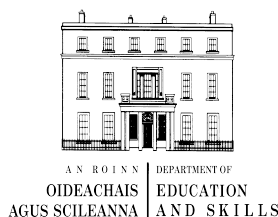


An Roinn Oideachais agus Eolaíochta  
Rannog Oideachais Speisialta  
Cor na Madadh  
Átha Luain  
Co. na hIarmhí



Department of Education and Science  
Special Education Section  
Cornamaddy  
Athlone  
Co. Westmeath

## **Circular No. 0037/2011**

### **Circular to the Management Authorities of Primary Schools, Secondary, Community and Comprehensive Schools and the Chief Executive Officers of Vocational Education Committees on Revised Arrangements for the Provision of Resource Teaching Supports for the 2011/12 school year.**

#### **1. Resource Teaching Support**

The overall allocation of Resource Teacher Support for 2011/2012 has been increased from the 2010/2011 allocation. However an Employment Control Framework (ECF) has been agreed for the Department of Education and Skills for the period 2011 to 2014 as part of a control of public sector numbers and the public sector pay bill. Successful achievement of these numbers controls forms a vital component of compliance with the EU/IMF Agreement of Financial Support for Ireland. Failure to comply with this agreement will put in jeopardy the package of international financial support being made available.

Accordingly the Department of Education and Skills has now put in place new arrangements to manage the allocation process to allocate the resources in a more staged way to take account of demand and to ensure that the terms of the Employment Control Framework are not breached.

The purpose of this Circular is to inform schools of the arrangements which are being put in place for the 2011/12 school year for the allocation of Resource Teaching hours for children with assessed special educational needs.

The main elements of the arrangements being outlined in this Circular are:

(i) For the coming 2011/12 school year, an allocation of 90% of valid identified resource teaching allocations will be made to schools, in the first instance, to provide schools with the majority of their allocation, while also preserving enough capacity to deal with late applications and ensure that the DES can remain within Employment Control Framework obligations.

(ii) Schools are asked to forward as soon as possible any outstanding applications, or additional outstanding materials to support incomplete applications, to the NCSE for consideration, but in any event by no later than 16th September 2011.

(iii) Following consideration of all of the applications received, if the level of demand permits, the initial 90% allocation may be revisited and increased.

## **2. Supporting Circular**

This circular should be read in conjunction with Circular 30/2011: *Arrangements for the 2011/12 School Year in Relation to Learning Support/Resource Teacher (LS/RT) Posts – Full and Part Time Posts*. That Circular provided details to schools of the interim arrangements to apply in relation to the allocation of Resource Teaching posts for the 2011/12 school year.

Primary schools should determine the surplus capacity in full-time posts based on the NCSE approved allocations that are now being notified to schools. The NCSE approved allocation will be in hours and may include parts of an hour. The local sharing arrangements between primary schools should be done in such a manner as to ensure that surplus capacity in full-time posts is fully utilised to the greatest extent possible.

Circular 37/2011 also provides a revision to Circular 08/02: *Applications for full-time or part-time resource teacher support to address the special education needs of children with disabilities* and Circular SP ED 02/05: *Organisation of Teaching Resources for Pupils who need Additional Support in Mainstream Primary Schools*.

### **3. Background**

Resource Teaching hours are allocated to schools by the NCSE, in accordance with DES criteria, for students requiring additional educational support based on assessed levels of special educational need and based on disability categorisation. The additional hours sanctioned for resource teaching leads to the creation of full or part time posts.

Arising from the fact that the rate of applications for Resource Teaching hours/posts being received to date this year had the potential to cause a breach of teacher numbers under the Employment Control Framework (ECF), the allocation process was paused from the end of March of this year.

The introduction of the pause was designed to allow the DES and the NCSE to quantify the level of demand and to devise a revised allocation process to ensure that the ECF was not breached.

NCSE Circular 04/11 advised schools that this pause had been put in place and requested schools to submit all applications for resource teachers by 13th May, 2011.

### **4. Allocation for 2011/12**

Based on the number of applications received in advance of the deadline date and in recognition of the fact that some schools may not have been in a position to finalise their applications by that date, an allocation of 90% of the identified resource teaching allocations can now be made to schools, in the first instance, to provide schools with the majority of their allocation. This will allow the NCSE to consider further applications and to account for any redeployment inefficiencies that may arise, while also preserving

enough capacity to ensure that allocations can remain within Employment Control Framework obligations. **This allocation rate applies to all NCSE determined resource teacher allocations and not just to new allocations.**

This allocation measure will ensure that all schools who will be in receipt of Resource Teaching support will be treated the same.

Circular SP.ED 08/02 provides that the post of Resource Teacher is an additional post allocated to assist a school or cluster of schools in providing an education which meets the needs of children assessed on the basis of individual need as having special educational needs arising from disability. Meeting the needs of such children is a whole school effort and not the responsibility of resource teachers alone because these children are fully integrated into a mainstream school and will spend most of his/.her time with a mainstream teacher.

Circular 34/03 further provides that, although resource teaching allocations have been sanctioned on the basis of individual applications, the overriding principle is that the resources be deployed in the manner that best meets the needs of pupils with special needs in the school. This can be achieved by supporting pupils in the mainstream classroom or teaching in small groups. The purpose of the allocation is not necessarily to provide 1:1 individual teaching support.

The DES has met with Primary and Post Primary school Management bodies to inform them of the position.

The NCSE is being authorised to allocate Resource Teaching support to schools on the basis set out in this Circular.

## **5. Outstanding Applications**

The deadline for receipt of applications for Resource Teaching support for the coming school year was 13th May, 2011.

Notwithstanding this, and in recognition that some schools may be awaiting applications or awaiting medical reports schools, are now asked to forward any outstanding applications, or additional outstanding materials to support incomplete applications, to the NCSE for final consideration for Resource Teaching support for the coming school year as early as possible but in any event by no later than 16<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

Following the receipt of outstanding allocations, if the level of demand turns out to be less than expected, the initial 90% allocation may be revisited and increased.

If you have any queries with regards to this circular please contact Special Education Unit on - 090-648 4166 / 4187

This circular can be accessed on the Department's website [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie)

**Jim Mulkerrins**  
**Principal Officer**  
**Special Education Unit**

**31<sup>st</sup> May 2011**



## **Ciorclán Uimh. 0037/2011**

**Ciorclán chuig Údaráis Bhainistíochta i mBunscoileanna, i Meánscoileanna, i bPobalscoileanna agus i Scoileanna Cuimsitheacha agus chuig Príomh-Oifigigh Feidhmiúcháin na gCoistí Gairmoideachais maidir le Socruithe Athbhreithnithe i ndáil le Soláthar Tacaíochtaí Teagaisc Acmhainne don scoilbhliain 2011/12.**

### **1. Tacaíocht Teagaisc Acmhainne**

Méadaíodh an leithdháileadh foriomlán de Thacaíocht Teagaisc Acmhainne do 2011/2012 ón leithdháileadh do 2010/2011. Mar sin féin, comhaontaíodh Creat Rialaithe Fostaíochta (ECF) don Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna don tréimhse 2011 go dtí 2014 mar chuid de smacht a choimeád ar an líon foirne san earnáil phoiblí agus ar bhille pá na hearnála poiblí. Tá baint amach rathúil na rialuithe sin ar an líon foirne mar chuid ríthábhachtach de Comhaontú an AE/IMF ar Thacaíocht Airgeadais d'Éirinn a chomhlíonadh. Má theipeann orainn an comhaontú sin a chomhlíonadh, cuirfear an pacáiste tacaíochta airgeadais idirnáisiúnta atá á chur ar fáil i mbaol.

Dá bharr sin, tá socruithe nua curtha ar bun ag an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna anois chun na hacmhainní a leithdháileadh ar shlí níos céimnithe, le haird a thabhairt ar éileamh agus lena chinntiú nach sárófar téarmaí an Chreata Rialaithe Fostaíochta.

Is é cuspóir an Chiorcláin seo ná na socruithe atá á gcur ar bun don scoilbhliain 2011/12 maidir le leithdháileadh uaireanta Teagaisc Acmhainne do leanaí a bhfuil riachtanais speisialta oideachais measúnaithe acu a chur in iúl do scoileanna.

Seo a leanas príomhghnéithe na socrúithe atá á leagan amach sa Chiorclán seo:

(i) Maidir leis an scoilbhliain 2011/12 atá le teacht, déanfar leithdháileadh de 90% de leithdháiltí teagaisc acmhainne aitheanta bailí ar scoileanna, ar dtús, le formhór a gcuid leithdháiltí a chur ar fáil do scoileanna, fad a gcoimeádfar a dhóthain acmhainneachta le déileáil le hiarratais dheireanacha agus lena chinntiú go bhféadfaidh an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna cloí le hoibleagáidí an Chreata Rialaithe Fostaíochta.

(ii) Iarrtar ar scoileanna aon iarratas amuigh, nó aon ábhair bhreise amuigh a thacaíonn le hiarratais neamhiomlána, a chur ar aghaidh chuig an NCSE lena mbreithniú, chomh luath agus is féidir agus tráth nach déanaí ná 16 Meán Fómhair 2011.

(iii) Tar éis na hiarratais go léir a gheofar a bhreithniú, d'fhéadfaí an príomh-leithdháileadh de 90% a athbhreithniú agus a mhéadú, má thugann an leibhéal éilimh deis é sin a dhéanamh.

## **2. Ciorclán Tacaíochta**

Ba chóir an ciorclán seo a léamh i gcomhar le Ciorclán 30/2011: *Socrúithe don Scoilbhliain 2011/12 maidir le Poist mar Mhúinteoirí Tacaíochta Foghlama/Acmhainne (MTF/A) – Poist Lánaimseartha agus Páirt-Aimseartha*. Thug an Ciorclán sin mionsonraí do scoileanna faoi na socrúithe eatramhacha a bhí le cur i bhfeidhm maidir le poist Teagaisc Acmhainne a leithdháileadh don scoilbhliain 2011/12, ar feitheamh tuilleadh breithnithe ar an líon iarratas ar thacaíocht Teagaisc Acmhainne a bhí á fháil agus a thug mionsonraí faoi na socrúithe a bhí le cur i bhfeidhm maidir le poist agus folúntais a líonadh.

Ba chóir do bhunscoileanna an acmhainneacht bhreise i bpoist lánaimseartha a chinneadh bunaithe ar na leithdháiltí arna gceadú ag an NCSE atá á gcur in iúl do scoileanna anois. Beidh an leithdháileadh arna cheadú ag an NCSE in uaireanta an chloig agus d'fhéadfadh cuid d'uair an chloig a bheith ann. Ba chóir na socrúithe roinnte áitiúla idir bunscoileanna a leagan amach ar shlí a chinnteoidh go mbainfear an leas is mó is féidir as acmhainneacht bhreise i bpoist lánaimseartha.

Déanann an Ciorclán seo leasú ar Chiorclán 08/02 freisin: *Iarratais ar oidethacaíocht i mbun acmhainní ar bhonn lánaimseartha nó páirt-aimseartha chun déileáil le riachtanais speisialta oideachais leanaí faoi mhíchumais* agus an Ciorclán SP ED 02/05: *Acmhainní Teagaisc a Eagrú do Dhaltaí i mBunscoileanna Príomhshrutha a mbeidh Tacaíocht sa Bhreis uathu.*

### **3. Cúlra**

Déanann an NCSE uaireanta Teagaisc Acmhainne a leithdháileadh ar scoileanna de réir chritéir na Roinne Oideachais agus Scileanna, ar mhaithe le mic léinn a dteastaíonn tacaíocht oideachais bhreise uathu, bunaithe ar leibhéil riachtanais speisialta oideachais mheasúnaithe agus bunaithe ar an gcatagóir míchumais. Leanann poist lánaimseartha nó páirt-aimseartha as na huaireanta breise a cheadaítear do theagasc acmhainne.

Cuireadh stad sealadach leis an bpróiseas leithdháilte ó dheireadh mhí Márta i mbliana, mar gheall go bhféadfadh sárú ar líon na múinteoirí faoin gCreat Rialaithe Fostaíochta (ECF) tarlú de bharr an ráta iarratais ar uaireanta/ar phoist Teagaisc Acmhainne a fuarthas go dtí sin i mbliana.

Tugadh an stad sealadach isteach le deis a thabhairt don Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna agus don NCSE an leibhéal éilimh a chainníochtú, agus le próiseas leithdháilte leasaithe a cheapadh, lena chinntiú nach sárófaí an ECF.

Chuir Ciorclán 04/11 an NCSE in iúl do scoileanna go raibh an stad sealadach sin curtha ar bun agus d'iarr sé ar scoileanna gach iarratas ar mhúinteoirí acmhainne a chur isteach faoin 13 Bealtaine 2011.

### **4. Leithdháileadh do 2011/12**

Bunaithe ar an líon iarratas a fuarthas roimh an spriocdháta agus mar aitheantas go mb'fhéidir nach raibh cuid de na scoileanna in ann a gcuid iarratas a chur i gcrích faoin



dáta sin, is féidir leithdháileadh de 90% de na leithdháiltí teagaisc acmhainne aitheanta bunaidh a dhéanamh ar scoileanna anois, ar dtús, le formhór a leithdháiltí a chur ar fáil do scoileanna. Tabharfaidh sin deis don NCSE iarratais eile a bhreithniú agus aird a thabhairt ar aon neamhéifeachtachtaí a d'fhéadfadh teacht chun cinn, fad a choinnítear a dhóthain acmhainneachta lena chinntiú go bhféadfaidh leithdháiltí cloí le hoibleagáidí an Chreata Rialaithe Fostaíochta. **Beidh feidhm ag an ráta leithdháilte sin le gach leithdháileadh múinteora acmhainne arna chinneadh ag an NCSE agus ní le leithdháiltí nua agus iad sin amháin.**

Cinntoidh an beart leithdháilte sin go gcaithfear le gach scoil a mbeidh tacaíocht Teagaisc Acmhainne á fáil aici ar an tslí chéanna.

Déanann Ciorclán SP.ED 08/02 soláthar go mbeidh post an Mhúinteora Acmhainne ina phost breise a leithdháiltear chun cabhrú le scoil nó le cnuasach scoileanna oideachas a chur ar fáil a fhreastalóidh ar riachtanais leanaí a ndéantar measúnú orthu ar bhonn riachtanais aonair mar leanaí a bhfuil riachtanais speisialta oideachais acu de bharr míchumais. Is iarracht uile-scoile é freastal ar riachtanais leanaí den sórt sin, agus ní freagracht na múinteoirí acmhainne amháin, de bharr go mbíonn na leanaí sin lánpháirtithe go hiomlán i scoil phríomhshrutha agus go gcaitheann siad formhór a gcuid ama le múinteoir príomhshrutha.

Déanann Ciorclán 34/03 soláthar, cé go gceadaítear leithdháiltí teagaisc acmhainne ar bhonn iarratas aonair, gurb é an bunphrionsabal leis ná go ndéanfaí na hacmhainní a scaipeadh ar an tslí is fearr a bhfreastalóidh ar riachtanais dhaltaí a bhfuil riachtanais speisialta acu sa scoil. Is féidir sin a bhaint amach trí thacú le daltaí sa seomra ranga príomhshrutha nó trí theagasc i ngrúpaí beaga. Ní gá gur tacaíocht teagaisc indibhidiúil 1:1 a chur ar fáil is cuspóir don leithdháileadh.

Bhuail an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna le comhlachtaí Bainistíochta i mBunscoileanna agus i Meánscoileanna chun cúrsaí a chur in iúl dóibh.

Tá údarú á thabhairt don NCSE tacaíocht Teagaisc Acmhainne a leithdháileadh ar scoileanna ar an mbonn a leagtar amach sa Chiorclán seo.

## **5. Iarratais Amuigh**

Ba é 13 Bealtaine, 2011 an dáta deiridh d'iarratais ar thacaíocht Teagaisc Acmhainne don scoilbhliain amach romhainn a bheith faighte.

D'ainneoin sin, agus mar aitheantas go mb'fhéidir go bhfuil roinnt scoileanna ag fanacht ar iarratais nó ag fanacht ar thuiriscí liachta, iarrtar ar scoileanna anois aon iarratais amuigh, nó aon ábhair bhreise amuigh a thacaíonn le hiarratais neamhiomlána, a chur ar aghaidh chuig an NCSE le go ndéanfar an breithniú deiridh orthu maidir le tacaíocht Teagaisc Acmhainne don scoilbhliain amach romhainn, chomh luath agus is féidir agus tráth nach déanaí ná 16 Meán Fómhair 2011.

Tar éis na leithdháiltí amuigh a fháil, sa chás go mbeidh an t-éileamh níos lú ná mar a bhíothas ag súil leis, d'fhéadfaí an príomh-leithdháileadh de 90% a athbhreithniú agus a mhéadú.

Má tá aon cheist agat faoin gclár seo, téigh i dteagmháil, le do thoil, leis an Aonad Speisialta oideachais ar 090-648 4166 / 4187.

Is féidir teacht ar an gclár seo ar láithreán gréasáin na Roinne ag [www.education.ie](http://www.education.ie).

**Jim Mulkerrins**  
**Príomhoifigeach**  
**An tAonad Uilechuimsitheachta Sóisialta**

**31 Bealtaine 2011**