

# City schools defying Minister Breathnach and still creaming, claims Cllr Ryan

By **EUGENE PHELAN**

**E D U C A T I O N**  
Minister Niamh Breathnach should immediately visit Limerick and sort out the "rogue schools who are defying her wishes regarding entry to secondary schools," according to Cllr John Ryan.

He says that certain schools are set to totally defy the Minister's wishes regarding taking in a cross section of the community and students of mixed academic ability.

"All the signs in that they are to cream off the best pupils as well," complained Councillor Ryan.

Also parents are perplexed by the decision of a number of city secondary schools, who have refused to disclose their criteria for picking pupils.

And while the INTO have hit out at certain

schools for lack of professional and courtesy, it seems that many parents will be still in the dark come Tuesday February 1 next, the date by which applications for school entry must be made.

Tom O'Sullivan has written to the different secondary schools in the city asking for their enrolment policy, if they intended holding an assessment test and "whether children taking such a test will have a place in the school confirmed for them before sitting the test."

What has really annoyed the INTO is reports certain post primary schools have sought information and school reports about children in primary schools, before places have been allocated.

"I am appalled by the lack of professionalism and professional courtesy in these approaches," says Mr O'Sullivan.

"It also raises the question of the use being made of such information before places are given in post-primary schools. The Central Executive Committee of

our organisation has now taken the decision to report any school engaged in such practices directly to the Minister for Education," he warned.