

## ChildVision

**National Education Centre for Blind Children** 

# The Educational Tradition of ChildVision

- Who we are
- Who we help
- How we got to where we are now
- What we do
- Challenges

## About us







## Ireland's only educational facility for blind and partially sighted children and young people

### Who we are



- We have been helping blind children in Ireland for over 100 years.
- At ChildVision every child who is blind or visually impaired with other multiple disabilities is encouraged to achieve everything they can.
- Based in Drumcondra, Dublin.
- We work with families all over Ireland.

## Who we help



- We provide education and therapeutic intervention to blind and visually impaired children in Ireland.
- Many of our students have other disabilities MDVI.
- We work with 800 families throughout the country.





- 1859 St Joseph's Asylum for Blind Men founded by Carmelites
  - Workshops built 1905 15
- 1910 National School for Blind Boys
  - First examples of special education
- 1955 Transfer to Rosminian Order
  - Antonio Rosmini: Learning must develop the whole person.
  - Crucial to holistic personal development.
- Intellectual Development
- Physical Development
- Moral Development
- Spiritual Development
- Aesthetic Development



- 1960 Building of St Joseph's Primary School
  - Designated school for boys from all over Ireland
  - Dormitories, termly boarding
- 1970 Second level Education

• 1983 Pobalscoil Rosmini

First integrated school for children (boys) with a disability in Ireland

#### 1995 onwards

- Weekly boarding
- Closing dormitories houses
- New services
  - Vocational Education, Support Services
    Centre, Preschool
- Co-Education
  - Vocational Education, Preschool, St
    Joseph's Primary School for the Visually
    Impaired, Pobalscoil Rosmini





- Development of support services
- Range of needs
  - Students with a visual impairment only to students with increasingly complex additional needs

## What we do



- 1. Pre-school / Early Intervention
- 2. Cork Service
- 3. The Learning Tree
- 4. St Joseph's Primary School
- Designated School
- 5. Pobalscoil Rosmini
  - Integrated Post-primary
- 6. Vocational Education
- 7. Residential Houses



#### **Pre-school**













#### St Joseph's Primary School for the Visually Impaired





## **Pobail Scoil Rosmini**













### **Vocational Education**





## Residential











## What we do

- 7. Multidisciplinary Assessment Service
- 8. Therapies

Speech and Language Therapy Occupational Therapy Physiotherapy Orientation & Mobility

- 9. Eye Clinic/ Low Vision Clinic
- 10. Nursing
- 11. Braille Production
- 12. Family Resource
- 13. Horticulture
- 14. Equine & Animal Assisted Therapy
- 15. Training & Development



## **Therapies**





## **Family Resource**













## Braille















## Challenges



- Children with increasingly complex needs
- Readiness / enabling / preparing children for learning
- Multidisciplinary approach
- Staffing levels
- Staff knowledge and skillsets
- Physical environment
- Learning materials
- Funding
- Time



## Thank you



National Education Centre for Blind Children



