Teacher Education & the Continuing Professional Development of Teachers and School Leaders

A Short Guide to the areas of provision and the services supported by Teacher Education Section

Established in April of 2004, Teacher Education Section (TES) incorporates the work of the former In-Career Development Unit (ICDU) and includes a remit for initial teacher education, which was previously the responsibility of the Colleges Section. TES was formed to reflect the Department’s view of teacher education as a continuum from initial teacher education, to induction and continuing professional development (CPD). The rationale for the administrative change was to ensure cohesion in teacher education policy and practice in a way that would best support teachers and school leaders in the 21st Century.

The work of the Section embraces policy formulation, co-ordination, general direction and management, quality and financial control in supporting the provision of education and continuing support for teachers and school leaders throughout their careers.

The following are the main services under the aegis of the section:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial Teacher Education (ITE) - Primary and Post-Primary</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Teaching Council</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Induction</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development for Teachers (PDST)</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Maths Development Team (PMDT)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaeilge Support Service (2nd level)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Professional Network Scheme (TPN scheme)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support for 2nd level Guidance Counsellors</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEIS Curricular Support</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer Course Programme</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social, Personal Health Education (SPHE) - Post-Primary</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection Guidelines (CPG)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Behaviour Support Service (NBSS)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP)</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education Initiatives</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Education Support Service (SESS)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boards of Management - Training</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher Fee Refund Scheme</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probationary Teachers</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active School Flag</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jewish Studies</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Centres</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glossary</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Initial Teacher Education (ITE) – Primary

There are five state funded Colleges of Education which offer primary initial teacher education courses which are recognised by the Teaching Council for primary teaching.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Web address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coláiste Mhuire, Griffith Ave., D 9</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mie.ie">www.mie.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Immaculate College, Limerick</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mic.ul.ie">www.mic.ul.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick’s College, Drumcondra, D 9</td>
<td><a href="http://www.spd.dcu.ie">www.spd.dcu.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Church Of Ireland College of Education, Rathmines, D6</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cice.ie">www.cice.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Froebel College of Education, Blackrock, Co. Dublin</td>
<td><a href="http://www.froebel.ie">www.froebel.ie</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bachelor of Education Programme
A full-time course leading to a Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) degree is held in each of the state funded Colleges of Education for primary teachers.

Persons who successfully complete the course may be registered by the Teaching Council.

Post Graduate Courses
Four State funded Colleges of Education offer an eighteen month Post Graduate course. The most recent course commenced in February 2012. The course is reviewed annually, and if proceeding, is advertised in the national newspapers.

In addition, an on-line Higher Diploma in Arts in Primary Education, accredited by the Higher Education and Training Awards Council (HETAC), is provided by Hibernia College. Hibernia College is a privately-owned, non State funded, company. This is a part time blended learning course which takes place over 2 years and the Higher Diploma is recognised by the Teaching Council for the purposes of primary teaching.

Entry Requirements
The entry requirements for the most recent Bachelor of Education and Post Graduate courses are set out at

- Entry Requirement CAO 2012
- Entry Requirement Post Grad 2012
- Entry Requirement Mature Competition 2012

To be registered with the Teaching Council as a primary teacher, a person must have obtained the qualifications as set out under Registration Regulation 2 Primary. Teaching Council Registration Regulations
**Initial Teacher Education (ITE) - Post-Primary**

Post Primary Initial Teacher Education post-primary is provided through programmes of a consecutive or a concurrent nature.

The most common route to qualification is the consecutive route, which comprises a suitable degree and teacher education qualification. A suitable degree is defined as an award from a State-recognised university or similar third-level college, which enables the holder to teach at least one curricular subject to the highest level within the Post-Primary schools curriculum. For most subjects, this is Leaving Certificate Higher Level.

A suitable initial teacher education qualification is defined as a qualification from a State-recognised university or similar third-level college, incorporating three specific elements (Foundation Studies, Professional Studies and School Placement) and which is directed towards the 12 to 18 age range (First year to Sixth year). The programme must extend over at least one year of full-time study or equivalent. With effect from September 2014, postgraduate programmes of initial teacher education accredited by the Teaching Council will be extended to two years full time study or 120 ECTS credits.

The Teaching Council website Teaching Council provides details of the individual subject requirements (subject criteria) for all post-primary curricular subjects. The Teaching Council website also provides a list of degrees which have in the past been deemed to meet the requirements for named curricular subjects. Given degree programmes and elective modules within degrees can change over time, it is important that this list should only be considered as a guide.

Currently the following institutions in Ireland are providers of post primary initial teacher education programmes:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Type of provision</th>
<th>Web address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University College, Cork</td>
<td>concurrent &amp; consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucc.ie">www.ucc.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University College, Dublin</td>
<td>consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucd.ie">www.ucd.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUI Galway</td>
<td>consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nuigalway.ie">www.nuigalway.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUI Maynooth</td>
<td>consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nuim.ie">www.nuim.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinity College, Dublin</td>
<td>concurrent &amp; consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.tcd.ie">www.tcd.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dublin City University</td>
<td>concurrent</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dcu.ie">www.dcu.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Limerick</td>
<td>concurrent &amp; consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ul.ie">www.ul.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mater Dei, Dublin</td>
<td>concurrent</td>
<td><a href="http://www.materdei.ie">www.materdei.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Angela’s College, Sligo</td>
<td>concurrent</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stangelas.com">www.stangelas.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National College of Art and Design, Dublin</td>
<td>concurrent &amp; consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ncad.ie">www.ncad.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crawford School of Art and Design, Cork</td>
<td>consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cit.ie">www.cit.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limerick Institute of Technology, School of Art and Design</td>
<td>consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lit.ie">www.lit.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick’s College, Thurles</td>
<td>concurrent</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stpats.ie">www.stpats.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galway Mayo Institute of Technology, Letterfrack</td>
<td>concurrent</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gmit.ie">www.gmit.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hibernia College</td>
<td>consecutive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hiberniacollege.net">www.hiberniacollege.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Teaching Council

The Teaching Council is the professional body for teaching in Ireland. It was established by statute in March 2006 to promote teaching as a profession at primary and post-primary levels; to promote the professional development of teachers; and to regulate standards in our profession.

Register of Teachers
In common with most self-regulated professions, the Teaching Council has established and maintains a register of its members. The register of teachers is intended to function as the main regulatory instrument of the Teaching Council. It stands as a verifiable expression of the standard of teaching, knowledge, skill and competence that teachers aspire to have and maintain.

To be registered, a teacher must have attained a satisfactory level of professional qualification and training. Thus, the register is intended to act as a statement of the standards required of teachers. More than 73,000 teachers continue to be registered across primary, post primary, further education, and Montessori and other teaching categories. The register is a valuable source of information on all teachers registered to teach in State-funded schools and the registration and renewal process and fee (€90 annually) underpin the Council’s role as an autonomous and self-funding professional body.

Further information on registration can be obtained from the Teaching Council at Teaching Council - Registration

Reform of Teacher Education
The Teaching Council has a range of functions relating to teacher education. These functions span the entire teaching career from entry to initial teacher education programmes, accreditation of such programmes, induction of newly qualified teachers into the profession and the continuing professional development of teachers throughout their careers.

The Council has published a Policy Paper on the Continuum of Teacher Education, which provides the framework within which it will implement its functions relating to teacher education. The document is available to download at Teacher Education - Policy on Continuum of Teacher Education

Contact Details:
The Teaching Council
Block A
Maynooth Business Campus
Maynooth
Co. Kildare
Telephone LoCall 1890 224 224 or +353 1 6517900
E-mail info@teachingcouncil.ie
Website: Teaching Council
**Teacher Induction**

The National Induction Programme for Teachers was established in September 2010. The induction programme evolved from a national pilot project at primary and at post-primary levels, which was initiated in 2002. The implementation of a comprehensive induction programme for all newly qualified teachers is a major step forward in building the continuum of teacher education in Ireland. The pilot project was originally set up as a partnership initiative between the then Department of Education and Skills [In-Career Development Unit (ICDU) and Teacher Education Section (TES) from 2004], the three teacher Unions, the Colleges of Education/Universities and the schools participating in the project. From September 2010 to June 2011, the management of the induction programme continued in accordance with the model which operated during the pilot phase: the primary programme continuing to operate from St Patrick’s College, Drumcondra, while the post-primary programme continuing to be administered up to August 2011 by the School of Education and Lifelong Learning, UCD. From September 2011 both Programmes are now based in St Patrick’s College Drumcondra and are cross sectoral.

**Contact Details:**

**Teacher Induction – Primary Strand**  
Ms. Mary Burke, Co-ordinator,  
St. Patrick’s College,  
Drumcondra,  
Dublin 9.  

Tel: 01 - 884 2061  
Email: mary.burke@spd.dcu.ie;  
WebAddress: [http://www.teacherinduction.ie/](http://www.teacherinduction.ie/)

**Teacher Induction – Post-Primary Strand**  
Mr Billy Redmond, Co-ordinator,  
St. Patrick’s College,  
Drumcondra,  
Dublin 9.  

Tel: 01 - 884 2257  
Email: Billy.Redmond@spd.dcu.ie  
Web Address: [http://www.teacherinduction.ie/](http://www.teacherinduction.ie/)
CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD)

Provision for the CPD of school leaders and teachers includes support for

- School development planning
- School leadership and management
- Teachers of Students with Special Educational Needs
- The introduction of new and revised curriculums
- Particular projects and initiatives including those related to priority areas of education provision such as disadvantage and inclusion, positive behaviour management and language support for newcomer students.

Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST)

Since the first support services were established in the 1990s, the system of professional development support has grown incrementally to include support services established to address a variety of needs such as school leadership and development planning, curriculum change, education programmes and other areas of teaching and learning. In recent years there has been some consolidation and re-structuring of the support service system.

This process continued in 2010 as the DES re-conceptualised its provision for school support and teacher professional development in the context of current constraints. This saw a move to a new generic and integrated cross-sectoral support service, the PDST, from September 2010. A National Director was appointed to lead and manage the development and work of the new service ensuring quality of provision and consistency and cohesion.

Support is provided regionally by multi-disciplinary teams who work in close co-operation with the Education Centre Network to respond to needs identified by schools in the region. These regional teams also respond to needs identified as part of WSE or in relation to Section 24 (of the Education Act 1998). The capacity of the teams is augmented by local facilitators and associate trainers. Regional teams also respond to national system priorities, ensuring that in relation to these are addressed in a consistent way at regional levels.

In addition to the regional teams as described above, the service also provides support in a number of programme areas including:

- School Leadership
- School planning
- Transition Year
- Leaving Certificate Applied
- Stay Safe Programme
- Reading Recovery
- Maths Recovery
- Language Education (Post Primary)
- Science Education (Post Primary)
- Cultural and Environmental Education (Post Primary)
- Business and Enterprise Education (Post Primary)
- NCTE

The PDST is also leading the delivery of Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life, The National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy among Children and Young People 2011-2020, which was launched in July 2011. It’s aim is to ensure that teachers and schools maintain a strong focus on literacy and numeracy skills, within a broad and balanced curriculum.

This programme is administered by Dublin West Education Centre.

**Contact Details:**
Professional Development Service for Teachers
14 Joyce Way
Park West Business Park
Nangor Road
Clondalkin
Dublin 22

Tel: 01- 4358595 ;
Email: info@pdst.ie
Web Address: [www.pdst.ie](http://www.pdst.ie)

**Project Maths Development Team (PMDT)**

Project Maths is a ground-breaking curriculum development initiative in post-primary Mathematics. The project, scheduled to run from 2008 to at least 2013, sees the incremental development of revised syllabuses in Junior and Leaving Certificate Mathematics alongside a significant programme of teacher professional development. The project will implement syllabus change in post-primary mathematics on a phased basis, initially in a small group of pilot schools. Syllabus revision is informed by classroom experience and changes in assessment are aligned with and underpin changes in syllabuses.

The project has been established by the Department of Education and Skills in collaboration with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) who are leading the implementation of the project.

Teacher professional development is provided by the Project Maths Development Team (PMDT) working in collaboration with the officers of the NCCA.
Gaeilge Support Service (2nd level)

New measures aimed at improving outcomes in Irish language learning and proficiency were announced by the then Minister for Education and Skills in April 2006. As part of these measures it was decided to establish a subject-specific support for Gaeilge for post-primary schools. The Gaeilge support service has operated from September 2007. One of the primary objectives of the service is to support the use of Gaeilge as a communicative language in schools and classrooms, by:

- promoting the importance of oral skills as an integral part of the Junior and Leaving Certificate syllabuses
- enabling teachers develop a range of teaching and learning strategies that will promote oral language proficiency, as recommended in Circular 0042/2007
- building on the strengths of the Revised Curriculum for Primary Schools.

Since September 2010, the Gaeilge Support Service has operated as a stand alone service hosted by Athlone Education Centre. Prior to this they were part of the Second Level Support Service.

Contact Details:
An tSeirbhís Tacaíochta Dara Leibhéal don Ghaeilge
Athlone Education Centre
Moydrum Road
Athlone
Co Westmeath

Tel: 0906 420400;
Email: oifig@muinteoirgaeilge.ie
Web Address: www.muinteoirgaeilge.ie
**Teacher Professional Network Scheme (TPN scheme)**

The Department has established a scheme to provide supplementary funding to support the work of teacher professional networks generally, including those focusing on subjects and specific programmes (e.g. Subject Associations). Blackrock Education Centre is responsible for the administration of the scheme. Full details on the TPN Supplementary Funding Scheme are available on the Blackrock Education Centre TPN website and also on the Blackrock Education Centre website.

**Contact Details:**
The TPN Administrator
Blackrock Education Centre
Kill Ave
Dun Laoghaire
Co. Dublin

Tel: 01 - 236 5000  
Fax: 01 - 236 5050  
Email: tpn@blackrockec.ie;  
Web Address: [www.tpnetwork.ie](http://www.tpnetwork.ie) or [www.blackrockec.ie](http://www.blackrockec.ie)

**Support for 2nd level Guidance Counsellors**

The support mainly takes the form of a range of regional peer professional support groups which are facilitated by supervisors. In addition to the peer supervision groups, an annual in service seminar is part funded which allows for guidance counsellors to access continuing professional development. Contribution is also made to a range of in-service activities throughout the year. This programme is administered by Monaghan Education Centre.

**Contact Details:**
Guidance Counsellor Supervision
Monaghan Education Centre
Knockaconnny
Armagh Road
Monaghan

Tel: 047- 74000  
Fax: 047 -74010  
Email: ionm@eircom.net  
Web Address: [www.metc.ie](http://www.metc.ie)
DEIS CURRICULAR SUPPORT

The DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity In Schools) action plan was launched in May 2005. The action plan provides for a standardised system for identifying levels of disadvantage and a new integrated School Support Programme (SSP). The School Support Programme will bring together, and build upon, existing interventions, including those in the primary sector, in schools with a concentrated level of disadvantage. Under the DEIS action plan, the PDST provides support to teachers in urban DEIS schools that enables them to implement programmes such as Maths Recovery, First Steps and Reading Recovery.

Summer Courses Programme

The main objective of summer courses is the advancement of teachers’ pedagogic and management skills, in the context of the work of the primary and/or post-primary school. The scheme for the summer course programme is administered by Drumcondra Education Centre on behalf of the Department.

Contact Details:
Summer Courses Programme
Drumcondra Education Centre
Drumcondra
Dublin 9

Tel: 01 - 857 6433
Fax: 01 – 857 6499
E-mail: aoifel@ecdrumcondra.ie
Web Address: www.ecdrumcondra.ie

Social, Personal Health Education (SPHE) – Post-Primary

SPHE is a required part of the Junior Cycle Programme since September 2003. The subject supports the personal development, health and well-being of young people and helps them create and maintain supportive relationships.

The SPHE Support Service was established in 2000 in partnership with the DES, the Department of Health and Children and the Health Service Executive. The service is mandated to support schools in the introduction and implementation of SPHE at Junior Cycle level.

This programme is administered by Marino Institute of Education.
### Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE)

The role of the RSE Support Service is to provide resources, information, advice and training on RSE to primary and post-primary schools. The support service works closely with, and acts as a resource for, the primary and post-primary Social Personal and Health Education (SPHE) teams. The RSE co-ordinator also works with a wide range of organisations outside the formal education sector on projects relevant to the delivery of RSE in schools.

This programme is administered by Drumcondra Education Centre.

### Contact Details:
Frances Shearer, National Co-ordinator
Relationships and Sexuality Education
Drumcondra Education Centre
St. Patrick’s College
Drumcondra
Dublin 9

Tel: 01 – 857 6432
Fax: 01 – 857 6499
Email: info@drumcondra.ie
Web Address: [http://www.ecdrumcondra.com](http://www.ecdrumcondra.com)
National Behaviour Support Service (NBSS)

The National Behaviour Support Service (NBSS) was established in 2006 as part of the Department of Education and Science’s response to the publication of the Report of the Task Force on Student Behavior in Second Level Schools: School Matters. The service forms part of an overall coherent national framework of support for schools experiencing difficulty coping with persistent and serious student disruption.

The service is staffed by experienced practitioners from across the education sector. This programme is administered by Navan Education Centre.

Contact Details:
Ms Mary Keane, National Co-ordinator
National Behaviour Support Service
Navan Education Centre
Athlumney
Navan
Co. Meath

Tel: 046 – 906 3355
Fax: 046 – 906 3354
Email: nbss@ecnavan.ie
Web Address: www.nbss.ie

Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP)

The JCSP is a national DES intervention for potential early school leavers. Currently there are 220 schools in the programme and this number is expanding under the DEIS initiative (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools). The
JCSP aims to provide a curriculum framework that assists schools and teachers in making the Junior Certificate more accessible to those young people who may leave school without formal qualifications.

The JCSP Literacy Strategy includes a National Demonstration Library Project for the Provision of Libraries in JCSP Schools. The libraries are staffed by full-time qualified librarians. The Demonstration Library Project supports school in providing for the needs of students with literacy and numeracy difficulties. Project librarians work with the teaching staff to develop and implement the JCSP Literacy Strategy.

**Contact Details:**
Junior Certificate School Programme
Curriculum Development Unit
City of Dublin VEC
Sundrive Road
Dublin 12

Tel: 01 - 453 5487
Fax: 01 - 402 0435
Email: jcsp@iol.ie
Web Address: www.slss.ie

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**Special Education Initiatives – Continuing Professional Development for Primary & Post-Primary Teachers provided by Third Level Institutions**

Teacher Education Section of the Department funds the provision of a number of Special Education programmes through third level institutions, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Type of SEN provision</th>
<th>Web address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Church of Ireland College, Rathmines, Dublin 6</td>
<td>• Combined Post – Graduate Diploma Programme⁽¹⁾</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cice.ie">www.cice.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Certificate for Special Needs Assistants⁽²⁾</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National University of Ireland Galway</td>
<td>• Combined Post – Graduate Diploma Programme⁽¹⁾</td>
<td><a href="http://www.nuigalway.ie">www.nuigalway.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Immaculate College, Limerick</td>
<td>• Combined Post – Graduate Diploma Programme⁽¹⁾</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mic.ul.ie">www.mic.ul.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Certificate for Special Needs Assistants⁽²⁾</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Introductory course for Resource Teachers (Primary)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution</td>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Angela’s College, Sligo</td>
<td>• Combined Post – Graduate Diploma Programme(^{(1)})</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stacs.edu.ie">www.stacs.edu.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Post-Graduate Certificate/Diploma Programme of CPD in Special Educational Needs (ASD) for Teachers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Certificate for Special Needs Assistants(^{(2)})</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick’s College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9</td>
<td>• Graduate Certificate in the Education of Pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorders</td>
<td><a href="http://www.spd.dcu.ie">www.spd.dcu.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Combined Post – Graduate Diploma Programme(^{(1)})</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Induction courses for teachers of pupils with Severe &amp; Profound General Learning Disabilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University College Cork</td>
<td>• Combined Post – Graduate Diploma Programme(^{(1)})</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucc.ie">www.ucc.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University College Dublin</td>
<td>• Combined Post – Graduate Diploma Programme(^{(1)})</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucd.ie/education">www.ucd.ie/education</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{(1)}\)Combined Post-Graduate Diploma Programme of Continuing Professional Development for Teachers involved in Learning Support and Special Education

\(^{(2)}\)Introductory courses are also provided through Education Centres, which can be taken as a stand-alone course or as part of the certificate course.

**Special Education Support Service (SESS)**

The Special Education Support Service (SESS) was established in 2003, to deliver CPD and support to schools on a nationwide basis. The service consolidates, co-ordinates, develops and delivers a range of professional development initiatives and support structures for school personnel working with students with special educational needs, in a variety of educational settings.
These settings include mainstream primary and post-primary schools, special schools and special classes.

The CPD provided by the SESS covers a range of specialities, including inter alia:

- Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASDs)
- Dyslexia
- Challenging Behaviour
- Post-primary issues in Special Educational Needs
- Specialist training for Autism Units attached to schools

**Contact Details:**
Special Education Support Service  
Cork Education Support Centre  
The Rectory  
Western Road  
Cork  
Tel: 1850 – 200 0884  
Fax: 021 – 425 5647  
email: info@sess.ie;  
Web Address: www.sess.ie
Boards of Management – Training

In recognition of the responsibility which the Education Act confers on Boards of Management and the increasingly complex environment in which they must operate, TES has developed a scheme for the provision of support to school management bodies for the purposes of the training and development of Boards of Management in the discharge of their duties. Drumcondra Education Centre is responsible for the administration of the scheme.

Contact Details:
Dr Eileen O'Connor
Drumcondra Education Centre
Drumcondra
Dublin 9

Contact Details:
Tel: 01-857 6400
Fax: 01-857 6499
Email: info@ecdrumcondra.ie
Web Address: www.ecdrumcondra.ie

Teacher Fee Refund Scheme

The Teacher Fee Refund Scheme is administered by Marino Institute of Education on behalf of the DES. The purpose of the Teacher Fee Refund Scheme is to provide funding towards the cost of course and examination fees incurred by primary and post-primary teachers in undertaking in-career development courses approved by the DES and school authorities. Approved refunds are payable on the successful completion of the approved course concerned.

Contact Details:
The Administrator
Refund of Fees Scheme
St. Patrick’s
Marino Institute of Education
Griffith Avenue
Dublin 9

Tel: 01 - 853 5102;
E-mail: refundoffeesscheme@mie.ie
Web address: www.mie.ie
Probationary Teachers

Primary teachers register with the Teaching Council as soon as they have completed their college course. As soon as they gain employment in school for the required period (a minimum of 50 consecutive days), they register for probation. Every effort is made to ensure that all eligible teachers who make an application for inspection will be inspected in that school year. Limerick Education Centre administers the details of probationary teachers on behalf on the Inspectorate.

Contact Details:
Probationary Teachers’ Desk
Limerick Education Centre
First Floor
Marshal House
Dora Doyle Road
Limerick

Tel: 061 585060 (Ext 4)
Fax: 061 585061
Email: probation@lec.ie
**Active School Flag**

The Active School Awards initiative was introduced in 2004. Its main aim is to raise the profile of Physical Education and co-curricular physical activity in the context of the introduction of the PE primary curriculum and the Junior Certificate PE syllabus and to promote lifelong involvement in sport and physical activity. In 2009 the Initiative was changed from an Awards format to a non-competitive flag format which gives schools the opportunity to raise awareness of the value of Physical Education and to identify, acknowledge and recognise best practice in the promotion of quality physical education.

**Contact Details:**
Active School Awards
Mayo Education Centre
Westport Road
Castlebar Road
Co.Mayo

Tel: 094-902 0700
Fax: 094-902 0720
Email: eolas@activeschoolflag.ie
Web Address: [http://www.activeschoolflag.ie/](http://www.activeschoolflag.ie/)

**Jewish Studies**

Jewish Studies is a new subject in the junior cycle. In the rationale of the syllabus, the subject relates to the area of social, political, and environmental education. Jewish Studies contributes to the students’ growing understanding of the social, cultural and religious forces that have shaped the world they live in.

Jewish Studies is hosted by Dublin West Education Centre.

**Contact Details:**
Jewish Studies Support
Dublin West Education Centre
Old Blessington Road
Tallaght Village
Dublin 24

Tel: 01 4528000
Fax: 01 4528010
Email: info@dwec.ie
Web Address: [http://www.dwec.ie/](http://www.dwec.ie/)
Education Centres

The nationwide network of Education Centres (21 full-time and 9 part-time), are key partners in the provision of teacher CPD. Under the remit of the Department the centres host the national programmes of curriculum reform and the support services which work on a range of issues relating to teaching and learning. They also provide a range of supports to address identified needs of teachers and schools in their various catchment areas.

The Association of Teachers/Education Centres in Ireland (ATECI www.ateci.ie) is the representative body for the Education Centre Network.

Contact Details for Education Centres

Full-Time Education Centres

- Athlone Education Centre
  Tel: 090 – 642 0400; Fax: 090 – 647 6501
  Email: info@athloneeducationcentre.com
  Web Address www.athedcen.com

- Blackrock Education Centre
  Tel: 01 - 236 5000; Fax: 01 - 236 5050
  Email: bec@blackrockec.ie
  Web Address: www.blackrockec.ie

- Carrick-on-Shannon Education Centre
  Tel: 071 - 962 2028; Fax: 071 - 962 1471
  Email office@carrickedcentre.ie
  Web Address: www.carrickedcentre.ie

- Clare Education Centre
  Tel: 065 – 684 5500; Fax: 065 – 684 2930
  Email: director@clareed.ie
  Web Address: www.clareed.ie

- Cork Education Support Centre
  Tel: 021 - 425 5600 ; Fax: 021 - 425 4245
  Email: office@cesc.ie
  Web Address: www.cesc.ie

- Donegal Education Centre
• Drumcondra Education Centre
  Tel: 01 – 857 6400; Fax: 01 – 857 6499
  Email: info@ecdrumcondra.ie
  Web Address: www.ecdrumcondra.com

• Dublin West Education Centre
  Tel: 01 - 452 8000; Fax: 01 – 452 8010
  Email: info@dweic.ie
  Web Address: www.dweic.ie

• Galway Education Centre
  Tel: 091– 74 5600; Fax: 091 – 74 5618
  Email: info@galwayec.ie
  Web Address: www.galwayec.ie

• Kildare Education Centre
  Tel: 045 – 53 0200; Fax: 045 – 53 0237
  Email: office@eckildare.ie
  Web Address: www.eckildare.ie

• Kilkenny Education Centre
  Tel: 056 – 776 0200; Fax: 056 – 776 0250
  Email: kecsec@eircom.net
  Web Address: www.eckilkenny.ie

• Laois Education Centre
  Tel: 057– 8672400; Fax: 057 – 86661137
  Email: info@laoisedcentre.ie
  Web Address: www.laoisedcentre.ie

• Limerick Education Centre
  Tel: 061 – 58 5060 ; Fax: 061 – 58 5061
  Email: info@lec.ie
  Web Address: www.lec.ie

• Mayo Education Centre
  Tel: 094 – 902 0700; Fax: 094 – 902 0720
  Email: eolas@mayoeducationcentre.ie
  Web Address: www.mayoeducationcentre.ie

• Monaghan Education Centre
  Tel: 047 – 7 4000 ;Fax: 047 – 7 4010
  Email: info@metc.ie
  Web Address: www.metc.ie
• Navan Education Centre
  Tel: 046 – 906 7040 ;Fax: 046 – 906 7065
  Email: info@ecnavan.ie;
  Web Address: www.ecnavan.ie

• Sligo Education Centre
  Tel: 071 – 913 8700; Fax: 071 – 913 8767
  Email: info@ecsligo.ie
  Web Address: www.ecsligo.ie

• Tralee Education Centre
  Tel:066 – 719 5000 ;Fax: 066 – 719 5091
  Email: edcentretralee@eircom.net;
  Web Address: www.edcentretralee.ie

• Waterford Teachers’ Centre
  Tel: 051 – 31 1000; Fax 051 – 31 1050
  Email: info@wtc.ie;
  Web Address: www.wtc.ie

• West Cork Education Centre
  Tel: 023 – 885 6756 ; Fax: 023 – 885 6752
  Email: wcecentre@eircom.net
  Web Address: www.westcorkeducationcentre.com

• Wexford Education Centre
  Tel: 053 – 923 9100 ; Fax: 053 – 923 9124
  Email: info@ecwexford.ie;
  Web Address: www.ecwexford.ie

Part-Time Education Centres

• Carlow Education Centre
  Tel: 087-2079448; Fax: 059 – 913 5404
  Email: cec@iol.ie
  Web Address: www.eccarlow.ie

• Cavan Education Centre
  Tel: 049 – 433 2259; Fax: 049 – 433 2259
  Email: info@cavanec.ie
  Web Address: www.cavanec.ie
• Ionad Oideachais Chorca Dhuibhne  
Tel: 066 – 915 1866; Fax: 066 – 915 1866  
Email: iocdad@eircom.net

• Ionad Múinteoirí, Connamara & Arainn  
Tel: 087 7916876  
Email: imchonamara@hotmail.com

• Dundalk Education Centre  
Tel: 042 – 933 0309; Fax: 042 – 933 0309  
Email: teach@iol.ie

• Ionad Oideachais Ghort a’Choirc  
Tel: 074 – 916 5556; Fax: 074 – 916 5556  
Email: Inmr@eircom.net

Co Tipperary Education Support Centre  
Tel: 086-6008860  
Email: info@tippec.ie  
Website: www.tippec.ie

Tarbert Education Centre  
Tel: 069 60005  
087 9310233  
Email: info@tarbertesc.ie  
Website: www.tarbertesc.ie

Tuam Education Centre  
Tel: 093 - 2 5877; Fax: 093 - 2 5960  
Email: tuamedcentre@eircom.net  
Website: www.tuamec.ie
GLOSSARY
ASF – Active School Flag
ATECI - Association of Teachers/Education Centres in Ireland
BoM – Boards Of Management
CPD – Continuing Professional Development
DEIS – Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools
DES – Department of Education and Skills
ITE - Initial Teacher Education
JCSP - Junior Certificate School Programme
NBSS – National Behaviour Support Service
NIPT – National Induction Programme for Teachers
NQTs – Newly Qualified Teachers
PMDT - Project Maths Development Team
RSE – Relationships and Sexuality Education
SEN – Special Education Needs
SESS – Special Education Support Service
SPHE – Social, Personal Health Education
TES – Teacher Education Section
TPN Scheme – Teacher Professional Network Scheme
TY – Transition Year