



June 2022

## RE: DEIS Grant Allocation – 2022 / 2023 school year

Dear Chairperson / Principal

The purpose of the DEIS programme is to support those students who are at greatest risk of educational disadvantage and to improve their educational outcomes. A copy of the DEIS plan is available [here](#)

### DEIS Planning Requirement for all Schools

Schools in the DEIS programme must ensure that all DEIS supports, including the DEIS Grant, are targeted at those students most at risk of educational disadvantage.

In order to ensure that this happens, all schools in the DEIS Programme must engage in systematic action planning for improvement. This planning process should lead to the development and implementation of a three-year improvement plan. DEIS schools are asked to integrate a wellbeing promotion review and development cycle, in line with the Department's Wellbeing Policy and Framework for Practice, into their DEIS planning. It is also advised that in the process of DEIS planning, schools incorporate measures included in their Digital Learning Plan to support learners at risk through the use of digital tools and resources.

**This plan is the school's improvement plan for the purposes of school self-evaluation and no additional or separate improvement plan is required for school self-evaluation.**

### The aim of the DEIS Action Planning Process and the DEIS Action Plan for Improvement

The aim of the action planning process and of the resultant action plan is to ensure that the school has robust processes in place to:

- Identify students most at risk from educational disadvantage
- Identify the needs of these students
- Identify the priority areas to meet these needs
- Devise clear targets based on robust evidence to meet the identified needs
- Identify and plan for the implementation of interventions to meet these targets
- Monitor the success of these interventions



The school's **DEIS Action Plan for Improvement** should be the action plan guiding the work of the school in all areas of teaching, learning and assessment, wellbeing and support for students, partnership with parents and the wider community and including attendance, retention and transitions. This action plan will clearly outline the priorities for improvement over a three-year period. Most importantly, the **DEIS Action Plan for Improvement** should be a meaningful document that reflects the specific context of the school and that informs classroom and whole-school practice.

### **Inspectorate**

Schools can access support from the Inspectorate of the Department of Education in their DEIS action planning process by sending an e-mail requesting a DEIS advisory visit to [sse@education.gov.ie](mailto:sse@education.gov.ie)

### **Supports for Schools**

#### **Support Services**

The Professional Development Support Service for Teachers (PDST) will provide supports for schools in action planning for improvement. A variety of supports is available for school leadership through the Centre for School Leadership (CSL). The National Council for Special Education (NCSE) will support schools as they work to improve the learning experiences and outcomes for students with additional needs. Please see the flyers below for more information on these supports.

- [PDST Flyer](#)
- [NCSE Flyer](#)

### **Management and Oversight of DEIS Grant Allocation**

The DEIS Grant due to your school in respect of the 2022 / 2023 school year is being lodged to the school's bank account.

Please pay special attention to the Department's Guidelines on the appropriate use of the DEIS Funding. These guidelines are available at [DEIS Grant Guidelines](#)

In accordance with Section 18 of the Education Act 1998, schools are required to keep records of all activities undertaken and materials and resources purchased with grants. Income and expenditure accounts should be retained in the school and be made available if required by officers of the Department of Education and/or the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

Schools should be aware that accounts are subject to audit. With this in mind, schools should make every effort to ensure best value for money and adopt best financial practices in order



to be compliant with the Act and relevant circulars. The services of the Financial Support Services Unit ([www.fssu.ie](http://www.fssu.ie)) are available in this regard should you need their advice on such matters.

Where funding is proposed to be used for ICT infrastructure or devices, devices must remain the property of the school but can be loaned to students. The terms and criteria for expenditure on ICT infrastructure are as per those set out in Circular 0077/2020, available [here](#).

Linda Hoban

***Aonad um Chuimsiú Sóisialta***

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