



Droichead Temporary Measures

Due to the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on schools, an emergency time bound measure has been put in place for the remainder of the 2021/2022 academic year. These are short-term measures and are subject to review.

1. Supply Panels and Principal Release Days

On an exceptional basis, applications for Droichead will be accepted for the school year 2021/2022 where a NQT is employed on a continuous basis (i.e., 5 days per week):

1.1 under the supply panel provision

OR

1.2 covering principal release days.

Please note the following:

- Note 1:** The application for Droichead must be made on or before the **31 January 2022** and the process must extend until the end of the academic year.
- Note 2:** A minimum of two Professional Support Team members (PSTs) are required to support the NQT throughout the process, at least one of which must be a PST from the base school. The NIPT should be contacted at info@teacherinduction.ie to discuss the option of offering the process using the External PST model or the Inter-school's model.
- Note 3:** The PST and NQT must ensure that they have prior consent and agreement and that all schools are willing to facilitate the completion of the Droichead process.
- Note 4:** The Principal of the base school must act in an oversight role.
- Note 5:** All other requirements of the Droichead process must be met unless otherwise exempted e.g., Cluster meetings, professional learning activities, observations, and reflective practice. Cluster Meeting 1 is compulsory and must be followed by either Cluster Meeting 2 or Cluster Meeting 3.
- Note 6:** Where applications for Droichead are made after the deadline of the 31 January 2022 and/or the eligibility requirements are not adhered to, the Droichead process will not be fulfilled and the Droichead condition will remain on a teacher's registration. The NQT/school should email conditions@teachingcouncil.ie for advice prior to applying for *Droichead*.
- Note 7:** It is expected that any NQT availing of this exceptional measure will exceed the minimum requirement of 60 teaching days before the end of the academic year. If this does not occur the NQT must contact the Council for advice on how to proceed.

2. Job-sharing & Part-time contracts (*Amended Provision)

This temporary measure amends Section 1.3 of the *Post-Qualification Professional Practice Conditions Transitional Arrangements 2021/2022* dated September 2021.

On an exceptional basis, applications for the Droichead process will be accepted for the school year 2021/2022 for teachers registered under Primary, or Route 4 Other, with the condition of Droichead or Probation attached to their registration, who are:

- 2.1 on a job-share contract **which commenced before the 31 December 2021** and extends to the end of the academic year. This includes teachers employed as replacement teachers.

OR

- 2.2 on a part-time contract of not less than twelve and a half hours (12.5 hours) **which commenced before the 31 December 2021** and extends to the end of the academic year.

Please note the following:

- Note 1:** The application for Droichead must be made on or before **31 January 2022** and the process must extend until the end of the academic year.
- Note 2:** All other requirements of the Droichead process must be met unless otherwise exempted e.g., Cluster meetings, professional learning activities, observations, and reflective practice. Cluster Meeting 1 is compulsory and must be followed by either Cluster Meeting 2 or Cluster Meeting 3.
- Note 3:** Where a teacher has 2 separate part-time contracts which total more than 12.5 hours, they may apply for Droichead once both schools agree to the process and a PST cluster arrangement is put in place, if necessary. Advice should be sought from the Teaching Council by emailing conditions@teachingcouncil.ie
- Note 4:** Where applications for Droichead are made after the deadline of the 31 January 2022 and or the eligibility requirements at 2.1 and 2.2 are not adhered to, the Droichead requirement will not be deemed met and the Droichead condition will remain on a teacher's registration. The NQT/school should email conditions@teachingcouncil.ie for advice prior to applying for Droichead.
- Note 5:** It is expected that any NQT availing of this exceptional measure will exceed the minimum requirement of 60 teaching days before the end of the academic year. If this does not occur the NQT must contact the Teaching Council for advice on how to proceed.

Queries

If a school or NQT has any doubt in relation to eligibility, please email the Council for specific advice at conditions@teachingcouncil.ie. Queries to the Council should include the full name and registration number of the NQT and as much information as possible in relation to the NQTs contract of employment.