**Provisional allocations for Developing Schools or Schools which have Rapidly Expanding Enrolments 2021/22 School Year**

Each year the Department of Education/NCSE provide additional allocations of Special Education Teaching support for schools which achieve developing status, based on the criteria set out below.

These allocations have traditionally been provided for schools, once the enrolments have been confirmed at October.

For the forthcoming school year, in order to support schools to plan for their staffing arrangements in September, the DES/NCSE will bring forward the allocation process, by initially making provisional allocations for schools

The provisional additional allocations will be based on schools projected enrolments, where schools have projected that they will receive developing allocations, based on the criteria below.

These allocations will be made in the coming weeks and will allow schools to plan for September 2021.

The allocations will then be confirmed, once the enrolment returns are provided by October 2021.

**Provisional allocations therefore cannot be used to create or adjust existing Special Education Clusters. Revisions to clusters cannot be made as a result of a provisional allocation, as these allocations are temporary allocations, which are required to be confirmed at October.**

**The additional hours being provided is a provisional allocation which is dependent on confirmation of September 2021 enrolments and on the consequential allocation of the additional mainstream developing posts.**

Where the projected enrolments are realised, no adjustment will be required. In the event that the projected enrolments differ from the actual enrolments, a necessary adjustment to the allocation will be made.

**Developing Schools or Schools which have Rapidly Expanding Enrolments 2021/22 School Year**

It is acknowledged that there are circumstances which may arise in schools, which fall outside the appeals process put in place by the NCSE to support the new special education teaching model.

These include circumstances where the school profile significantly changes following the allocation process e.g. a developing school where the net enrolment numbers significantly increase year on year.

The criteria for qualification for mainstream school developing school posts for the 2021/22 school year are set out in the DES Circular Primary and Post Primary School Staffing Schedules for 2021/22.

Schools who qualify for additional mainstream developing school posts in accordance with these criteria will also qualify for additional Special Education Teaching Allocations to take account of this developing status, as follows:

1. **an additional 3 hours of SEN teaching support will be provided for schools which have one developing post, or for a schools first developing post where they have more than one developing post**
2. **and 5 hours per each post thereafter, for each school which has two or more developing posts**

**Retained Allocations**

For some schools, the profiled allocation for their school under the new Special Education model was less than the allocation the school received under the previous allocation. Those schools were allowed to retain the balance of this allocation. Where this occurred, schools will have seen this part of their allocation under the heading ‘Retained Allocation’ in their allocation letter.

Where a school has a retained allocation, **any additional allocation they receive on the basis of qualification for developing posts will be a net allocation, less any retained element of their existing school profile allocation**

**Allocation Timeframe**

The allocation of the additional hours will be made, effective from 1st September, once the enrolments have been confirmed as at 30th September, 2021.

Any additional hours being provided as a provisional allocation is dependent on confirmation of September 2021 enrolments, and on the consequential allocation of the additional mainstream developing posts.