longer receive clinical services from St Michael's House, as your child service will be provided by the network team for your area. I understand the transition may take time but please be assured St Michael's House will support you during these changes.

## Important information:

- St Michael's House is working with all the service providers to plan this change and to support your child's transition.
- Your child's current service within St. Michael's House will continue until the new network teams are in place.
- Your child's current clinical guidelines, programmes and outstanding referrals will transfer to you a new team.
- Children who attend Special Schools where St Michael's House is the patron body, will be supported by the network team based on the school's address, this may be reviewed over time.
- Children on a waitlist for the School Age Disability Team will transfer to the team where they live.

We have set up a designated email address for any queries or concerns you may have. Progressingdisabilities@smh.ie

You can also get in touch with your key contact or a member of your child's team.

If you would like future PDS communication by email please forward your email details to <a href="mailto:Progressingdisabilities@smh.ie">Progressingdisabilities@smh.ie</a> We will add you to the mail out list to ensure you receive information in a timely manner.

I recognise PDS may result in a significant change for families. St Michael's House want to support you, as your child and family move into their new team.

Families will be updated in March/April with specific information on your child's network team location, team members and network manager.

Yours sincerely,

Liz Reynolds Chief Executive

St. Michael's House