

From the beginning, the Sisters in Dundalk engaged in teaching, visitation of the poor, sick and elderly in their homes. They also visited the prisoners in the local Jail, and instructed people who wished to be received into the faith of the Catholic Church.



The Old Jail, Dundalk
<http://www.orielcentre.ie/orielcentre/>

From the latter half of the 1880s into the first decade of the 2000s the Sisters undertook the establishment and management of both educational and health care facilities. St. Vincent's Secondary School and the National School on the Castletown Road were under the care of the Sisters from the 1880s and in the 1990s, Réalt na Mara Primary School and Holy Redeemer School, Ard Easmuinn came into being.



*St. Vincent's Secondary School,
Dundalk*
<http://www.stvincentsdundalk.ie/>



*Réalt na Mara Primary School,
Dundalk*
<http://www.realtnamarans.ie/>

St. Joseph's Orphanage was opened in 1853 and continued in operation until 1983. During that period, the Sisters also took care of the Louth Infirmary and moved with it to the Louth County Hospital in 1959.

In addition to making available the benefits of education and health care, the Sisters also gave employment to many people for over 100 years through the establishment of a school for lace making and a public laundry.

With the passage of time and the reduction in numbers, it became evident that a more suitable home was necessary to cater for the needs of the Sisters. In 2002 a number of the existing community transferred from the original Convent to a new purpose-built residence in Mill St. while others live in small groups in other areas of the town.



St. Joseph's Orphanage