

26 March 2015

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**To: Boards of Management, Principal Teachers and all Teaching Staff of Primary,
Post Primary and ETB schools**

Interim scheme for allocation of Resource Teaching Hours (RT) for students with Down Syndrome enrolled in mainstream classes who do not come within the Low Incidence Teaching Hours (LITH) categories

Note 1:

The Minister for Education & Skills has announced the introduction of an interim scheme of provision for students with Down Syndrome who are not currently supported in mainstream class settings under the scheme for low incidence allocations. Following the announcement the NCSE has introduced a new application form to access resource teaching hours for students with Down Syndrome who do not come within the Low Incidence Teaching Hours (LITH) Categories. The new application form (Form 8) is available on the NCSE website www.ncse.ie.

Note 2:

There is no need to submit applications for RT hours for students with Down Syndrome who are already in receipt of LITH.

Note 3:

Allocation of supports will take effect from the commencement of the 2015/2016 school year.

Note 4:

Schools must make an application using NCSE Application Form 8 to access this scheme. Applications for students that previously did not meet the criteria under the LITH scheme can re-apply to the NCSE under this scheme using Form 8.

Key Dates:

- **17th April 2015:** Schools to submit Form 8 applications for RTH for students with Down Syndrome who do not qualify under current LITH categories. Form 8 is available on the NCSE website www.ncse.ie
- **May 2015:** Publication of Resource Teaching allocations to schools on the NCSE website
- **September 2015:** Schools to confirm to their local SENOs that students allocated additional supports are attending school. The Student Attendance Confirmation Form (Form 6) is available to download from the NCSE website.

Issue of Teaching Allocations

Resource allocations made under this scheme will be notified to schools along with their LITH allocation for the start of 2015/16 school year.

These Guidelines and all forms are available for download on the NCSE website at www.ncse.ie.

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