



Launch of Teacher Sharing Scheme Pilot

Overview

This document summarises the terms for a pilot of the Teacher Sharing Scheme, based on the existing [Teacher Sharing Circular \(0015/2019\)](#).

Detailed information

Provisions of the existing scheme

The existing Teacher Sharing Scheme allows two schools to collaborate to provide high priority subjects and to enhance teaching hours for teachers in employment on fewer than full hours.

Continued applicability of Circular 0025/2019

The terms of the Circular will continue to apply during any pilot of the Scheme. In particular, a cluster will be formed of two schools. The Base School will be the employer of the teacher. The teacher will travel to teach in the Host School for the school year.

The teacher must be registered to teach in the subject that is being delivered and employed by the Base School in an approved teaching post.

Additionally, the terms provided in the Circular such as those for travel time, travel and subsistence, employment provision and disciplinary arrangements will continue for the purposes of this pilot.

Additional allocation of teaching hours

The Department will support schools in the pilot to increase their allocation to fully participate in the teacher sharing scheme.

Where a Base School employs a teacher on fewer than 22 hour per week contract, the allocated hours will be increased to 22 hours for the purposes of this pilot. This scenario would arise were an existing teacher of a particular subject in a Base School, who is on fewer than 22 hours, would teach that subject in the Host School, and as a result obtain 22 hours.

An increase in allocation will be considered where a cluster identifies a need for a previously untaught subject to be provided, and where that can facilitate an existing teacher in the Base School increasing their hours to 22 hours per week. This scenario would arise where a teacher of a particular subject in a Base School would obtain additional hours teaching a different subject in a Host School.



Duration and participants for a Pilot Scheme

It is intended that a pilot scheme would be for the duration of three school years. This is to facilitate senior cycle provision for 5th and 6th year students. Participant schools will form clusters for the pilot scheme. A cluster will comprise two schools.

Additional supports for the Pilot Scheme

Funding will be considered to provide timetabling consultancy services or software to support timetabling during the Pilot Scheme.

Review of the Pilot Scheme

This pilot will be reviewed periodically during the school year with recommendations being made. The Host and Base School will provide information and opinion on the operation of the pilot to the Department as required.

Application Process

Schools will form a cluster for the purpose of the pilot, and apply for the Pilot Scheme. Applications for the pilot will be processed in line with the existing [Teacher Sharing Circular \(0015/2019\)](#), which includes an application form.