An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Circular 0008/2021

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

Graduate Certificate in the Education of Pupils on the Autism Spectrum (AS) for teachers working with Pupils on the AS in Special Schools, Special Classes or as Special Education Teachers in mainstream Primary and Post-Primary Schools, 2021/2022

Introduction

This programme will aim to provide substantial theoretical and practical professional development for teachers working with pupils on the AS and, thereby, will be in a position to contribute to the school's overall capacity in this area.

The Programme 2021-2022

In the school year 2021-2022 a Graduate Certificate in the Education of Pupils on the Autism Spectrum will be offered in DCU Institute of Education, DCU St Patrick's Campus, Drumcondra, Dublin 9. The Programme will run from September 2021 to early June 2022.

Please apply online via www.dcu.ie/ise/gceas

Deadline for applications is 11 March 2021.

Eighteen places are available in the Programme year 2021/2022.

Funding

Funding for the programme is provided by the Teacher Education Section of the Department of Education.

Aim and Content

The aim of the programme will be to provide substantial theoretical and practical training for teachers working with pupils on the Autism Spectrum and, thereby, to contribute to the school's overall capacity in this area. A qualification of Graduate Certificate will be awarded by Dublin City University. Participants will be assessed on the basis of **full attendance** at the programme venue and **full participation** in the distance elements of the course, completion of selected tasks and written assignments and supervision of their work in school. Candidates are advised that recordings may be required for assignments. Further details on the course and data protection may be found on the following web page https://www.dcu.ie/courses/Postgraduate/institute_of_education/Graduate-Certificate-Education-Pupils-Autism-Spectrum.

Duration and Organisation

The programme is one-year, part-time from September 2021 to June 2022, and consists of 5 modules. The course is delivered through distance learning modes, on-site learning at DCU Institute of Education, St Patrick's Campus and considers teachers' practical engagement with pupils in schools. The programme requires that participants are released from their schools for three weeks of the academic year.

The programme will include face-to-face tuition, tutorials and visits to other educational settings to observe examples of exemplary practice. The distance element of the course will include online synchronous and asynchronous engagement (course materials, online lectures and discussion fora).

Covid-19

Applicants should be aware that HEIs may need to continue to operate under Covid-19 restrictions for the 2021/22 academic year which may necessitate amendments to the delivery of certain elements of the programme as required, in order to abide with the prevailing Government health advice at the time.

Eligibility

Please note that all teachers must be registered in accordance with Section 31 of the Teaching Council Act, 2001-2015. Please refer to the Teaching Council's website www.teachingcouncil.ie for further information.

This programme is for registered teachers who hold a post currently funded by the Department of Education and who are currently working with pupils on the Autism Spectrum or who will be working with pupils on the AS for the duration of the Programme in recognised Primary Schools including Special Schools and recognised Post-Primary Schools. The programme is designed specifically to assist teachers in meeting the learning and teaching needs of pupils on the AS. Potential applicants must therefore have a teaching role in relation to pupils on the AS.

Primary:

Teachers will be required to upload a copy of their Registration Certificate or Confirmation of Registration letter[1] from the Teaching Council, when submitting their application form. If the "Education Sector(s)" field is blank, teachers will be required to provide evidence that they have qualifications suitable to teach in either the mainstream primary sector or to teach pupils with Special Educational Needs.

Applicants from Primary Schools should have successfully completed their probationary period.

Post-primary:

Teachers will be required to upload a copy of their Registration Certificate or Confirmation of Registration letter (see footnote below) from the Teaching Council, when submitting their application form. If the "Education Sector(s)" field is blank, teachers will be required to provide evidence that they have qualifications suitable to teach in either the mainstream post-primary sector or to teach pupils with special educational needs in the post-primary sector.

Applicants from Post-Primary Schools should have successfully completed their Induction and Post Qualification Employment (PQE)

Special Schools:

Teachers will be required to upload a copy of their Registration Certificate or Confirmation of Registration letter (see footnote below) from the Teaching Council, when submitting their application form. If the "Education Sector(s)" field is blank teachers will be required to provide evidence that they have qualifications suitable to teach either in the mainstream primary or post-primary sectors or to teach pupils with special educational needs in the primary or post-primary sector or to teach in special school settings.

[1] Confirmation of Registration letter is available to download from the Registered Teacher Login Facility on the Teaching Council website www.teachingcouncil.ie

Applicants from Special Schools should have successfully completed their probationary period.

While teachers are completing this programme and for a reasonable period of time following completion of the programme, it is advised that school management make every effort to ensure that pupils on the Autism Spectrum continue to benefit from the teacher's knowledge and expertise in this area, through assigning the learning and teaching of pupils on the Autism Spectrum to the teacher concerned. Collaborative practices, such as team-teaching, can also form a part of these arrangements.

In order to participate in the programme, teachers will need access to a computer and the Internet.

Candidates should note that evidence of having completed Garda vetting is required for participation in the course.

Applications and Selection

Applications from eligible candidates nominated by their school authorities are via online submission at www.dcu.ie/ise/gceas.

Closing date for applications is March 11th 2021.

Normally, applications will be accepted from not more than one teacher per school who meets the requirements outlined in this Circular.

Applicants for this programme are not required to attend for interview.

Fees

No fee or registration charges will apply for applicants eligible under the terms of this Circular.

Travel and Subsistence

Travel and subsistence will be provided for any of the face-to-face elements of the programme in accordance with the Department of Finance Travel and Subsistence Circular 11/82. The updated travel and subsistence rates are recorded in Circular 13/2019 for Domestic Subsistence rates and Circular 05/2017 for Motor Travel rates. Please note for any travel and subsistence due under this Circular, the training rate is applicable.

Extra Personal Vacation

No extra personal vacation will be allowed in respect of participation in this Course.

Substitution

Substitution, which must be approved by the managerial authority of the school/ETB, will be allowed. The substitution must be deemed necessary to cover the approved periods of absence of the teacher from teaching duty for attendance at the course. Documentation from the college specifying the absence details must be retained by the school. **It should be noted that paid substitution cover will not be provided by the Department of Education where a teacher takes personal leave during the block release element of the Programme.**

Salary Arrangements

All teachers on release from their school under the terms of this Programme will continue to receive their salary in the usual way.

Please note that successful completion of this Programme will not result in any entitlement to additional remuneration from the Department of Education.

Master's Programme

On the successful completion of the Graduate Certificate in the Education of Pupils on the Autism Spectrum teachers may be eligible to apply for the Master of Education in Autism (M.Ed. in Autism) at the DCU Institute of Education.

Martin McLoughlin
Principal Officer

11 February 2021

An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Ciorclán 0008/2021

**Chuig: Údaráis Bhainistíochta Bunscoileanna, Meánscoileanna, Pobalscoileanna
agus
Scoileanna Cuimsitheacha Aitheanta agus Príomhoifigigh Bhoird Oideachais agus Oiliúna**

Teastas Iarchéime in Oideachas Daltaí ar an Speictream Uathachais (SU) do mhúinteoirí atá ag obair le Daltaí ar an SU i Scoileanna Speisialta, Ranganna Speisialta nó mar Mhúinteoirí Speisialta Oideachais i mBunscoileanna agus in Iar-Bhunscoileanna príomhshrutha, 2021/2022

Réamhrá

Díreoidh an clár ar fhorbairt ghairmiúil teoiriciúil agus praiticiúil suntasach do mhúinteoirí atá ag obair le daltaí ar an SU agus, dá réir, beifear ábalta cur le hacmhainn iomlán na scoile sa réimse seo.

An Clár 2021-2022

Sa scoilbhliain 2021-2022 cuirfear Teastas Iarchéime in Oideachas Daltaí ar an SU ar fáil in OCBÁC, Institiúid Oideachais OCBÁC, OCBÁC Campas Naomh Pádraig, Droim Conrach, Baile Átha Cliath 9. Beidh an Clár ar siúl ó Mheán Fómhair 2021 go dtí go tú mhí an Mheithimh 2022.

Déan iarratas ar líne trí www.dcu.ie/ise/gceas

Is é an spriocdháta le haghaidh iarratas 11 Márta 2021.

Tá ocht n-áit dhéag ar fáil ar an gClár don bhliain 2021/2022.

Maoiniú

Is í an Rannóg um Oideachas Múinteoirí na Roinne Oideachais a chuirfidh maoiniú ar fáil don chlár seo.

Aidhm agus Ábhar

Is í aidhm an chláir ná oiliúint theoiriciúil agus phraiticiúil suntasach a chur ar fáil do mhúinteoirí atá ag obair le daltaí ar an SU agus, dá réir, cur le hacmhainn iomlán na scoile sa réimse seo. Bronnfaidh Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath cáilíocht i bhfoirm Teastas Iarchéime. Déanfar rannpháirtithe a mheas ar bhonn lán-tinreamh ag ionad an chláir agus lán-pháirtíocht i gcian eilimintí an chúrsa, tascanna a thugtar a chomhánú mar aon le hobair scríofa agus feitheoireacht ar obair scoile. Cuirtear in iúl d'iarrthóirí go bhféadfadh taifeadtaí a bheith de dhíth mar chuid de thascann Tá eolas breise ar fáil ar an leathanach gréasáin www.DCU.ie/courses/Postgraduate/institute_of_education/Graduate-Certificate-Education-Pupils-Autism-Spectrum.

Fad agus Eagar

Clár bliana, páirtaimseartha ó Mheán Fómhair 2021 go Meitheamh 2022, ina mbeidh 5 mhodúil, atá i gceist. Déantar an cúrsa a sholáthar trí mhodhanna cianfhoghlama, foghlaim ar an láthair ag Institiúid Oideachais OCBÁC, Campas Naomh Pádraig agus déantar rannpháirtíocht phraiticiúil múinteoirí le daltaí sna scoileanna a mheas. Éilíonn an clár go scaoiltear rannpháirtithe ó n-a scoileanna ar feadh trí seachtaine le linn na bliana acadúla.

Beidh teagasc aghaidh-ar-aghaidh, ranganna teagaisc agus cuairteanna chuig suíomhanna oideachais eile chun samplaí den bharrchleachtas a bhreathnú mar chuid den chlár. Clúdóidh cian-eilimintí an chúrsa rannpháirtíocht sioncronach agus aisioncronach ar líne (ábhair an chúrsa, léachtaí ar líne agus pléfhóraim).

Covid-19

Ba chóir go mbeadh a fhios ag iarratasóirí go bhféadfadh sé go mbeadh ar IAOanna leanúint ag oibriú faoi shrianta Covid-19 don bhliain acadúil 2021/22 rud a d'fhéadfadh a bheith ina chúis le leasuithe ar sheachadadh eilimintí áirithe den chlár de réir mar is gá, chun cloí le comhairle sláinte an Rialtais atá i réim ag an am.

Incháilitheacht

Tabhair aird go gcaithfidh gach múinteoir a bheith cláraithe i gcomhréir le hAlt 31 den Acht um Chomhairle Mhúinteoireachta, 2001-2015. Féach ar láithreán gréasáin na Comhairle Múinteoireachta www.teachingcouncil.ie chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil.

Baineann an clár seo le múinteoirí cláraithe a bhfuil post acu faoi láthair atá maoinithe ag an Roinn Oideachais agus atá ag obair faoi láthair le daltaí ar an SU nó a bheidh ag obair le daltaí ar an SU le linn fad an Chláir i mBunscoileanna aitheanta lena n-áirítear Scoileanna Speisialta agus in Iar-Bhunscoileanna aitheanta. Tá an clár saindheartha chun cuidiú le múinteoirí freastal ar riachtanais theagaisc agus fhoghlama daltaí ar an SU. Dá bhrí sin, ní mór go mbeadh ról teagaisc ó thaobh na scoláirí ar an SU ag iarrthóirí ionchasacha.

<u>Bunleibhéal:</u>

Beidh ar mhúinteoirí cóip dá dTeastas Clárúcháin nó litir[1] le Deimhniú Clárúcháin ón gComhairle Mhúinteoireachta a sholáthar, nuair a bhíonn an fhoirm iarratais á chur isteach acu. Má bhíonn "Earnáil/Earnálacha Oideachais" fágtha bán, beidh ar mhúinteoirí fianaise a thabhairt go bhfuil cáilíóchtaí acu a oireann don mhúinteoireacht in earnáil bunscoile príomhshrutha nó chun daltaí le Riachtanais Speisialta Oideachais a theagasc.

Ba chóir d'iarratasóirí ó Bhunscoileanna an tréimhse promhaidh a bheith comhlíonta go sásúil.

<u>Iar-bhunleibhéal:</u>

Beidh ar mhúinteoirí cóip dá dTeastas Clárúcháin nó litir le Deimhniú Clárúcháin (féach an fonóta thíos) ón gComhairle Mhúinteoireachta a sholáthar, nuair a bhíonn an fhoirm iarratais á chur isteach acu. Má bhíonn "Earnáil/Earnálacha Oideachais" fágtha bán, beidh ar mhúinteoirí fianaise a thabhairt go bhfuil cáilíóchtaí acu a oireann don mhúinteoireacht in earnáil iar-bhunscoile príomhshrutha nó chun daltaí le riachtanais speisialta oideachais a theagasc in earnáil na hiar-bhunscoile.

Ba chóir d'iarratasóirí ó Iar-Bhunscoileanna an tIonduchtú agus an Fhostaíocht Iarcháilíochta (PQE) a bheith comhlíonta go sásúil

<u>Scoileanna Speisialta:</u>

Beidh ar mhúinteoirí cóip dá dTeastas Clárúcháin nó litir le Deimhniú Clárúcháin (féach an fonóta thíos) ón gComhairle Mhúinteoireachta a sholáthar, nuair a bhíonn an fhoirm iarratais á chur isteach acu. Má bhíonn "Earnáil/Earnálacha Oideachais" fágtha bán, beidh ar mhúinteoirí fianaise a thabhairt go bhfuil cáilíóchtaí acu a oireann don mhúinteoireacht in earnáil bunscoile nó iar-bhunscoile príomhshrutha nó chun teagasc i suíomhanna scoileanna speisialta.

[1] Tá litir do Dheimhniú Clárúcháin ar fáil le híoslódáil ón Saoráid Logála Isteach do Mhúinteoirí Cláraithe ar láithreán na Comhairle Múinteoireachta www.teachingcouncil.ie

Ba chóir d'iarratasóirí ó Scoileanna Speisialta a dtréimhse promhaidh a bheith comhlíonta go sásúil

Nuair a bhíonn múinteoirí ar an gclár, agus ar feadh tréimhse réasunta tar éis críoch an chláir, moltar do bhainistíocht na scoile gach iarracht a dhéanamh lena dheimhniú go leanann an tairbhe do dhaltaí le hUathachas ó eolas agus saineolas an mhúinteora sa réimse seo, trí fhoghlaim agus teagasc dhaltaí le hUathachas a dháileadh ar an múinteoir atá i gceist. Is féidir cleachtais chomhoibritheacha, cosúil le teagasc-foirne, a beith mar chuid de na socruithe seo.

Chun páirt a ghlacadh sa chlár, beidh ar mhúinteoirí fáil a bheith acu ar ríomhaire agus ar an Idirlíon**.**

Ba chóir d'iarratasóirí a thuiscint go mbeidh gá le fianaise ar sheiceáil an Gharda don rannpháirtíocht ar an gcúrsa.

Iarratais agus Roghnú

Déantar iarratais ó iarrthóirí incháilithe a bhíonn ainmnithe ag údaráis a scoileanna trí iad a chur isteach ar líne ag www.dcu.ie/ise/gceas.

Is é an spriocdháta chun iarratais a bheith faighte ná 11 Márta 2021.

Mar ghnáthnós, ní ghlacfar le hiarratais ach ó mhúinteoir amháin in aghaidh na scoile a shásaíonn na riachtanais mar atá san Imlitir seo.

Ní gá d'iarratasóirí don chlár seo freastal ar agallamh.

Táillí

Ní bheidh aon táille ná aon chostais clárúcháin i gceist d'iarratasóirí incháilithe faoi théarmaí na hImlitreach seo.

Taisteal agus Cothabháil

Beidh taisteal agus cothabháil ar fáil d'aon eilimintí aghaidh-ar-aghaidh den chlár faoi réir Imlitreach 11/82. Tá na rátaí nuashonraithe taistil agus cothabhála le fáil i gCiorclán 13/2019 i gcás rátaí Cothabhála Intíre agus i gCiorclán 05/2017 i gcás rátaí Taistil Mhótair Taisteal agus Cothabháil na Roinne Oideachais. Tabhair aird, maidir le haon taisteal agus cothabháil, gur é an ráta oiliúna a bheidh i gceist.

Saoire Phearsanta Breise (EPV)

Ní cheadóar aon saoire phearsanta breise i ngeall ar a bheith páirteach sa Chúrsa seo.

Ionadaíocht

Ceadófar ionadaíocht, ach beidh gá le faomhadh údarás bhainistíochta na scoile/ an BOO. Caithfidh gá a bheith leis an ionadaíocht chun tréimhsí neamhláithreachta faofa an mhúinteora a chlúdach ó dhualgas teagaisc chun freastal ar an gcúrsa. Caithfidh an scoil doiciméid ón gColáiste ina luaitear na sonraí a choinneáil. Ba chóir a bheith san airdeall nach gcuirfidh an Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna íocaíocht ionadaíochta ar fáil má ghlacann an múinteoir neamhláithreacht phearsanta nuair a bhíonn eilimint an bhlocscaoilte den Chlár ar bun.

Socruithe Tuarastail

Leanfar ag íoc tuarastail ar an ngnáthbhealach le gach múinteoir a bhíonn ar iasacht óna scoil faoi théarmaí an Chláir.

Tabhair aird nuair a bhíonn an Clár seo críochnaithe go sásúil nach mbeidh aon teidlíocht ar íocaíocht bhreise ón Roinn Oideachais.

Clár Máistreachta

Nuair a bhíonn an Teastas Iarchéime in Oideachas Daltaí ar an SU críochnaithe go sásúil beidh múinteoirí incháilithe le cur isteach ar an Máistreacht san Oideachas in Uathachas (M.Oid. in Uathachas) ag Institiúid Oideachais OCBÁC.

Martin McLoughlin
Príomhoifigeach Gníomhach
11 Feabhra 2021