



In-person Supplementary Programme to Support the Education or Care Needs of Students with Complex Needs at Post Primary

Guidance for Parents/Legal Guardians of Eligible Student

While schools are making significant efforts to provide effective remote teaching and learning, including one-to-one remote supports for students with the most complex needs, the Department acknowledges the significant impact of school closures on students with significant complex needs.

To address these difficulties and to support this group of students and their families, the Department is introducing an **In-person Supplementary Programme** – intended to supplement the teaching and learning provided by the student’s school and alleviate the impact of this period of school closure.

The in-person supplementary programme may be provided by a teacher or SNA.

Schools will seek to actively support parents/guardians in sourcing a teacher or SNA.

Eligibility

Parents/Guardians of eligible students will be contacted by their school.

The following students are eligible to participate in the scheme

- All students in special classes in post primary schools.
- Students in mainstream classes in post primary schools who are accessing the highest level of the continuum of support (Student Support Plus/for a few). This includes students with Autism, Down syndrome, sensory impairments, and other disabilities.

- Schools have flexibility to identify students that require the highest level of individualised and specialist support at any given time. This will ensure that students presenting with exceptional needs due to the current school closures can participate in the scheme.

What is available under the scheme?

A maximum of 5 hours per week home-based tuition or care support will be available to eligible students for a four week period.

The four week programme (20 hours) can commence from 22 February 2021 and can be used by families at any time up until the end of April.

All banked hours must be used by Friday 30 April.

The closing date for receipt of completed grant claim forms is close of business on Friday 14 May. Grant Claim Forms will not be accepted after this date.

Supports must be delivered outside of the normal school day and/or at weekends.

Home based support must be provided on a 1:1 basis, except with siblings.

Eligible siblings are entitled to 5 hours per week each for 4 weeks. Parents are free to arrange for provision to be delivered to siblings together or separately on a one to one basis. If tuition is delivered to siblings together they can avail of the aggregate hours i.e. 2 siblings supported together for one week would be eligible to access 10 hours support or 5 hours each if supported separately.

Teachers/SNAs will for be paid for each hour delivered whether provided together or on a one-to-one basis.

Banking of unused hours for delivery during the Easter Break

To give parents every chance to participate in the scheme the Department will facilitate parents in arranging for the delivery of up to 20 unused hours of support during the Easter break.

"Please contact the Principal for further information"