July 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](https://www.gov.ie/en/policy-information/4018ea-deis-delivering-equality-of-opportunity-in-schools/#:~:text=The%20DEIS%20Plan%202017%20sets,of%20disadvantage%20and%20social%20exclusion.)

**DEIS Planning Requirements 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 attached flyers for more information on these supports.

**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](https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/69219/9e17ed9b621c49bca11bb6480a1d0476.pdf#page=1)

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](https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/c85b5-grant-scheme-for-ict-infrastructure-20202021-school/).

Linda Hoban

***Aonad um Chuimsiú Sóisialta***

*Social Inclusion Unit*

**An Roinn Oideachais**

*Department of Education*

**Corr na Madadh, Baile Átha Luain, Co na hIarmhí, N37 X659**

*Cornamaddy, Athlone, Co Westmeath, N37 X659*

**E**: [social\_inclusion@education.gov.ie](mailto:social_inclusion@education.gov.ie)

Iúil 2022

**MAIDIR LE: Leithdháileadh Dheontas DEIS – scoilbhliain 2022 / 2023**

A Chathaoirligh / a Phríomhoide, a chara

Tá sé mar chuspóir ag clár DEIS tacú leis na scoláirí sin is mó atá i mbaol ó mhíbhuntáiste oideachasúil agus a gcuid torthaí oideachais a fheabhsú. Tá cóip de phlean DEIS ar fáil [anseo](https://www.gov.ie/en/policy-information/4018ea-deis-delivering-equality-of-opportunity-in-schools/#:~:text=The%20DEIS%20Plan%202017%20sets,of%20disadvantage%20and%20social%20exclusion.)

**Riachtanais Phleanála DEIS do gach scoil**

Ní mór do scoileanna atá páirteach i gclár DEIS a chinntiú go bhfuil na tacaíochtaí DEIS go léir, Deontas DEIS san áireamh, dírithe ar na scoláirí sin is mó atá i mbaol ó mhíbhuntáiste oideachasúil.

Chun a chinntiú go dtarlóidh sé sin, ní mór do na scoileanna go léir atá páirteach i gclár DEIS a bheith rannpháirteach i bpleanáil gníomhaíochta chórasach i gcomhair feabhsaithe. Ba cheart go ndéanfaí plean feabhsaithe trí bliana a fhorbairt agus a chur i bhfeidhm mar thoradh ar an bpróiseas pleanála.Iarrtar ar scoileanna DEIS athbhreithniú ar chur chun cinn na folláine agus timthriall forbartha, ag teacht le Polasaí Folláine agus Creat Chleachtais na Roinne, a chomhtháthú ina bpleanáil DEIS. Moltar freisin, le linn phróiseas pleanála DEIS, go gcuirfeadh scoileanna bearta atá ina bPlean don Fhoghlaim Dhigiteach san áireamh chun tacú le foghlaimeoirí atá i mbaol agus úsáid á baint acu as uirlisí agus acmhainní digiteacha.

**Is é an plean seo plean feabhsaithe na scoile ar mhaithe le féinmheastóireacht scoile agus níl aon phlean feabhsaithe sa bhreis ná ar leith riachtanach don fhéinmheastóireacht scoile.**

**An aidhm atá le Próiseas Pleanála Gníomhaíochta DEIS agus le Plean Gníomhaíochta DEIS i gcomhair Feabhsaithe**

Is é atá mar aidhm leis an bpróiseas pleanála gníomhaíochta agus leis an bplean gníomhaíochta a eascraíonn as ná a chinntiú go mbeidh próisis láidre i bhfeidhm ag an scoil chun:

* Na scoláirí is mó atá i mbaol ó mhíbhuntáiste oideachasúil a shainaithint
* Riachtanais na scoláirí sin a shainaithint
* Na réimsí tosaíochta chun freastal ar na riachtanais sin a shainaithint
* Spriocanna soiléire a cheapadh bunaithe ar fhianaise láidir chun freastal ar na riachtanais a sainaithníodh
* Idirghabhálacha a shainaithint agus pleanáil a dhéanamh chun iad a chur i bhfeidhm ionas go mbainfear amach na spriocanna sin
* Monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar an rath atá ar na hidirghabhálacha sin

Ba cheart gurb é **Plean Gníomhaíochta DEIS i gcomhair Feabhsaithe** an plean gníomhaíochta a bheadh ag treorú obair na scoile sna réimsí go léir a bhaineann le teagasc, foghlaim agus measúnú, folláine agus tacaíocht do scoláirí, comhpháirtíocht le tuismitheoirí agus leis an bpobal i gcoitinne agus lena n-áirítear tinreamh, coinneáil agus aistriú. Tabharfar breac-chuntas soiléir sa phlean gníomhaíochta sin ar na tosaíochtaí i gcomhair feabhsaithe thar thréimhse trí bliana. Níos tábhachtaí fós, ba cheart go mbeadh **Plean Gníomhaíochta DEIS i gcomhair Feabhsaithe** ina dhoiciméad fónta ina léirítear comhthéacs sonrach na scoile agus go gcuirfeadh sé bonn eolais faoin gcleachtas sa seomra ranga agus ar fud na scoile uile.

### An Chigireacht

Féadfaidh scoileanna rochtain a fháil ar thacaíocht ó Chigireacht na Roinne Oideachais agus iad i mbun an phróisis um pleanáil gníomhaíochta DEIS ach ríomhphost ag iarraidh cuairt chomhairleach DEIS a sheoladh chuig [sse@education.gov.ie](mailto:sse@education.gov.ie)

## **Tacaíochtaí do Scoileanna**

### Seirbhísí Tacaíochta

Cuirfidh an tSeirbhís um Fhorbairt Ghairmiúil do Mhúinteoirí (SFGM) tacaíochtaí ar fáil do scoileanna maidir le pleanáil gníomhaíochta i gcomhair feabhsaithe. Tá réimse tacaíochtaí ar fáil do cheannaireacht scoile tríd an Lárionad Ceannaireachta Scoile (CSL). Tacóidh an Chomhairle Náisiúnta um Oideachas Speisialta (NCSE) le scoileanna agus iad ag obair chun eispéiris agus torthaí foghlama a fheabhsú do scoláirí a bhfuil riachtanais bhreise acu. Féach na bileoga eolais iniata chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil faoi na tacaíochtaí sin.

**Bainistíocht agus Maoirseacht ar Leithdháileadh Dheontas DEIS**

Tá an Deontas DEIS atá dlite do do scoil maidir le scoilbhliain 2022 / 2023 á lóisteáil i gcuntas bainc na scoile.

Tabhair aird ar leith, le do thoil, ar Threoirlínte na Roinne maidir le Maoiniú DEIS a úsáid go cuí. Tá an treoirlínte sin ar fáil ag [Treoirlínte um Dheontas DEIS](https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/69219/9e17ed9b621c49bca11bb6480a1d0476.pdf#page=1)

De réir Alt 18 den Acht Oideachais, 1998, ceanglaítear ar scoileanna taifid a choinneáil de na gníomhaíochtaí go léir ar tugadh fúthu agus de na hábhair agus na hacmhainní a ceannaíodh le deontais. Ba cheart go gcoinneofaí cuntais ioncaim agus caiteachais sa scoil agus go mbeidís ar fáil más gá d’oifigigh na Roinne Oideachais agus/nó d’Oifig an Ard-Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste.

Ba cheart go mbeadh a fhios ag scoileanna go bhfuil cuntais faoi réir iniúchadh. Chuige sin, ba cheart go ndéanfadh scoileanna gach iarracht a chinntiú go bhfuil an luach is fearr ar airgead a fháil acu agus go bhfuil dea-chleachtais airgeadais á gcur i bhfeidhm acu chun cloí leis an Acht agus leis na ciorcláin chuí. Tá seirbhísí an Aonaid um Sheirbhísí Tacaíochta Airgeadais ([www.fssu.ie](http://www.fssu.ie)) ar fáil maidir leis sin má tá a gcomhairle de dhíth ort maidir le ceisteanna den chineál sin.

I gcás go bhfuil sé beartaithe maoiniú a úsáid i gcomhair bonneagar nó gléasanna TFC, ní mór go bhfanfadh na gléasanna i seilbh na scoile ach féadfar iad a thabhairt ar iasacht do scoláirí. Tá na téarmaí agus na critéir maidir le caiteachas ar TFC ar aon dul leo siúd atá leagtha amach i gCiorclán 0077/2020, atá ar fáil [anseo](https://www.gov.ie/en/circular/c85b5-grant-scheme-for-ict-infrastructure-20202021-school/).

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