

## **The Royal and Prior Comprehensive School and Deelee College Press Statement**

On the morning of Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017, a bus taking students to The Royal and Prior Comprehensive School and Deelee College, Raphoe and was involved in a road accident with another vehicle in the St Johnston area of Co Donegal. The emergency services were contacted and attended the scene of the accident. There were 20 students from the two schools involved in the accident. A number of students attended Letterkenny University Hospital following the accident and the remaining students proceeded to school or returned home under the care of parents or friends. All students have now been discharged from Letterkenny University Hospital.

Dr Howard Welch, of The Royal and Prior Comprehensive School and Mr Joe Boyle of Deelee College and the parents of the students involved would like to convey their grateful thanks to the Emergency Response Teams, The Garda Síochána, The Ambulance Service and the Donegal Fire Services and the staff of Letterkenny University Hospital for their professionalism, care and concern showed towards the students involved in the accident. Both Principals would like to thank their Deputy Principals, Ms Margaret Nairn, Deputy Principal of Royal and Prior, and Mr Danny McFadden, Deputy Principal and staff for their help and support in dealing with this critical incident. We also extend our best wishes to both drivers in their recovery period.

Both schools will continue to provide pastoral care to all students who require support over the coming days, in conjunction with the Donegal ETB Senior Educational Psychologist, Mr Martin Gallen and the National Educational Psychological Service.

*Dr Howard Welch, of The Royal and Prior Comprehensive School and Mr Joe Boyle of Deelee College*