

Circular 21/2021: Arrangements for Teachers and SNAs in Primary Schools

The purpose of this circular is to advise school leaders and BoMs of the arrangements for teachers and SNAs who are affected or potentially affected by COVID-19. These arrangements are summarised in a chart in Chapter 5 of the Circular.

[Circular 21/2021](#) supersedes Circular 49/2020 and Information Notes TCs 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 of 2021

The Circular contains information under 5 broad headings: -

1. **General Provisions**, including Employee Assistance Scheme, RTW Forms and COVID Response Plan
2. **Special Leave with Pay**, including Application Procedures, COVID-19 Special Leave, Special Leave with Pay Special Leave with Pay, and Ordinary Sick Leave in relation to COVID-19
3. **Restricted Movement**, including arrangements in relation to Overseas Travel
4. **Higher Risk Groups**, including High Risk, Very High Risk, Pregnant teachers and SNAs and Alternative Working Arrangements
5. **Employers Guide** which includes 6 Tables, each containing a number of scenarios for the categories above. Each table describes the scenario, the leave status of the teacher or SNA involved and whether it is substitutable or not

Note re Pregnant Teachers and SNAs. [Circular 21/2021](#) states that the DE has not yet finalised its consideration of HSE guidelines in relation to pregnant employees and COVID-19. Pregnant Teachers and SNAs should therefore continue to work remotely until further notice