

NCSE Working Group on a Model of Support for Additional Care Needs

1st Meeting: 17th July 2017

11:00-3:00

MINUTES

Present: Eamon Stack (Chair), Brendan Doody, Anne Tansey, Aine Lynch (pm only), Lorraine Dempsey, Helen Guinan, Pat Goff, Peter Archer, Adam Harris, Teresa Griffin, Mary Byrne (Secretary)

Apologies: Bernie McNally, Maria McCarthy, Marion Meaney, Áine McElearney, Frank Moran.

Welcome and Introductions

The Minister for Education and Skills, Richard Bruton, T.D. appointed Eamon Stack, Chairperson, NCSE as Chair of the Working Group.

The Chairperson explained that the National Council for Special Education is carrying out a comprehensive review of the Special Needs Assistant scheme at the request of the Minister for Education and Skills. The working group was established to assist the NCSE to identify and develop a proposal for a model of support to provide better outcomes for students with special educational needs who have additional care needs.

The working group's proposal must be completed by mid-November 2017 in order to be circulated for Council's consideration at its meeting on December 6th 2017.

Following his introduction, the Chairperson invited all members to introduce themselves.

NCSE Progress Report

NCSE staff delivered a presentation on progress made to date on the Comprehensive Review of the SNA scheme. This was followed by a general discussion on the report's research and consultation elements.

Group Discussion

There was a general discussion on the following three key terms from the Working Group's Term of Reference:

- a. 'Care'; 'Additional Care'
- b. 'Better Outcomes for Students'
- c. 'Model of Support'

Decisions taken:

- Small advisory group was set up to:
 - Develop proposals, draft papers etc. based on the working group's discussions
 - Report back to working group
- Schedule of meeting dates were agreed