

# *100th Council Meeting*



Commemorative Booklet



# Foreword



**Donal Flanagan**  
Chief Executive

The 100th Council meeting, held in December 2005, was a milestone event in the history of CCMS. It provided us with a unique opportunity to both celebrate our past and recognise the significant achievements since our establishment in 1989.

To commemorate the 100th Council meeting we have produced this booklet, which presents a brief history of the Council and highlights a range of key developments.

However, this booklet cannot fully capture the determination, commitment and professionalism of the Members and Officers, who, through their wisdom, knowledge and tenacity, ensured that CCMS has become a major influence in the Education Service in Northern Ireland.

Nor can it fully do justice to the countless number of Governors, Principals and Teachers, whose unstinting endeavours and professionalism, have made such a difference to the life chances and learning outcomes of so many young people.

That Catholic education has rid itself of the caricature of the early eighties, when underachievement, poor buildings, nepotism and weak management prevailed, is testament to the vision and wisdom of the Trustees, whose plan it was to establish an upper tier of management for Catholic Maintained schools.

Both then and now, the fact remains, that the commitment and active participation of the Trustees to Catholic schools and the distinctive ethos which permeates Catholic education, are fundamental to the future of a vibrant and inclusive system of education.

For my part, having led the Council since 1993, I have been privileged to have worked with so many gifted, generous and dedicated men and women, whose friendship and loyalty I have enjoyed. During this period I have witnessed significant growth within CCMS, not only in terms of staffing complement, but also in the confidence and influence of the Council as a body.

There have been so many developments that it is impossible to record them all in this short booklet, but two which remain significant for me, were the Council's decision to establish a Teacher Welfare Service and the agreement to abolish Academic Selection.

Whilst we celebrate our achievements and history with this booklet, we also pause to reflect on the difficult times for CCMS. For me, these have included the sudden and untimely death of our colleague, Brendan Smyth Senior Management Officer, Derry Diocesan Office and the Holy Cross protests in Belfast.

Finally, I wish to thank the Project Team for compiling this Booklet and all those, who in some way contributed to it.

## Origins of the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools

During his key-note address, at the 100th Council meeting, held in December 2005, the Most Reverend Patrick Walsh, Bishop of Down and Connor, reflected on the origins of CCMS. The following is an extract from his address;

“*As a father figure of CCMS I have been invited today to tell the story of CCMS on this historic day. It is a story which goes back to 1969 and the setting up of the Catholic Maintained Schools Commission and the Diocesan Committees, in response to the 1968 Amendment to the 1947 Education Act, and the establishment of management committees for all grant-aided schools.*

*The story of that Commission, a purely voluntary group, could well be told by Monsignor McCaughan, who, virtually single-handed guided that Commission for almost twenty years. Then in 1977, onto the scene came Professor Alan Astin, Professor of Ancient History at Queens University, asked by the Government to “take a completely new look at the way schools should be managed in Northern Ireland”.*

*In its Report, Professor Astin’s Committee proposed – indeed in one sentence they used the word ‘suggested’, and it is of interest that it was not a formal recommendation- the Committee proposed the setting up of “an upper tier of management for the Catholic Voluntary Maintained Sector.*

This proposal was seen, both by the Trustees and by the Department of Education, to have great merit and there were ongoing communications, leading to a formal meeting on 3rd May 1985, between the Education Minister and representatives of the Maintained Schools Commission. At that meeting it was proposed to the Bishops the setting up of a Working Group of Departmental Officials and Representatives of the Maintained Schools’ Commission, to report to the Minister and to the Bishops.

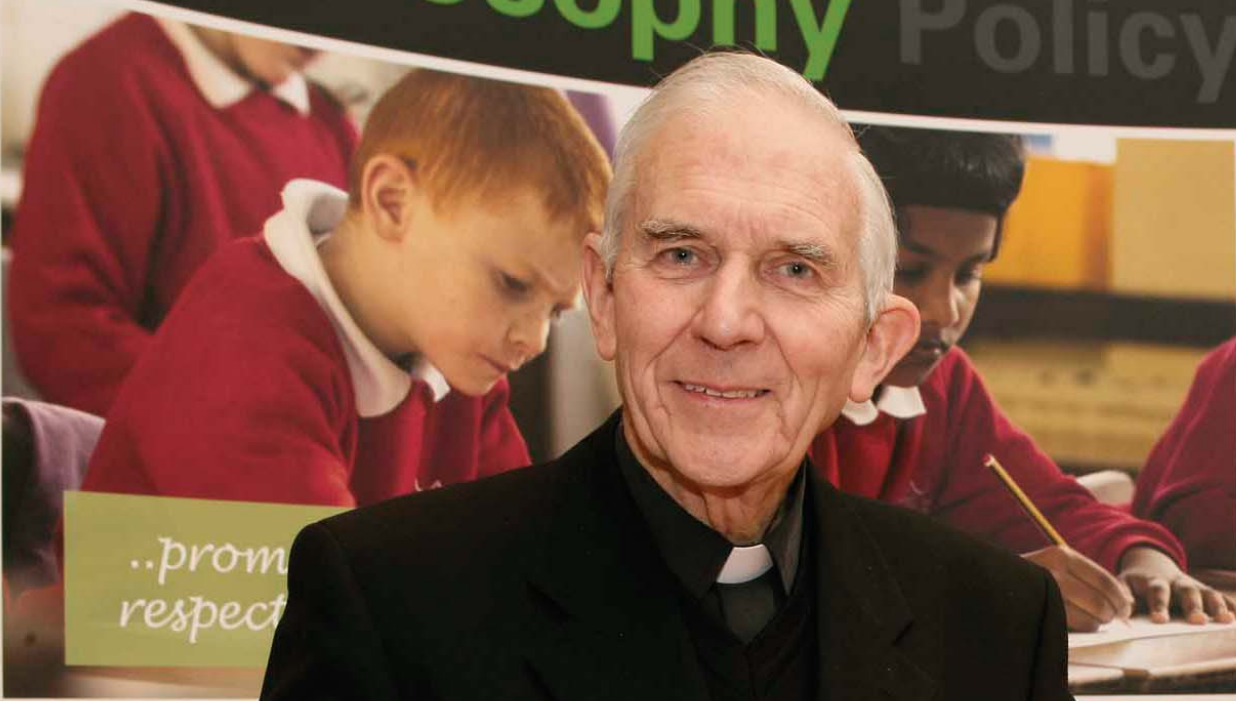
There was no delay in the setting up of this Working Group, which held its first meeting on 23rd August 1985. Two further meetings were held before the end of the year and in between, there was ongoing communication and informal meetings. The meetings were business-like but most amiable. There was a clear common sense of purpose. The Department recognised the rights of Bishops as Trustees, and they wanted the approval of the Bishops at each stage of negotiations, before proceeding to the next stage.

There were ongoing meetings of the Bishops, who were taking the matter very seriously, and the Bishop General of Dromore, Bishop Edward Daly of Derry and myself were meeting frequently and reporting back to the full meeting of the Northern Bishops.

It was very clear from the beginning that the Department of Education wanted the upper tier of management to have “authority and responsibility”, and so it would be a statutory body, funded by the Department of Education. The Department proposed three Diocesan Committees, Derry with Clogher, Armagh with Dromore and Down and Connor, whereas the Bishops were very insistent that if the upper tier and the Diocesan Committees were to have teeth, then there had to be five Committees. Both sides wanted this new enterprise to work effectively and so the Department agreed to five Diocesan Committees. It was also agreed that the upper tier would be called the Council for Catholic Education.

100th Council Meeting

# Philosophy Policy Performance



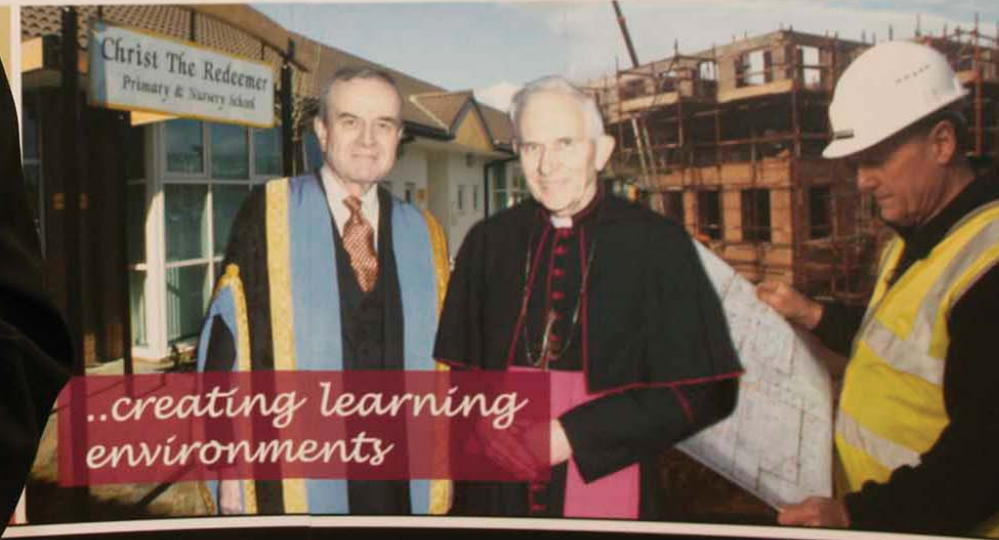
*..promote respect*



*...excellence for all*



*ers*



*..creating learning environments*

# Philosophy Plant People

Po

There were ongoing discussions though no formal meetings as such all during 1986 and at the beginning of 1987. The fourth formal meeting was held on 5th March 1987 to agree the final set of proposals.

On 9th April 1987, the formal Report of the Working Group was sent to the Minister, now Brian Mawhinney, and to Cardinal O'Fiaich. I will quote from the covering letter signed by Mr Martin and Monsignor McLarnon which was issued to the Cardinal:

*"Our main recommendation is for the establishment, by Statute, of a single management body, the Catholic Education Council, supporting the five Diocesan Education Committees. The Council would appoint and employ all teachers in Catholic Maintained schools and would exercise certain other functions in policy formulation and negotiation for that sector."*

The Report was accepted both by the Minister and by the Northern Bishops and a formal meeting between Dr Mawhinney and the Northern Bishops was fixed for 29th May 1987, for the joint acceptance of the Report.

Before the meeting was finally arranged for Monday, 27th July at 11 am in Rathgael House, I received a phone call from Mr Martin that the Minister was having last minute serious worries about the title, "Catholic Education Council". It wasn't clear what the particular worries were.

At the meeting Dr Mawhinney proposed the title "Council for Catholic Maintained Schools", as he had reservations with the words "Catholic Education" not so much with the word "Catholic" as with the words "Catholic Education". The Bishops accepted the proposed title. The formal announcements were made by the Minister and by the Bishops on 30th July and again, I will quote from the Minister's statement:

*"The Council will have a number of specific functions in relation to Catholic Maintained Schools. These will include administering procedures for the appointment, promotion, dismissal and disciplining of teachers. It will centrally appoint and employ all teachers in Catholic Maintained Schools and be responsible for their deployment. It will oversee schools' management and coordinate planning and rationalisation within the Maintained Schools sector... There is an acknowledged need for the sector to be able to deliver a more coordinated, progressive curriculum to all its schools. To do this, the Council needs to be in a position effectively to manage the sector as well as to set educational standards within it."*

# 100th Council Meeting

# 1988-1990

As legislation would be required for the establishment of a Statutory Body it had been agreed between the Bishops and the Department and now with the Minister that an Interim Council would be established and that its director would be Father Colm McCaughan.

The first meeting of the Interim Council for Catholic Maintained Schools was held in Holywood on 23rd February 1988. The members were welcomed by Bishop Cahal Daly, Bishop of Down and Connor, on behalf of the Northern Bishops. At that first meeting of the Council I was proposed as Chairman by Sean Doherty, seconded by Jim Kincade and so began my long association with CCMS.

At this stage, as was both right and fitting, Father McCaughan - had become Monsignor McCaughan, the Director of the Interim Council. At the third meeting of the Council Paddy McCavera was appointed Deputy Director, Maurice Moroney as Secretary and Administrative Officer and John Colgan, Kay McCaul and Anita Curry were appointed Education Officers for Primary Schools, and Declan

O'Kelly and Jim Clarke as Education Officers for Secondary Schools. It was interesting to note the very high number of candidates who were short-listed and interviewed for all these posts.

In all, there were seventeen meetings of the Interim Council up to and including 8th March 1990. When the first meeting of the Statutory Council was held on 5th April 1990 Monsignor McCaughan, the Director, took the chair until I was elected Chairman, proposed by John McGarvey and seconded by Jimmy Smyth. So today, 1st December 2005, we hold the 100th Meeting of the Statutory Council for Catholic Maintained Schools.

## 1988-1990 Council

**Chairman:** The Most Rev P Walsh DD  
**Vice-Chairperson:** Mrs M Cullen

- The Most Rev F G Brooks DD DCL
- The Most Rev Monsignor S Cahill PP VG
- The Most Rev E Daly DD
- The Very Rev Canon L McEntegart PP VG
- Rev P MacEntee
- Mr V Cassidy
- Mr B Collins
- The Rt Rev Monsignor M Dallat PP VG
- Mr S Doherty BA DMS
- The Rt Rev Monsignor A Duffy PP VG
- Rev Bro M Garvey CB
- The Very Archdeacon E Hamill PP VG
- Sr O McConville BA PGCE MScEd
- Dr J J McGarvey PhD
- Sr C O'Brien OP
- Rev C O'Byrne CC
- Mrs M Pedersen
- Mr J Smyth BA PGCE
- Mr P Conway
- Mrs M Davey
- Mr T Donaghy MA
- Dr J Kincade MA BliT PhD
- Dr M Moloney PhD
- Mr E W Napier ACA
- Mr D Nesbitt BSc (Econ)
- Mr R M Nicholson MBE

## 1989 - 1993 Council

141.- (1) There shall be established a body to be known as the Council for Catholic Maintained Schools (in this Part referred to as "the Council").

### *Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989*

The Council of 1989 – 1993 can be characterised as driven and motivated by the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 and findings of the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights in 1991.

Although an interim Council had been operating since 1987, the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order, formally established the Council as a Statutory Body with responsibility for the appointment, promotion and re-deployment of all primary and secondary school teachers within the Maintained Sector.



First CCMS Annual Conference held at the Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle in October 1989. Pictured 5th and 6th from the left are Cardinal's Basil Hume and Thomas O'Fiach.

# 1989 - 1993

## 1990 - 1993 Council

**Chairman:** The Most Rev P Walsh DD  
**Vice-Chairperson:** Mrs M Cullen

- The Most Rev F G Brooks DD DCL
- The Rt Rev Monsignor S Cahill PP VG,
- The Most Rev E Daly DD
- Rev L McDaid
- The Rt Rev Monsignor L McEntegart PP VG
- Rev Bro P S Carroll MA
- Mr V Cassidy
- Mr B Collins
- The Rt Rev Monsignor M Dallat PP VG
- Mr S Doherty BA DMS
- The Rt Rev Monsignor A Duffy PP VG
- The Very Archdeacon E Hamill PP VG
- Sr O McConville BA PGCE MScEd
- Dr J J McGarvey PhD
- The Very Rev I McQuillan BA BD MPhil
- Sr C O'Brien OP
- Rev C O'Byrne CC
- Mrs M Pedersen
- Mr J Smyth BA PGCE
- Mr D Allen, Mr P Conway (resigned June 1990)
- Mr J O Corrigan FCA
- Mrs M Davey (resigned November 1990)
- Mr T Donaghy MA
- Dr J Kincade MA BliT PhD (resigned June 1990)
- Dr M Moloney PhD
- Mr E W Napier ACA
- Mr J Simpson BSc (Econ)
- Mr J V Simpson BSc (Econ)
- Mrs E Waterson MBE
- Mr O Doogan
- Mrs M Gallagher (resigned October 1992)
- Mr A McCann (resigned June 1990)
- Mr D McMonagle
- Mr S McElhatton (resigned December 1991)
- Mrs O J McGillion (resigned October 1992)
- Mr J McNeill
- Mrs K Walls (resigned January 1993)

Under the Order, a new 36-member Council was appointed and five statutory Diocesan Education Committees were established in Armagh, Clogher with Kilmore, Derry, Down and Connor and Dromore. The Council was also given responsibility for the overseeing of schools' management, coordinating planning, rationalisation and curriculum initiatives.

During this period, the Council undertook to examine ways of implementing the new curriculum arrangements, developing a scheme of management for Governors and guiding Trustees on building developments. Indeed, after lobbying from CCMS and the Northern Bishops, the Government conceded full capital funding for Catholic Schools, in line with that given to state schools.

Another significant development was the findings from the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights Report, in 1991, which identified that 16% of Catholic children failed all examinations and 30% of Catholic boys left secondary schools without any qualifications. In response to the report, CCMS had set up a working party to examine the achievements of Catholic pupils. Bishop Edward Daly chaired the Achievements Working Party, with contributions from leading industrialists and educationalists. This report gave an impetus and focus to the Council's work for the next three years.

## 1993 - 1997 Council

The new Council of 1993 – 1997, immediately built upon the strong foundations already laid by their predecessors by recognising the problems which existed, offering solutions to address the needs of the Catholic Maintained Sector and embracing the challenges which lay ahead.

Of immediate concern to the Council were the problems identified by the Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights report. Their report had provided the basis for the work of the Council's Achievements working party and, in May 1993, the working group published its report. The report identified that the process of failure for Catholic pupils began in primary schools and that more nursery schools were required. The report further recognized that selection, through the 11-plus, contributed to children's under-achievement and that the policy of open enrolment was concentrating problems in particular schools.

In response, the working group recommended that there should be an end to academic selection, an increase in nursery provision and interventionist programmes in both primary and pre-primary education.



The Nursery Working Group: Left to right are Canon O'Byrne, Donal Flanagan, Bishop Dallat, Kay McCaul and Martin Donnelly

# 1993-1997

These recommendations were instrumental in setting the agenda for the Council's work, most notably, in the establishment of the Nursery Working group in 1995, which examined the provision of Nursery education in the Catholic Sector. Their report, 'Nursery Education – a key to the future' was to play a significant part in informing the debate about the future of Nursery education provision in Northern Ireland.

In 1995, the Council recognised the changing political and social environment within Northern Ireland, with the publication 'Education for Mutual Understanding – A Vision'. This influential publication encapsulated the Councils' belief that central to education for mutual understanding, was the need to foster respect, and an appreciation of all cultural traditions.

Perhaps, one of the most important documents produced by the Council in 1996, was 'Life to the Full – A Vision for Catholic Education'. Central to this document, was an explanation for Principals and teachers, of the aims and purposes of the Catholic School. It underscored the sense of moral purpose, spiritual well-being and Catholic ethos, which was at the heart of the school community. For many, 'Life to the Full' remains a seminal publication which has informed Catholic Education throughout the world.

## 1993- 1997 Council

**Chairman:** The Most Rev M Dallat DD  
**Vice-Chairperson:** Mrs M Pederson Cert Ed Dip Art OBE

- The Most Rev F G Brooks DD DCL
- The Most Rev F Lagan DD
- Most Rev P J Walsh DD
- The Most Rev Monsignor S Cahill PP VG
- Mrs P Carville
- Mr B Curran Cert Ed Dip PE
- Mr S Doherty BA DMS
- The Rt Rev Dean E Hamill VF
- Mr F Magee BA Dip Ed MSc
- Dr A Moran BEd MSc D Phil
- The Very Rev J Mullin Adm
- Sr O McConville BA PGCE MSc Ed
- The Rt Rev Monsignor L McEntegart VG
- Mr E McGrade Cert Ed BA MSc
- The Very Rev I McQuillan BA BD MPhil
- The Very Rev Canon C O'Byrne PP
- Mr J Smyth BA PGCE
- Mrs M R Cooper (resigned June 1996)
- Mr J O Corrigan FCA
- Mrs M McAvoy
- Mr G J Murray (resigned September 1995)
- Dr R Rodgers MA FRSA (resigned September 1995)
- Mr J Simpson BSc (Econ)
- Mr J V Simpson BSc (Econ)
- Mrs E Waterson MBE
- Mrs A Jenkins
- Mrs I McCartan
- Mrs P McCourt (reigned May 1996)
- Mrs C Quinn
- Mrs M Russell BSc FC optom
- Mr B Kyne BEd Cert PGCE
- Miss M Murray BEd DASE
- Mr O A McCaffrey Cert Ed Dip PE
- Mrs N McMorrow Cert Ed DASE

## 1997 - 2001 Council

With the signing of the Good Friday Agreement and the creation of a Northern Ireland Assembly, the new Council embraced the optimism of a new future and a commitment to further raising the benchmark of standards within the Catholic Maintained Sector.

With a new political and social landscape evolving, the Council of 1997, immediately focussed its attention on progressing the recommendations of the 'Achievements Working Group' and, in particular, the area of selection.

Two important pieces of work on selection, were undertaken by the Council during this period. In 1998, the Council published 'Selection, a Considered Perspective' and 'Selection a Position Statement'. In the latter paper, the Council called for a research programme in respect of selection.

The impact of these two reports encouraged the Department of Education to initiate a review programme, which culminated in the Gallagher & Smith Report. Their report reiterated the view, already expressed by the Council in its 1998 Position Paper, which called for any future debate to be couched in terms of 'fitness for purpose', rather than a precipitive discussion on structured tones.



The publication of 'Partnership for Quality', in 1999, served to continue the progress already made in raising standards within Catholic Maintained Education. This document explored the professional aspects of teaching and principalship, and the interaction between the teaching community and Governors.

Another milestone in education was the development of the Teacher Welfare Service, the first service of its kind in Northern Ireland. The Welfare service provided an invaluable support network for addressing the health and wellbeing of teachers through policies and guidance for schools.

< Donal Flanagan, Chief Executive of CCMS with Martin McGuinness MLA, Former Education Minister, at the launch of the 'Partnership for Quality' Booklet, 1999.

# 1997-2001

With the new century came fresh challenges and a new vigour to push forward the agenda of ending selection. The Council continued to play a vigorous role as advocate for the Catholic Maintained Sector in educational, social and other contexts.

The Council responded to the public consultation on the Burns Report 'Education for the 21st Century', on behalf of the trustees and principals. This emerged after significant debate within the Council and its partners and gave a very clear endorsement of a way forward for Catholic Education. The Council called for an end to Selection and for the creation of local solutions. These solutions, they recommended might be in the form of campus arrangements, based on an agreed policy framework, which would reflect equity of access to high quality provision, and to a reasonable choice of educational routes, subjects and courses.

## 1997 - 2001 Council

**Chairman:** The Most Rev M Dallat DD, RIP (deceased, September 2000)  
The Most Rev P Walsh DD (nominated December 2000)

**Vice-Chairperson:** Mrs P Carville

- Most Rev F Lagan DD
- The Most Rev F G Brooks DD DCL (retired August 1999),
- The Most Rev J McAreevey DD (appointed September 1999)
- The Rt Rev Monsignor S Cahill PP VG
- Fr R Devine
- Mr S Doherty BA DMS
- Sr C Fanning
- Very Rev Canon A Hamill
- Br D Gleeson
- Mr F Magee BA Dip Ed MSc
- Professor A Moran BEd MSc D Phil
- The Very Rev J Mullin Adm
- Sr O McConville BA PGCE MSc Ed (resigned July 2001)
- The Rt Rev Monsignor L McEntegart PP VG
- Mr E McGrade Cert Ed BA MSc
- The Very Rev I McQuillan BA BD MPhil (resigned September 1998)
- The Very Rev Canon C O'Byrne PP
- Mr J Smyth BA PGCE
- Mr I Davidson
- Mr S McArdle
- Mr P McCartan
- Miss C McKinney
- Mr R Mowbray (appointed February 2002)
- Mr K Reid OBE, RIP (deceased May 2001)
- Miss P Sheils (appointed February 2000)
- Mr J Smyth
- Mrs E Waterson (term ended June 1999)
- Mrs B Cassidy
- Mrs C McKeever (resigned August 1999)
- Mrs C Quinn
- Mrs M Russell BSc FC optom
- Mrs C Gallagher
- Miss K Lagan (resigned August 1999)
- Mrs C Mackel
- Mr E O'Hagan

## 2001 - 2005 Council

The initial optimism of a new future for Northern Ireland and of local politicians making local decisions was diminished by the suspension of the Northern Ireland Assembly and the return to Direct Rule. With the appointment of a new Council, attention was turned to advancing the selection debate and the recommendations of the Costello working group.



Mrs Geraldine Murphy, Principal of St Genevieve's High School and Bishop Patrick Walsh, at the opening of the new school in February 2002.

In February 2001, The Council issued its response to the Review Body on Post Primary Education. In it, the Council recognised that the Demographic downturn could hold both constraints and opportunities. Furthermore the Council recognised the relationship between schooling and future society. The Council called for a systemic review of education and a review of the issues raised in its position paper.

The Costello Report highlighted significant weaknesses in current transfer and post-primary arrangements, which they commented, worked well for some but not for others. The Report also highlighted the prevalence of pupil inequality within Northern Ireland's Education System. At the heart of the Costello Report were the following principles child-centred equality, quality, relevance, access, and the education service needs to provide, choice, respect and partnership.

The Costello Report recommended the development of alternative transfer procedures, with a view to the current



Costello Working Group - Top left is Jim Clarke, Deputy Chief Executive of CCMS and next to him, Bishop Donal McKeown.

Transfer Tests being withdrawn as soon as practicable.

- The development of a Pupil Profile to inform parental and pupil choice;
- Access for all young people to a broader curriculum providing greater choice;

- Flexible arrangements, that can meet the developing needs of young people;
- Greater co-operation and collaboration among schools and with the Further Education Sector.

# 2001-2005

It is not surprising that the recommendations outlined by the Costello Report had already been identified by the Council previously. It is notable that the recommendations of the Council on Selection and the future for education within Northern Ireland can be found extensively within the Report itself.

Pivotal to the Council's work during this period was the publication of two influential and far reaching documents. 'Proclaiming the Mission', outlined the challenges facing Catholic Education and emphasised the key role of Catholic Ethos in Catholic education. It also provided the foundation of 'Building Peace Shaping the Future', a crucial document which highlighted the Council's commitment to promoting a culture of tolerance, respect, reconciliation and diversity within Catholic Schools.

The Council continued to support the Professional Qualification for Headship Programme, through its encouragement of teachers to apply, and its commitment to the selection process.

2005 saw the release of Risk Assessment and Pastoral Care documents. As Health and Safety measures in schools are subjected to ever greater scrutiny, the publication of this Risk Assessment document demonstrated the commitment of CCMS to the welfare of all of its pupils and staff alike.

The Pastoral Care document didn't set in stone a set of directives and procedures to be rigidly adhered to, rather it was designed to act as a catalyst, identifying six areas of pastoral care and providing inspiration for principals to find answers for themselves.

Perhaps the most far-reaching development and one which would have significant implications for the Council's future was the Review of Public Administration announced in 2005.



Left to right: Donal Flanagan, Chief Executive of CCMS; Jim Clarke, Deputy Chief Executive of CCMS; Arch Bishop Sean Brady; Seamus Barnes and Tom Armstrong at the CGCE Conference in Limavady



Regional Training Unit Conference for new Principals.



Ruth Kelly MP, Education Minister (centre photograph) at the 40th Anniversary Celebration at Altishane Primary School in Dunamanagh, June 2005.

In 2003, the Council published its response on the Review of Public Administration, the largest examination in 30 years, of the organisation and delivery of public services in Northern Ireland. It was initiated by the devolved executive, before the assembly was suspended in October 2002.

In their consultation response, the Council acknowledged that there was a need for change within the Education sector, and they offered a number of specific proposals to support the implementation of the review. The Council, in response to the Review, conveyed the view that CCMS should remain a Statutory Body, and should retain its status as an Employing Authority. Furthermore, although the Council recognised, and, indeed, welcomed reform within the education sector, they were keen to underline the importance of preserving ethos within Catholic schools.

November 2005 saw the announcement by the Secretary of State of the Review of Public Administration. This Review recommended that CCMS' role be reduced to that of an advisory rather than a statutory body. It is not surprising that this announcement informed the business at the 100th Council meeting.

# 100th Council Meeting

## 2001 - 2005 Council

**Chairman:** The Most Rev J McAveavey DD  
**Vice-Chairperson:** Mrs P Carville

- Mr J Beatty
- The Rt Rev Monsignor S Cahill PP VG
- Very Rev R Devine PP
- Mr S Doherty BA DMS
- Mr F Donnelly (appointed November 2002)
- Mr H Goodman
- The Rt Rev Monsignor A Hamill
- Most Rev F Lagan DD
- Sr A Lyng
- The Very Rev Canon J Mullin Adm
- Rev P McAnenly (resigned August 2002)
- The Rt Rev Monsignor L McEntegart PP VG
- The Very Rev D McKeown DD
- The Rt Rev Monsignor C O'Byrne PP
- Dr M Reynolds
- Mr S Smith
- Mr J Smyth BA PGCE
- The Most Rev P Walsh DD
- Sr E Woulfe SSL
- Mr I Davidson
- Mrs C Edwards
- Mr G Mallon (appointed February 2005)
- Mr D Millie
- Mr S McArdle
- Mr P McCartan
- Mr R Mowbray (resigned April 2003)
- Miss P Sheils
- Mr J Smyth
- Ms C Clark
- Mrs P Lamph
- Mr S Nealis
- Mrs B Strain
- Mrs K Cassidy (resigned June 2003)
- Mrs M Haughey,
- Mr N McElholm (resigned February 2004)
- Mr C McKenna



Bishop John McAveavey, Chairman of CCMS (far right) is joined by delegates including Marion Matchett, Chief Inspector of Department of Education at the CGCE Conference in Limavady.



Angela Smith MP, NI Education Minister at Holy Cross College, Strabane, December 2005.



Left to right: Donal Flanagan, Chief Executive of CCMS; Pat Carvill, Vice Chairperson of CCMS; Former Education Minister, Martin McGuinness MLA; Ivan Davidson CCMS Council Member; Bishop McAveavey, Chairman of CCMS.

## 100th Council Meeting

The Council for Catholic Maintained Schools marked an important milestone in its history with a celebration of its past and present achievements, at its 100th Council meeting.



Bishop Anthony Farquhar and Miss Frances Butler, Principal of St. Genevieve's.

The meeting, which took place at St. Genevieve's High School in Belfast on Thursday 1st December 2005, was unique as was the first time that CCMS had held a Council meeting outside of its Holywood headquarters.

Speaking of the celebrations, Principal of St. Genevieve's High School, Frances Butler said,

*"It is indeed an honour that CCMS have chosen to celebrate their achievements by holding their 100th Council meeting at our school. We are now in our fourth academic year on the Trench House site, and continue to appreciate the magnificent accommodation and resources now available to us."*

Since its establishment in 1989, CCMS has become the largest employer of teachers in Northern Ireland and continues to play a central role in supporting teachers through its welfare service trustees, in the provision of school buildings and governors and principals, in the effective management and control of schools.

To mark the 100th Council meeting, past and present Council members were invited to attend a dinner to celebrate the achievements of CCMS, as a flagship educational body.

Speaking of the celebrations, Donal Flanagan, Chief Executive of CCMS said;

*"CCMS are delighted to be marking our 100th Council meeting with a celebration of our past, recognition of our present and optimism for our future. Without doubt we now exist within a changing educational environment and new challenges do lie ahead. However, CCMS will continue to be a progressive organisation, embracing change and leading through influence."*

*100th Council Meeting*



Donal Flanagan, Chief Executive of CCMS; Jim Clarke, Deputy Chief Executive of CCMS and Nigel Hamilton, Head of Northern Ireland Civil Service.



Sean Doherty and Monsignor Bartley



Terry Murphy from CCMS

Guests attending, had the opportunity to view exhibitions and displays from CCMS schools as well as hearing key-note speeches from Mr Gerry McGinn, Permanent Secretary of the Department of Education, Reverend Patrick Walsh, Bishop of Down and Connor and Bishop John McAreavey, Chairman of CCMS.



Sister McConville and Martin Donnelly CCMS



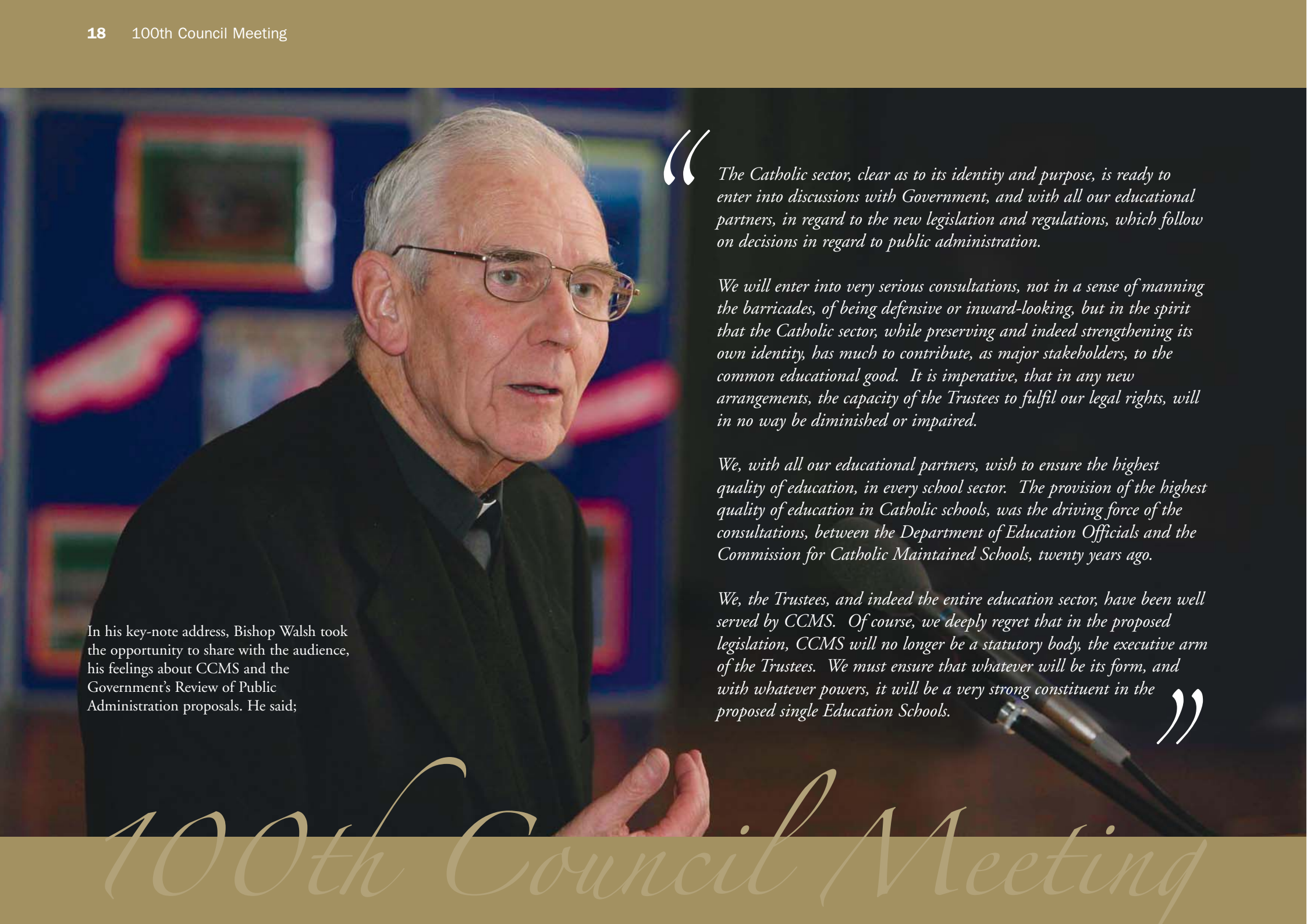
Mrs Jocelyn Wallace, Mr Eddie Eccles, Mrs Alison Russell.



Dr McGarvey and Mr Sean McArdle



Monsignor McEntegart and Monsignor McCaughan.



In his key-note address, Bishop Walsh took the opportunity to share with the audience, his feelings about CCMS and the Government's Review of Public Administration proposals. He said;

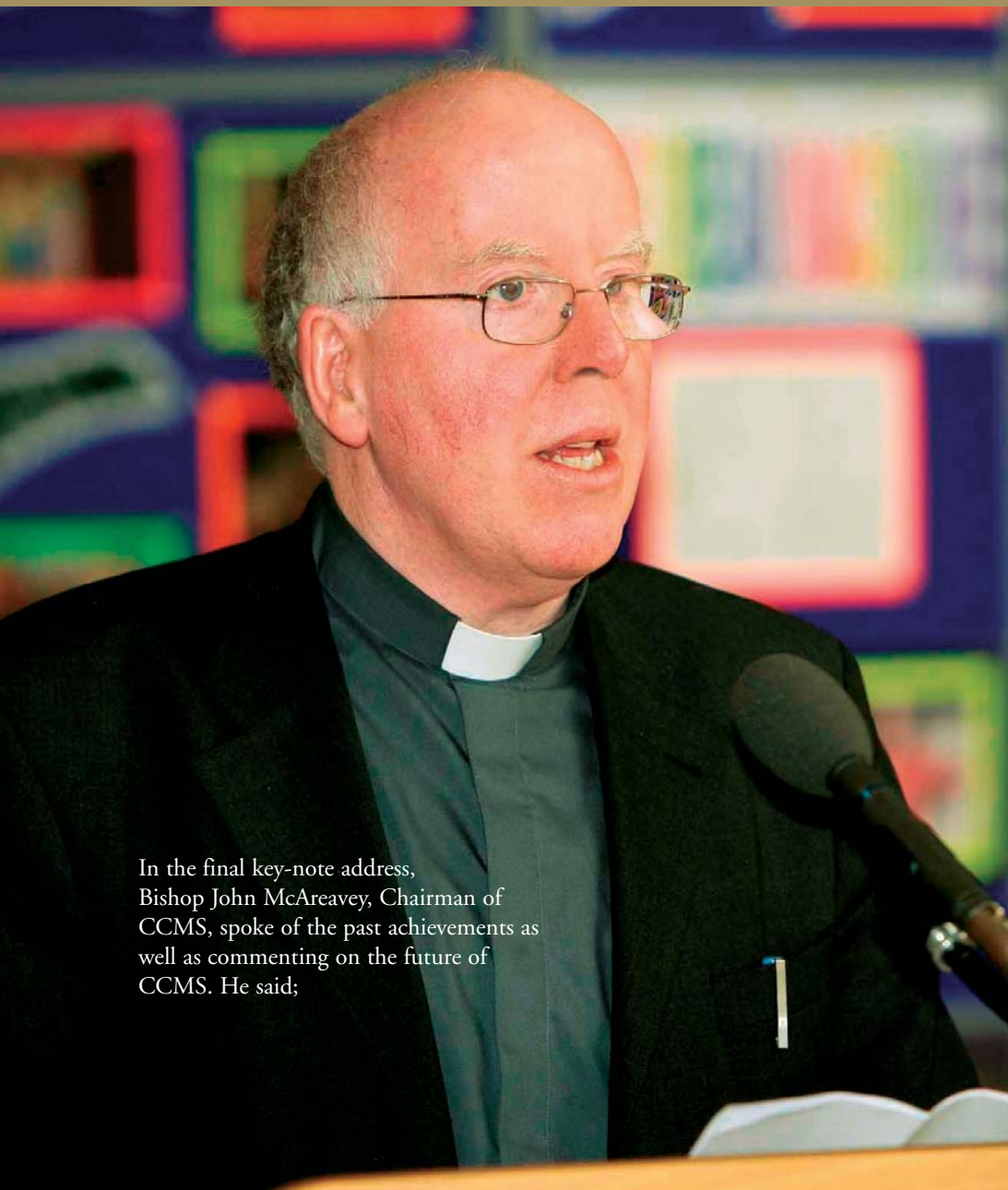
*“The Catholic sector, clear as to its identity and purpose, is ready to enter into discussions with Government, and with all our educational partners, in regard to the new legislation and regulations, which follow on decisions in regard to public administration.*

*We will enter into very serious consultations, not in a sense of manning the barricades, of being defensive or inward-looking, but in the spirit that the Catholic sector, while preserving and indeed strengthening its own identity, has much to contribute, as major stakeholders, to the common educational good. It is imperative, that in any new arrangements, the capacity of the Trustees to fulfil our legal rights, will in no way be diminished or impaired.*

*We, with all our educational partners, wish to ensure the highest quality of education, in every school sector. The provision of the highest quality of education in Catholic schools, was the driving force of the consultations, between the Department of Education Officials and the Commission for Catholic Maintained Schools, twenty years ago.*

*We, the Trustees, and indeed the entire education sector, have been well served by CCMS. Of course, we deeply regret that in the proposed legislation, CCMS will no longer be a statutory body, the executive arm of the Trustees. We must ensure that whatever will be its form, and with whatever powers, it will be a very strong constituent in the proposed single Education Schools.*”

*100th Council Meeting*



In the final key-note address, Bishop John McAreevey, Chairman of CCMS, spoke of the past achievements as well as commenting on the future of CCMS. He said;

*“What has been achieved is indeed worthy of celebration. Today’s milestone, the 100th meeting of this Council, is a time to look back with pride and gratitude. But what is still to come? CCMS will change, probably radically; it will no longer have a stand-alone identity or modus operandi; it will remain in existence with an advisory role, though what this means is not clear; neither is our sense of our place in the overall scheme of things. So we find ourselves in these days, with a sense of having lost something that was trustworthy and reassuring, and we face a future that is uncertain.*

*I want to say a word about the role of Trustees in regard to Catholic education. We take seriously our responsibility, to build on what previous generations handed down; we take seriously, our duty to provide a high-quality Catholic education for parents, who choose this for their children today and in the future.*

*Since the formation of CCMS in 1989, Trustees have benefited greatly from the advice and guidance of a group of professional educationalists, who have helped them fulfil their role. We fear, that the weakening of CCMS, has the potential to undermine our ability to fulfil our responsibilities; we will wish to be assured, as we go forward, that the proposed new arrangements will enable us to exercise our role and will provide the resources to enable us to do so.*

*Despite our anxieties and concerns, at the proposals of the RPA, we will engage constructively with Government and our partners in education, to ensure that our schools can continue to make their unique and valuable contribution, to building a vibrant and healthy society. It is also our hope, that CCMS will continue to play a significant role in helping us to do this.*”



Finally presentations were made to outgoing Council members who included:

**The Department of Education  
Representatives Members;**

Mr Ivan Davidson  
Mr Sean McArdle  
Mr Pat McCartan  
Mr Jim Smyth  
Mrs Carol Edwards

**The Trustee Representative Members:**

Mr Sean Doherty  
Mr Jimmy Smyth  
The Rt Rev Monsignor McEntegart  
The Rt Rev Monsignor O'Byrne  
Sr Anne Lyng

CCMS continues to be instrumental in raising standards in education in Northern Ireland. Fundamental to its achievements over the last sixteen years, has been the organisation's steadfast belief and commitment to the importance of Catholic ethos. It is this prevailing ethos which underpins Catholic education and will continue to do so.

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# Acknowledgements

The Council for Catholic Maintained Schools is grateful to the following people, whose contribution made the 100th Council meeting a success and without whom this booklet would not have been completed.

## CCMS Communications Group

- Mr Jimmy Smyth
- Mr Paddy Hoey
- Mrs Jocelyn Wallace
- Mr Brian McGee
- Mr Paul O'Connor



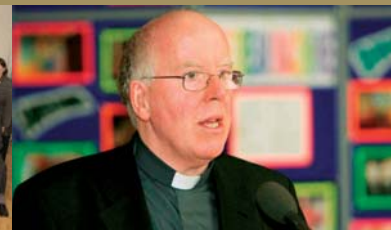
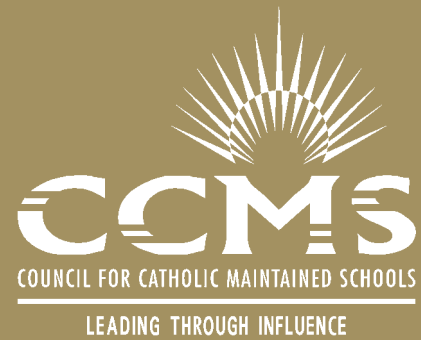
2001 - 2005 CCMS Council

## Participating Schools

- St Patrick's HS, Keady
- St Mary's PS, Greenlough
- St Colm's HS, Draperstown
- St Dallan's PS, Warrenpoint
- St Joseph's Boys' HS, Newry
- St Mary's JHS, Lurgan
- St Olcan's HS, Randalstown
- St Mary's College & St Paul's PS, Irvinestown
- St Ronan's PS, Lisnaskea
- St Gerard's ERC
- Hollybush PS, Derry
- St Mark's HS, Warrenpoint
- St Malachy's PS, Camlough
- St Francis' PS, Lurgan
- St Genevieve's HS, Belfast
- Holy Rosary, Belfast
- St Brigid's PS
- Dean Maguire College
- St Clare's PS, Belfast
- St Mary's PS, Banbridge
- Holy Family PS, Magherafelt
- St Pius X College, Magherafelt
- St Mary's College, Clady

## Our thanks to

- The Principal, staff and pupils of St. Genevieve's High School
- The catering staff for St. Genevieve's High School
- Past and present Council members
- The staff of CCMS
- Phil Smyth Photography
- Phelim McGee Photography
- The Irish News
- The Belfast Telegraph



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