



## Information Note

TC 001/2018

**To: The Managerial Authorities of Recognised Primary, Secondary, Community and Comprehensive Schools  
and  
The Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards**

### Changes to the Career Break Scheme for the 2017/18 School Year

#### 1. Introduction

In response to issues raised in relation to teacher supply, certain restrictions imposed in the Career Break Scheme will be suspended for the remainder of the current school year 2017/18.

#### 2. Purpose of the Career Break Scheme

A Career Break is a period of special leave without pay and the main objectives of this scheme below, which are not exhaustive, is for employers, wherever possible to facilitate applicants in the areas of:

- Personal Development
- Voluntary Service Overseas
- Accompany spouse/partner on Diplomatic/Military Posting
- Education
- Public Representation
- Childcare/Dependent care
- Self-employment

#### 3. Employment of teachers in a substitute capacity whilst on Career Break

Schools may now employ teachers who are on a Career Break to cover in a substitute capacity without the restrictions imposed in [Paragraph 5.1, Chapter 8 \(Career Break Scheme\) of the Terms and Conditions of Employment for Registered Teachers in Recognised Primary and Post Primary Schools](#).

This arrangement will have immediate effect and will remain as a temporary measure for the remainder of the school year 2017/18.

Employers are reminded that in considering applications for Career Breaks, the welfare and educational needs of the pupils shall take precedence over all other considerations and accordingly, must take account of the availability of appropriate qualified replacement teachers.

#### 4. Circulation of Notice

Please ensure that copies of this Information Note are provided to all members of the Board of Management/Education and Training Boards and its contents are brought to the attention of all teachers in your employment including those on leave of absence.

Alfie Barrett  
Teacher/SNA Terms & Conditions  
26<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Padraig Maloney  
Payroll Division  
26<sup>th</sup> January 2018