

Data and Research to Support Teacher Supply Planning

Minutes of meeting of the Working Group

2.30pm, Wednesday 31st January 2022

Via WebEx

In attendance:

Chris Kelly, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply) (Chair)
Deirdre Cullen, Statistics Section
Steven Lucas, Statistics Section
Sinéad Keenaghan, Payroll Division
Michael Redmond, Post Primary Management Bodies
Adrian Mannion (for Sinéad Middleton), Teacher Education Policy (ITE & Professional Development)
Manuela Heinz, HEIs
Maria Fitzgerald, Teaching Council
Fiona Kindlon, ETBI
Deirdre O'Donoghue, Primary Management Bodies

Also in attendance:

Conor McCourt, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)
Damien O'Neill, Teacher Education Policy (Teacher Supply)

Apologies:

Deirdre Shanley, Asst. Secretary
Jason Kelly, Inspectorate
Paul McCarthy, IT Payroll
Lewis Purser, IUA
Karen Eastwood Lovett, Teaching Council
Laura Watts, Central Policy Unit
Jill Fannin, Forward Planning
Sinéad Middleton, Teacher Education Policy (ITE & Professional Development)

1. Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

The minutes of the meeting of the 24th November 2021 were agreed.

2. Post primary subject teacher projection model

Survey of unmet demand update

The Group considered the initial findings of the survey.

The following points were noted:

- Approximately 90% of post primary schools responded to the survey.
- Mathematics, Irish, home economics and special education are reported to be the most challenging areas for schools to fill vacancies.
- Statistics Section will follow up with a sample of schools to verify the survey results.

The following points were agreed:

- It will be assumed that schools that did not respond are not experiencing teacher supply challenges and results will not be extrapolated to take account of the 10% of schools which did not respond.
- Where a JC subject splits into multiple LC subjects, the JC and LC subjects will be treated separately in the analysis (e.g. JC Science and LC Physics, Chemistry and Biology.)
- Where a JC subject continues directly into a single LC subject, the JC and LC subject will be combined under the title of the LC subject.
- SPHE and CSPE will be included in the survey analysis.
- JC Business Studies and LC Business will be considered as separate subjects.
- Learning support and special education will be combined under one heading (i.e. special education teacher (SET)).
- A geographical breakdown of the results will be undertaken to identify regional variations in unmet demand.
- A breakdown of results by school sector, DEIS status and Irish/English medium provision will also be undertaken.
- Consideration will be given to a separate meeting with the individual management bodies to discuss the survey results.

DTR returns 2021 update

The following points were noted:

- 98% of schools have now made a return.
- The Inspectorate has provided a file of the returns to Statistics Section..

3. Data on the HE sector

Data sharing with the HEA

It was noted that a data sharing agreement between the Department (Statistics Section) and the HEA is in place and that the Department now has access to SRS data.

The following points were agreed:

- Teacher Supply Secretariat will organise a meeting with Teacher Education Section, Statistics Section and the Teaching Council to identify a definitive list of all ITE programmes, which will be used to facilitate analysis of the SRS data
- A draft list of ITE programmes will be circulated in advance of this meeting .

Potential for direct linkages with HEIs

In light of the data sharing agreement now in place with the HEA, it was agreed to remove this item from future meeting agendas.

4. Data on sub demand and supply

The Group considered the challenges in collecting data on the deployment of primary school supply panel teachers to fill substitute vacancies.

The following points were agreed:

- A sub-group, to include Payroll, Stats Section, and IT Development, will be convened to explore how the OLCS system can be developed to capture data on substitute vacancies, including data on the deployment of supply panel teachers.
- Payroll Division will circulate screenshots of the OLCS to the Group.

5. Use of the Teaching Council register to hold additional data to support teacher supply planning

Update on new registration database

The following points were noted:

- The new database is operational since 14th October with 112,500 teachers now registered.
- All online registrations are now completed through the new portal.
- The system is being developed further to facilitate the registration of 3rd and 4th year student teachers
- The Droichead process is now incorporated into the database.

- Teachers will be requested to update their employment information as part of the annual renewal of registration including their paymaster, school information and type of employment.

6. A.O.B.

None.

7. Date of next meeting

6th April, 2022

**Teacher Supply Secretariat
February 2022**