



Staffing arrangements in Community & Comprehensive schools for the 2020/21 school year

For the purposes of Section 24(2) of the Education Act 1998 (as amended by the Education (Amendment) Act, 2012), the allocation of teaching posts for the 2020/21 school year is calculated in accordance with the rules outlined in this circular and is based on recognised pupil enrolment on approved courses on 30 September 2019.

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Section 1 - Approved teaching posts on staffing schedule

Principal/Deputy Principal

1.1 Principal:

Each recognised school is allocated a post in respect of a Principal.

1.2 Deputy Principal:

Deputy Principal posts are allocated to each recognised school as follows:

Pupil Enrolment (including PLC)	Deputy Principal Allocation (wtes)
1-150	0.25
151-300	0.50
301-400	0.75
401-699	1
700-899	2
900+	3

Enrolment Based Allocation

1.3 Ordinary Enrolment:

The allocation for Ordinary Enrolment is in respect of the approved enrolment excluding PLC enrolment.

A ratio of 19:1 is applied in respect of recognised pupils in free scheme post primary schools.

A ratio of 23:1 is applied in respect of recognised pupils in recognised schools outside the free education system.

1.4 Guidance Provision:

Each school receives an allocation in respect of Guidance Provision. It is calculated by reference to the approved enrolment, including PLC pupils, as follows:

School Category	Guidance allocation is the difference between:	
	Actual PTR	Reduced PTR
Free Education Scheme – Non DEIS	19:1	18.50
Free Education Scheme – DEIS	19:1	17.75
Fee Charging*	19:1	18.7

*The PTR reduction for Guidance Provision is by reference to the PTR of 19:1.

Refer to **Appendix 3** of this circular for further information on Guidance Provision.

1.5 Junior Cycle Reform:

Schools receive an allocation to support Junior Cycle Reform through the provision of individual professional time to allow teachers engage in professional collaborative activities to support teaching, learning and assessment. The annual circular letter issued to schools setting out arrangements for the implementation of the Framework for Junior Cycle provides further detail regarding these activities. These include attendance by teachers at Subject Learning and Assessment Review (SLAR) meetings.

Normally, full-time teachers involved in the delivery of Junior Cycle are provided with 22 hours of professional time per year, with a pro-rata provision for part-time teachers as set out in the annual Junior Cycle circular. A portion of this professional time is provided to facilitate attendance at SLAR meetings.

Following discussions with the management authorities for schools and the trades unions representing teachers, the Department is finalising guidance for the arranging of SLAR meetings which will be made available shortly by separate circular letter. This guidance will set out a number of options that schools may use to arrange SLAR meetings.

Most of the options will entail the scheduling by schools of SLAR meetings in a manner that does not impact on student tuition time and does not give rise to additional paid substitution or Supervision and Substitution costs (other than where a single teacher of a subject must travel to another school to participate in a SLAR meeting, in which instance additional paid substitution will be made available). Under all of these options the teacher allocation for each school will be calculated on the basis of 22 hours of professional time per full-time teacher per year, with a pro-rata provision for part-time teachers. **Consequently, the allocation of teaching posts to individual schools, arising from this circular, includes a provisional allocation that is intended to support the provision by schools of 22 hours of professional time per full-time teacher of Junior Cycle per year, with a pro-rata provision for part-time teachers.**

A further option will be provided in the Department's guidance on the holding of SLAR meetings that will permit, in certain defined circumstances, the holding of SLAR meetings during normal school tuition time. This option will allow for the use of paid substitution to facilitate the arrangement of SLAR meetings but if chosen by the school, this option will result in the professional time for teachers and hence the teacher allocation to the school being reduced. Further details of this option, including the date by which the school must indicate to the Department

that it wishes to use this option, will be provided in the guidance on the holding of SLAR meetings.

The use of teacher allocations, including professional time for SLAR meetings, may be subject to audit. In cases where the holding of SLAR meetings is found to have impinged on student tuition time and/or where it has resulted in unauthorised additional paid substitution costs or unauthorised use of Supervision and Substitution, the teacher allocation for the school for the following school year will be reduced.

The allocation of posts for professional time is not intended to cover 40 minutes per week professional time for all full-time teachers (with pro-rata allocations for part-time teachers). School management should allocate their overall provision of teaching hours (including the additional posts allocated for professional time, as set out above) in such a manner as to ensure as far as possible that teachers involved in the delivery of Junior Cycle can avail of professional time in accordance with the Junior Cycle circular.

The allocation is provided in two parts as follows:

1 – Part B of staffing schedule

An allocation is calculated by reference to the approved enrolment, excluding PLC pupils:

School Category	Junior Cycle Reform allocation is the difference between:	
	Actual PTR	PTR reduced by 0.53
Free Education Scheme	19:1	18.47
Fee Charging	23:1	22.47

2 – Part C of staffing schedule

Schools also receive 22 hours professional time in respect of each wholetime equivalent (wte) Special Education Needs and Special Class post.

1.6 Special Education Needs:

The National Council for Special Education (NCSE) determines the allocation of Special Education Needs posts for all schools. The allocation provided in the initial staffing schedule represents 100% of the school's allocation for the 2020/21 school year (other than where the NCSE sanctions an additional allocation for exceptional circumstances over the course of the 2020/21 school year). 50% of this allocation is shown in Part B and 50% is in Part D of the staffing schedule. Full details of the allocation model are outlined in **Circular 0008/2019**. Schools that are newly established in the 2020/21 school year will have their Special Education allocation calculated by the Educational Research Centre.

1.7 Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP):

An additional 0.25 wte post is granted for each group of up to and including 45 recognised pupils participating in the Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP) subject to a maximum of 135 pupils and a maximum allocation of 0.75 wte posts.

A school is restricted to one group of a maximum 45 JCSP pupils in the year it commences JCSP and in the following two school years.

1.8 Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA):

An allocation of 0.50 wte post is granted on receipt of confirmation on **Section 1 of CC 20-21** from a school that the LCA programme will be provided in the 2020/21 school year.

1.9 Post Leaving Certificate (PLC):

A ratio of 19:1 is applied in respect of recognised pupils enrolled in a PLC programme, subject to a maximum of the approved PLC enrolment.

1.10 All Irish School (Scoil Lán Gaeilge):

An additional post is allocated to each designated All-Irish school (School Classification 1).

1.11 Home School Community Liaison:

An allocation is provided to DEIS schools in respect of the Home School Community Liaison (HSCL) Coordinator in accordance with **Circular 0016/2019**.

Queries relating to the HSCL post should be forwarded to social_inclusion@education.gov.ie

1.12 Language Support (EAL):

The Special Education Needs allocation model provides that all schools have a basic allocation for teaching support for literacy issues arising from English as an Additional Language (EAL) needs.

Alleviation measures were put in place in the 2012/13 school year for schools with a high concentration of language support (EAL) pupils. These schools will continue to receive this allocation in 2020/21.

Schools can make an appeal to the Appeals Board (on **Form AP 20-21**) for an additional temporary allocation where a significant number of the enrolment is made up of language support (EAL) pupils with less than B1 (Level 3) proficiency in English.

1.13 Resource:

An allocation was sanctioned in previous years to some schools to support special classes/groups with identified special needs. This allocation will continue in 2020/21 for these schools.

1.14 Learning Language Support (Travellers):

Alleviation measures were put in place in the 2011/12 school year for schools with a high concentration of Traveller pupils. These schools will continue to receive this allocation in 2020/21.

1.15 Co-Educational single catchment area:

Schools in a single catchment area were allocated an additional 0.5 wte post in the 2010/11 school year to enable them to maximise the range of subject choice available to their pupils. These schools will continue to receive this allocation in 2020/21.

1.16 School Co-Operation:

A small number of schools were previously granted an allocation to enable them to join together with other local post primary schools to increase subject choice in an area. Where cooperation is continuing, these schools will receive this allocation in 2020/21.

1.17 Programme Coordinator:

Where a school has pupils enrolled in a JCSP, Transition Year, LCVP or LCA programme, an allocation of teaching hours will be provided based on the total enrolment in all programmes and in accordance with published arrangements for posts of responsibility. The teaching hours will be allocated as follows:

No of Pupils in Programmes	WTE allocation
1-59	0.09
60-99	0.14
100-139	0.18
140+	0.27

1.18 Adult Education Programme:

Where a school runs a Self-Financing Part Time Adult Education programme(s), an allocation of teaching hours may be provided in accordance with the terms of **Circulars 46/00 and 16/05**.

This allocation will be included on the staffing schedule when the school confirms valid enrolment and hours for the 2019/20 School Year in **Form AE 2020 - Self-Financing Part-Time Adult Education Programme provided in Secondary, Community and Comprehensive schools**.

1.19 Gaeltacht Recognition Scheme:

Schools in Gaeltacht language-planning areas who are participating in the Gaeltacht School Recognition Scheme will receive an allocation under the terms of the Circular 0011/2020.

1.20 Substitution:

All schools will receive an allocation in September 2020 under the terms of **Section 2.1 of Circular 0050/2014** for the provision of substitute cover for teacher absences arising from official school business.

1.21 Behaviour for Learning Programme:

The National Council for Special Education (NCSE) provides sanction to schools for the provision the Behaviour for Learning Programme. An allocation is provided to schools in respect of the Behaviour for Learning Programme Teacher.

Queries relating to this post should be forwarded to schoolsupport@ncse.ie

1.22 Droichead:

Schools may apply to The National Induction Programme for Teachers (NIPT) for the provision of an allocation to Professional Support Teams (PSTs) in schools to support the school-based elements of Droichead.

1.23 Special Class:

The NCSE provides sanction to schools for the provision of a special class(es). An allocation of 1.5 posts is provided in respect of each special class.

1.24 Chaplain:

Community and Comprehensive schools whose patron includes a religious authority are allocated a Chaplain post. The chaplain should be clearly identified on the **Form SP1**.

1.25 Accuracy of data on initial schedule:

Every effort has been made to ensure that the base data used to produce the initial staffing allocation is accurate. **On receipt of the initial schedule**, the school authority should satisfy itself that the data is correct and reflects the returns already made by the school in respect of its pupils and teachers.

Inaccuracies in the enrolment and allocation details are to be notified **immediately** to:

Enrolment - p_podhelpdesk@education.gov.ie

Allocation - allocations@education.gov.ie

Adjustments to the enrolment or allocation records as a result of revised information received will be notified to schools in April with the Curricular Concession decisions.

Section 2 - Staff changes for the 2020/21 school year

2.1 Form SP1 (Form Staff Position 1) - Notification of Staff Changes for the 2020/21 school year

It is necessary to establish the school's teaching staff appointments position for the 2020/21 school year.

Form SP1 issued with the initial staffing schedule. Schools are required to identify on this form who, in the 2020/21 school year, will:

- resign/retire (confirm date)
- commence, continue or end career break, jobsharing or secondment arrangement
- qualify for CID (confirm hours).

Staff changes that become known after the **Form SP1** is submitted, including applications for job-sharing/career break/secondment/retirement that do not proceed, must be notified immediately to Post Primary Teacher Allocations Section.

Please note : This form is different to the CP1 Form which issues from Payroll Section of the Department later in the year.

2.2 Contracts of Indefinite Duration (CID)

Circular 0024/2015 outlines the terms and conditions for the award of a CID.

Schools are required to apply for Department sanction in respect of a teacher who is deemed to be eligible for the award of an initial or a further CID **during any stage of the 2020/21 school year**. **All applications for be submitted to Post Primary Allocations Section by 16 March 2020**

Applications for the award of an initial or further CID in the 2020/21 school year must be made on **Form CID 20-21**.

Where a teacher currently holds or becomes entitled to a CID of between 18 hours and 22 hours in the 2020/21 school year, s/he may apply to be timetabled for up to 22 hours in accordance with **Circular 0011/2009**. In such cases, the CID may be increased to 22 hours. Applications must be made on **Part 3 of Form CID 20-21**.

Two copies of completed CID forms must be submitted to Post Primary Teacher Allocations Section by **16 March 2020**.

Section 3 – Redeployment

Post primary teachers are redeployed in accordance with **Appendix 2 of Circular 25/2011 – Redeployment scheme for teachers surplus to requirements other than in situations of school closure**.

The Minister appoints Directors of the Redeployment Scheme who are charged with implementing the scheme in accordance with the terms of the agreement and having regard to practical implementation issues. Each management body and teacher union may appoint an advisor/advisors to the Directors. These advisors will be available to the Directors for consultation purposes at their discretion and will assist in the identification of issues of a practical or logistical nature. (paragraph 1 of **Appendix 2 of Circular 25/2011 – Redeployment scheme for teachers surplus to requirements other than in situations of school closure**).

3.1 Redeployment of teachers in schools with staffing in excess of approved allocation

An excess teacher situation arises when a school has in its employment on 31 December 2019 one or more permanent/CID teachers in excess of its allocation for the 2020/21 school year.

Schools which fall into this category have been notified and requested to nominate teachers for redeployment in accordance with the terms of the redeployment scheme.

Where a school is required to nominate a teacher for redeployment, the curriculum audit can assist in the identification of the teacher(s) to be nominated (see Paragraph 3.3).

These schools are required to identify the surplus teacher(s) on **Section 5 Form CC 20-21** and to submit a separate **Form RD1 20-21 for each teacher**.

3.2 Redeployment of teachers who qualified for a CID in accordance with Circular 0024/2015

Teachers who qualify for a CID in accordance with **Part A of Circular 0024/2015** can be redeployed in the following circumstances:

- (a) a teacher who has acquired a CID as a result of covering for a teacher on career break or secondment can be nominated for compulsory redeployment immediately prior to the return of the teacher that s/he is covering for.
- (b) a teacher who has acquired a CID under the reduced qualification period of continuous employment can be nominated for compulsory redeployment where:
 - a subject mismatch exists in a school/ETB – i.e. when a school/ETB has more teaching resources in this teacher's subject(s) than is required to meet the curricular needs in the subject(s) and
 - the school/ETB concludes that this mismatch may be wholly or partially addressed by the redeployment of a teacher(s) covered by this scheme.

Schools are required to identify teacher(s) to be redeployed under the terms of **Circular 0024/2015** on **Section 5 of Form CC 20-21** and to submit for each teacher:

- **Form RD1 20-21**
- **Form RD3 20-21**

3.3 Curriculum Audit

The Curriculum Audit is a school management tool used to pre-plan and organise the school's timetable. It is prepared by reference to the approved staffing allocation from the Department for the coming school year. It contains the assignment of subjects/curriculum to each class and the associated teachers, with the class periods given to each subject. It shows how teaching and learning will be delivered in the most effective way in the school. The Principal may discuss the Curriculum Audit with each teacher nominated for redeployment.

If a teacher submits an appeal against his/her nomination for redeployment, the Directors of Redeployment will refer to the curriculum audit in the adjudication of the appeal.

The school's management body (ACSS, ETBI, JMB) can assist the School Authority in preparing the Curriculum Audit.

3.4 Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme

A Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme will be available in 2020 to all permanent/CID teachers who are employed in a post primary school outside of Dublin and who wish to be considered for redeployment to any school in Dublin.

Refer to **Appendix 4** of this circular for more detailed information on the redeployment process for post primary teachers.

Section 4 - Notification of vacancies

In accordance with paragraph 2 of **Appendix 2 of Circular 25/2011 – Redeployment scheme for teachers surplus to requirements other than in situations of school closure**, schools are required to notify all applicable vacancies in the school to the Directors of Redeployment.

4.1 Notification of vacancies up to 31 May 2020

Schools are required to notify the Directors of Redeployment of all known teaching vacancies on **Section 4 of Form CC 20-21 by 16 March 2020**.

Additional vacancies that the school authority becomes aware of on or before 31 May 2020 must also be separately notified to the Directors on **Section 4 of Form CC 20-21** within 5 working days of the vacancy becoming known to the school.

It is a condition of the filling of a vacancy that becomes known on or before 31 May 2020 that it be notified to the Directors as soon as it arises and as part of the redeployment process.

Boards of Management may carry out a recruitment process up to and including the interview stage but **are not permitted to appoint a teacher** to fill a vacancy for the 2020/21 school year until the Department has confirmed that the redeployment process is completed.

4.2 Notification of vacancies after 31 May 2020

Permanent vacancies that become known after 31 May 2020 must be notified to Allocations Section by email to allocations@education.gov.ie within 5 working days of the vacancy becoming known to the school.

All permanent vacancies which become known after 31 May 2020 may only be filled on a temporary basis for the 2020/21 school year. This arrangement does not apply to Principal or Deputy Principal posts which are filled in the normal manner.

NOTE: Where a school submits a form to the Department's Payroll area to appoint a teacher to a permanent position, the Payroll area will first confirm with

Allocations Section that the vacancy was notified to the Directors of Redeployment before 31 May 2020. Where it is found that the vacancy was not notified to the Directors, the school will only be permitted to appoint a teacher on a temporary basis for the 2020/21 school year.

Section 5 - Applications for additional teacher allocation

Applications for an additional allocation for projected increased enrolment and/or curricular concessions may be made **on or before 16 March 2020.**

Please note that such allocations may be filled, where required, through redeployment.

5.1 Projected enrolment

Schools that project an increase in enrolment (other than PLC enrolment) may apply for an additional allocation. Applications (on **Section 1 of Form CC 20-21**) will be considered on the basis of the projected total enrolment.

Schools will receive provisional approval in April of the projected increased enrolment allocation. The school authority must submit the **Form PE 20-21** after the school opens for the 2020/21 school year to confirm the enrolment in September 2020 before the allocation for projected enrolment can be provided on the staffing schedule.

No contracts should be entered into with teachers in respect of projected increased enrolment until the allocation has been provided on the staffing schedule.

Schools should refer to **Circular 38/2014** for information regarding the arrangements for submission of enrolment returns to the Department.

Enrolments confirmed to P-POD in October will be verified against the enrolment submitted in September in **Form PE 20/21**.

Any deliberate overstatement of pupil numbers for the purpose of claiming additional resources from the Department will be referred to An Garda Síochána and may result in criminal prosecution.

5.2 Curricular Concessions

A school affected by an unexpected shortfall in specific subject areas which it has not been in a position to resolve through school planning and management processes may apply for additional staffing i.e. curricular concessions as a short term support in **Section 5 of Form CC 20/21**. Curricular concession(s) are short-term support, generally for one school year (but not exceeding three school years).

Guidelines in respect of any such applications are set out in **Appendix 2** of this circular.

Note: Provisionally approved allocation for projected increased enrolment is taken into consideration when processing an application for curricular concessions.

Section 6 - Appeals

The Post Primary Appeals Board operates independently of the Minister and the Department. The Board will consider appeals from a school/ETB regarding:

- The Department's decision on the school's/ETB's application for curricular concessions; and/or
- The allocation for language support (EAL) pupils with less than B1 (Level 3 proficiency in English).

The Board will only consider appeals made by the relevant school management authority on **Form AP 20-21** and the decision of the Appeal's Board is final.

Section 7 - Forms

A list of the associated forms and the relevant closing dates for receipt of application are set out at **Appendix 1**.

Paraic Joyce
Principal Officer
Post Primary Teacher Allocations Section

February 2020

Appendix 1

Forms and Closing Dates – 2020/21

Form	Purpose of each form	Closing Date for receipt of completed form(s) in the Department
SP1	Record of Permanent, CID and Fixed Term Teachers	16 March 2020
CID 20-21	Application for the award to a teacher of a first or further Contract of Indefinite Duration (CID) Application for full salary for a teacher with a CID for 18 hours or more (formally H22)	16 March 2020
CC 20-21	Section 1 – Projected enrolment Section 2 - Information to assist with notification of vacancies Section 3 - All permanent and Fixed Term vacancies arising in the 2020/21 school year Section 4 - Application for Curricular Concessions Section 5 - Redeployment Section 6 - Certification by school authority	16 March 2020
AP 20-21	Application to the Independent Appeals Board to appeal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Department's decision on curricular concessions the allocation for language support (EAL) pupils with less than B1 (Level 3 proficiency in English) 	11 May 2020
AE 20-21	Application for allocation for a reduction in hours in respect of Self Financing Adult Education programme	29 May 2020
PE 20-21	Application for allocation in respect of increased enrolment	7 October 2020
RD1 20-21	Application from a Permanent/CID teacher for redeployment in accordance with the post primary redeployment schemes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> nominated for compulsory redeployment applying for voluntary redeployment 	16 March 2020
RD3 20-21	Declaration by a school where a teacher was awarded a CID under Circular 0024/2015 and is nominated for redeployment because: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the teacher s/he was replacing is returning from career break or secondment, <u>or</u> a curricular mismatch exists in his/her subject(s) 	16 March 2020
RD10 20-21	Form to be completed by a teacher nominated for redeployment where s/he considers that the process and procedures set out in the redeployment agreement were not complied with	16 March 2020
Pilot RD1 20-21	Application for redeployment under the terms of the Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme 2020/21	16 March 2020

Appendix 2

Guidelines for applications for Curricular Concessions

School Management review

Before deciding to apply for curricular concession(s) a school must:

1. conduct a curriculum audit. A curriculum audit is a school management tool used to pre-plan and organise the school's timetable. It is prepared by reference to the approved staffing allocation from the Department for the coming school year. It contains the assignment of subjects/curriculum to each class and the associated teachers, with the class periods given to each subject. It shows how teaching and learning will be delivered in the most effective way in the school. The school's management body (ACSS, ETBI, JMB) can assist the School Authority in preparing the curriculum audit
2. consider if the school will be eligible for an additional allocation in respect of projected increase in enrolment in the 2020/21 school year. **This allocation is taken into account when deciding an application for curricular concessions**
3. consider the options of sharing teachers between recognised post primary schools as outlined in **Circular 0015/2019**.

Application for Curricular Concession(s)

If, on completion of the management review, a school is not in a position to meet essential curricular commitments for pupils and deems it necessary to apply for curricular concessions, an application may be made by completing **Section 4 of Form CC 20-21**.

Applications should clearly state:

- the period for which short-term support is needed to enable the school authority to respond to identified curricular problems (generally for 1 school year, but not exceeding 3 school years)
- any particular requirements of small stand-alone schools
- exceptional factors that the school authority considers to be relevant.

IMPORTANT

Curricular concessions may not be sought:

- *to facilitate the sanction of an application from a teacher for approved leave of absence, i.e. jobshare, career break or secondment*
- *to enable schools to retain or develop a curricular provision that cannot be sustained within enrolments, staffing entitlements and school plans*
- *to introduce a new subject*
- *for Junior Cycle Reform Professional Time*
- *for Guidance Provision*

- *for PLC programmes*
- *for additional Special Education Needs, Special classes, Resource, Behaviour for Learning posts – these posts are allocated by the National Council for Special Education (NCSE)*
- *for reduced teaching hours for an AP1 post holder.*

Two typed copies of the completed form must be submitted to Post Primary Teacher Allocations Section by **16 March 2020**.

Curricular Concession Decisions

The Department will notify decisions on Curricular Concession applications to school authorities in April 2020.

Appeals Procedure

If a school authority is not satisfied with the Department's decision on its application for curricular concessions, an appeal may be submitted to the independent Appeals Board on **Form AP 20-21** – see Section 6 of this circular.

The Department will notify decisions on appeal applications to school authorities in May 2020.

Appendix 3

Guidance Provision in post primary schools

Guidance is a whole school activity where each school collaboratively develops a whole-school school guidance plan as a means of supporting the needs of students. It is important that all members of staff fully recognise and ensure that guidance permeates every aspect of school life. Guidance plans should outline the school's approach to guidance generally and how students can be supported and assisted in making choices and successful transitions in the personal and social, educational and career areas. The guidance plan should also distinguish between the competencies available within the school to support a student in situations where referral to the Health services or advising parents on the need to consider individual referral to a medical professional is warranted.

Schools should consider how best to align resource allocation with the objectives of the Guidance Plan. The Board of Management should exercise oversight by reviewing and updating the plan at regular intervals. Specifically the Board should consider the plan and how it is resourced before it adopts the plan and makes it available to all staff, parents and students.

The following publications should prove useful to Boards in determining the optimum use of the improved teacher allocation:

Framework for Considering Provision of Guidance in Post-Primary Schools 2012 (Issued by ACCS, IVEA, JMB and NAPD)

http://www.ncge.ie/uploads/Guidance_Framework_document_May_1st_2012.pdf

2013 Wellbeing Guidelines for Post-Primary Schools

<https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Information/Resources-Guidance/Well-Being-in-Post-Primary-Schools-Guidelines-for-Mental-Health-Promotion-and-Suicide-Prevention-2013.pdf>

NCGE School Guidance Handbook <https://www.ncge.ie/school-guidance-handbook>

Time for individual students

The Minister through this circular requires schools to adjust their Guidance Plans to meet Action 9.1 in ***Action Plan for Education 2017*** which states that the Guidance Plan should “***include specified time allocation for guidance counsellors to be available for one-to-one guidance counselling and time allocation for the role in supporting the organisation and work of the Student Support Team***”

APPENDIX 4

Redeployment process

Post primary teachers are redeployed in accordance with **Appendix 2 of Circular 25/2011 – Redeployment scheme for teachers surplus to requirements other than in situations of school closure.**

December The Department contacts schools that will have in their employment on 31 December one or more permanent/CID teachers in excess of the approved allocation for the next school year. The schools are requested to provide details of how the surplus number will be reduced.

In the event of a scheduled school closure, the Directors of Redeployment visit schools.

February Surplus schools are confirmed and requested to nominate a teacher(s) for redeployment.

March All schools submit to the Directors of Redeployment:

- all known vacancies (further vacancies to be declared as they become known)
- applications for redeployment (where applicable)
- appeals from teachers against their nomination for redeployment (where applicable)
- requests for reviews of redeployment in the previous school year (where applicable)

A panel of teachers to be redeployed is prepared. (paragraph 12 of the scheme)

April Schools receive provisional approval of allocation in respect of projected increased enrolment and are requested to provide details of the subjects they will use to fill these vacancies.

A database of all vacancies declared by schools is prepared.

March - May The Directors process the work as follows:

1. adjudicate on appeals from teachers against their nomination for compulsory redeployment (paragraph 10 of the scheme)
2. adjudicate on requests for a review of redeployment in the previous year (paragraph 23 of the scheme)
3. adjudicate on nominations for redeployment under **Circular 0024/2015**
4. Assign teachers for redeployment to a suitable vacancy in conjunction with the Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme.

It is an objective of the redeployment scheme that in any given year it will be finalised by 31 May to facilitate the filling of vacancies.

All forms referred to in this circular are available on the Department's website.

Further information on the redeployment schemes is available in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) documents on the Department's website.

Schools may also contact their management body and teachers may contact their union for information and advice.

1 Redeployment of surplus teachers

a. Schools receive notification from the Department of surplus teachers in the next school year

The redeployment process commences with the identification of school closures and surplus schools.

In December, the Department contacts all schools that will have 1 or more teachers in excess of the approved allocation in the next school year. Schools are requested to provide details of anticipated staff changes that would result in a reduction in the number of excess teachers.

Schools are advised to inform all teachers, including those on approved leave of absence, that the school has surplus staff and may be required to nominate a teacher(s) for compulsory redeployment. Teachers should also be informed that information on the redeployment schemes, including Frequently Asked Questions, is available on the Department's website.

The number of surplus teachers in the next school year may be reduced where a school expects to have one or more of the following staff changes **and where a replacement teacher is not to be appointed:**

- retirements/resignations expected to occur up to the end of the current school year
- applications for job-sharing, career break or secondment in respect of the next school year
- increased enrolment in the next school year (not yet confirmed but expected to occur).

PLEASE NOTE - Where a teacher is retiring, resigning or will have an application approved by school management for jobshare, career break or secondment and a replacement teacher will be appointed, this will not result in a reduction in staff numbers.

On receipt of the expected staff changes, the staffing position of the schools will be adjusted and the schools will be informed in February if they are required to nominate a teacher(s) for redeployment.

It is important to note that where retirements, resignations or applications for job-share/career break/secondment are used to reduce the school's staff numbers:

- **an additional allocation through curricular concessions to replace these teachers will not be approved**
- **schools must inform Post Primary Teacher Allocations Section immediately where these applications do not proceed. The school's staffing position will then be re-adjusted and, where applicable, the school will be required to nominate a teacher(s) as surplus in the next school year.**

b. Schools required to nominate a teacher(s) for redeployment

On receipt of information from a school as outlined in Part (a) above, the Department will review the staffing position and confirm if the school is required to nominate a teacher(s) for redeployment.

When a school receives notification from the Department that a teacher(s) must be nominated for compulsory redeployment, in the first instance, the school is required to:

1. inform all teachers in the school, including those on approved leave of absence, that the school is required to nominate a teacher(s) for compulsory redeployment and that it is open to all teachers to apply for voluntary redeployment, subject to certain conditions. (paragraph 6 of the scheme)
2. make available to all staff **Appendix 2 of Circular 25/2011 - *Redeployment scheme for teachers surplus to requirements other than in situations of school closure***
3. make available to all staff an up-to-date seniority list for all permanent/CID teachers, including year of appointment, subjects registered with the Teaching Council and other teaching subjects. (Teachers who are employed on an RPT contract are not to be included in the seniority list.) Teachers will be nominated by reference to the seniority list
4. carry out a curriculum audit for the next school year. (see section 3.1 of this circular)
5. identify the teacher(s) to be nominated for redeployment in accordance with paragraph 7 of the scheme. **Form RD7(a)** must be completed by the school management and retained as part of the minutes of the Board of Management meeting where the decision was made to nominate a teacher(s) for redeployment. It will be required by the Directors of Redeployment in the event of an appeal.

When informing teachers of their nomination for compulsory redeployment, the school must provide the teacher(s) with:

1. a list of all permanent/CID teachers in the school in order of seniority including year of appointment, subjects registered with the Teaching Council and other teaching subjects
2. **Form RD7(b)** - statement outlining why, given the curricular needs of the school, the school management has nominated him/her for redeployment (paragraph 7 of the scheme)
3. **Form RD1 20-21** - application for redeployment to be completed by the teacher and the school management
4. **Form RD10** - appeal against nomination for redeployment. A teacher may submit an appeal within 5 days of the date of nomination. The Directors of Redeployment will adjudicate on the appeal (paragraph 10 of the scheme).

Where a member of staff wishes to be considered for voluntary redeployment (paragraph 6 of the scheme):

1. the school may approve an application(s) for voluntary redeployment provided the curriculum can be delivered without the teacher(s)
2. for each voluntary applicant, the school must also nominate a teacher for compulsory redeployment
3. voluntary applicants and nominated teachers are required to submit **Form RD1 20-21**
4. a voluntary applicant may, subject to certain conditions, be redeployed instead of a compulsory nominee.

Schools are required to identify teacher(s) for redeployment on **Section 5 of Form CC 20-21**.

2 Redeployment in accordance with Circular 0024/2015

Teachers who qualify for a CID in accordance with **Part A of Circular 0024/2015** can be redeployed in accordance with the standard provisions of **Appendix 2 of Circular 25/2011 - Redeployment scheme for teachers surplus to requirements other than in situations of school closure** in the following circumstances:

- (a) A teacher who has acquired a CID as a result of covering for a teacher on career break or secondment can be nominated for compulsory redeployment immediately prior to the return of the teacher that s/he is covering for. There is no appeal process in these circumstances.

In this instance, the school management may allow the teacher returning from career break/secondment the opportunity to apply for voluntary redeployment. A voluntary applicant may, subject to certain conditions, be redeployed instead of a compulsory nominee.

In such cases, if it is required to meet the curricular needs of the school and where a school has provision within its allocation, the school management may retain both teachers in the school.

- (b) A teacher who has acquired a CID under the reduced qualification period of continuous employment can be nominated for compulsory redeployment where:
- a subject mismatch exists in a school/ETB – i.e. when a school/ETB has more teaching resources in this teacher's subject(s) than is required to meet the curricular needs in the subject(s) **and**
 - the school/ETB concludes that this mismatch may be wholly or partially addressed by the redeployment of a teacher(s) covered by this scheme.

The nominated teacher may submit an appeal within 5 days of the date of nomination.

In this instance, the school management may allow other teachers of the mismatch subject the opportunity to apply for voluntary redeployment, subject to the curricular needs of the school. A voluntary applicant may, subject to certain conditions, be redeployed instead of a compulsory nominee.

Where a school/ETB is comprehended by **Appendix 2 of Circular 25/2011 - *Redeployment scheme for teachers surplus to requirements other than in situations of school closure***, the identification of surplus teachers set out in that scheme should be concluded in advance of any recourse to this curricular mismatch scheme.

Where a curricular mismatch exists within an ETB school, the ETB must first seek to address the mismatch through the internal transfer mechanism before recourse to this scheme.

Schools are required to identify teacher(s) for redeployment under **Circular 0024/2015 on Section 5 of Form CC 20-21**.

Schools are also required to submit **Form RD3 20-21** in each instance.

3 Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme

The purpose of the Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme is to create vacancies, through the voluntary redeployment of teachers, into which surplus teachers may be redeployed.

The Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme 2020 is available to permanent/CID teachers in post primary schools outside of Dublin who wish to be considered for voluntary redeployment to any post primary school in Dublin subject to the approval of the school management authority, with the exception of permanent/CID teachers in post primary schools that have teachers in excess of the approved allocation where a teacher has been nominated for compulsory redeployment.

Details are outlined in [Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme 2020](#).

4 Appeal by teacher against nomination for redeployment

A teacher may appeal to the Directors against the decision of the Board of Management to nominate him/her for redeployment. (Paragraph 10 of the scheme)

Where a teacher wishes to appeal the decision to nominate him/her for redeployment, s/he must:

1. complete Parts A and B of **Form RD10**
2. submit **Form RD10** with the completed **Form RD1 20-21** to the Board within 5 school days of the date of their nomination.

Where a teacher submits Form RD10 to the school management to appeal against his/her nomination for redeployment, the school management must:

1. complete Part C of **Form RD10** to respond to the issues raised by the teacher
2. provide the teacher with a copy of the completed form with the school management's response. It is open to the teacher to submit comments on the response of the Board to the Directors within 5 days
3. submit the completed **Form RD10** with all supporting documentation and the teacher's completed **Form RD1 20-21** to the Directors of Redeployment who will adjudicate on the appeal.

When the Directors receive an appeal against nomination for redeployment:

1. the teacher and school will receive an email to acknowledge receipt of the appeal
2. the Directors will consider if all relevant information has been received to allow them to reach a decision
3. if all relevant information has not been received, the school will be requested to provide the additional information required. The teacher will be informed that this has been done.

When all relevant information is received the Directors will adjudicate on the appeal to determine if:

1. the school has complied with the process and procedures outlined in **Appendix 2 of Circular 25/2011 – Redeployment scheme for teachers surplus to requirements other than in situations of school closure**
2. the teacher was correctly nominated for redeployment in accordance with Paragraph 7 of the scheme.

When the Directors have made a decision on the appeal:

1. the teacher and school will be provided with a statement outlining the decision of the Directors on the issues raised by the teacher and in the school's response
2. where the decision is to uphold the appeal, the school management will be requested to nominate another teacher for redeployment and, where applicable, to review applications for voluntary redeployment
3. where the decision is not to uphold the appeal, the nominated teacher will be included in the panel of teachers to be redeployed.

5 Assigning teachers to vacancies

In April and May each year, the Directors assign teachers to a suitable vacancy in the following order and in conjunction with the Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme:

- school closures
- reviews of previous year
- surplus schools - voluntary and compulsory applications
- Ward CIDs – voluntary and compulsory applications

The Directors contact schools to confirm the vacancy in order to match a surplus teacher to a vacancy having regard to the curricular needs of the school and the surplus teacher's qualifications and previous teaching experience. (Paragraphs 14 to 19 of the scheme)

It is important to note that:

- in the case of a compulsory redeployment, where a voluntary application is received, the voluntary applicant is considered before the compulsory nominee
- where an offer of redeployment is made to a voluntary applicant, s/he must confirm within 48 hours if s/he wishes to accept or reject the offer. If the offer is rejected, no further offer will be made to the voluntary applicant and the compulsory nominee will be redeployed
- where a teacher has requested redeployment to a location within the Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme, voluntary applications under the Pilot scheme are considered and where possible, an offer of redeployment is made to a voluntary applicant to free up a post for a compulsory redeployment
- in the case of the Pilot Voluntary Redeployment Scheme, where an applicant rejects the offer of redeployment, an offer may be made to a second applicant in the Pilot Scheme. If there is no other suitable applicant in the Pilot Scheme, the compulsory nominee will be redeployed into an existing vacancy which has been notified to the Directors
- insofar as possible, where more than 1 teacher is to be redeployed from a school, applications from each school are processed together and all teachers in the school are informed of their placement on the same date
- the decision of the Directors of Redeployment is binding on all parties

It is an objective of the redeployment scheme that in any given year it will be finalised by 31 May to facilitate the filling of vacancies.

6 Additional Information

Relevant forms and information on the redeployment scheme, including Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) documents, are available on the Department's website <https://www.education.ie/en/Schools-Colleges/Services/Teacher-Allocations/Teacher-Allocations-Post-Primary.html>

For further information and advice on matters relating to redeployment:

- schools may contact their management body
- teachers may contact their union
- contact the Department by e-mail to allocations@education.gov.ie