

Rannán na Scoileanna – Airgeadas
An Roinn Oideachais agus
Scileanna
Cor na Madadh
Baile Átha Luain
Co. na hIarmhí



Schools Division - Financial
Department of Education and
Skills
Cornamaddy
Athlone
Co. Westmeath

Circular letter 0041/2010

To: The Management Authorities of Recognised Secondary, Community and Comprehensive Schools and the Chief Executive Officer of Vocational Education Committees

RESTORATION OF BOOK GRANTS AND CERTAIN PROGRAMME GRANTS

The Renewed Programme for Government provided for an allocation of extra funding to allow schools to provide assistance for books and to fund the Transition Year, Leaving Certificate Applied, Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme, Physics & Chemistry, Home Economics, music activities and the Junior Certificate Schools Programme.

The Minister for Education and Skills wishes to advise the Management Authorities of second level schools and the Chief Executive Officers of VECs of the arrangements regarding the payment of funding to be allocated to schools/VECs in respect of the restoration of these programme grants and funding for books.

The policy of the Department of Education and Skills is to streamline the payment of grants, in order to ease the administrative burden on schools and on the Department itself. The eventual goal is to make all payments through the capitation system. It is planned, therefore, to incorporate the funding to schools/VECs for books into capitation payments with effect from January 2011. For the 2010 year, payment will be made separately.

Incorporating funding in respect of programme grants into capitation could lead to significant over/under-payments in the September and January capitation payments, as the range of programmes are not provided in each school. For this reason, it is planned to pay the programme grants as part of the April capitation payment, with effect from April 2011. For the 2010 year, payment will be made separately.

This Department expects to make all payments in June 2010. The additional per capita funding to be provided is:

Allocation to DEIS schools for books	€39
Allocation to non-DEIS schools for books	€24
Junior Certificate Schools Programme	€63
Transition Year Programme	€100
Leaving Certificate Applied Programme	€159
Physics and Chemistry	€13

The small allocation which previously went towards music and equipment for the Leaving Certificate Applied and Leaving Certificate Vocational Programmes, as well as home economics equipment - which amounted to €155,000 across the entire school sector - will be incorporated into general school capitation funding.

The Department of Education and Skills will be urging schools to put in place book rental schemes, as these are the most effective means of lowering costs for all parents.

All enquiries regarding this circular should be made to Schools Division Financial at ccfinancial@education.gov.ie.

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June 2010