

Circular 1997/11

Subject

Qualifications of teachers in Nursery, Primary, Secondary and Special Schools.

Date of issue-10 July 1997

Audience:

Education and Library Boards
Council for Catholic Maintained Schools,
Principals and Boards of Governors of all grant-aided schools and the Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education.

Governors awareness

Essential

Summary of contents:

Qualifications required to be eligible to teach in Northern Ireland.

Status of content

Advice/Information
For schools.

CIRCULAR 1997/11

To: Education and Library Boards,
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Council for Integrated Education

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QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS IN NURSERY, PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Teachers' (Eligibility) Regulations (NI) 1997 requires that anyone employed as a teacher must have such qualifications as may be approved by the Department of Education Northern Ireland (DENI).

1.2 The purpose of this Circular is to update existing guidance on the qualifications required by anyone wishing to teach in grant-aided nursery, primary, secondary and special schools in Northern Ireland. This Circular replaces Circulars 1970/25 and 1971/48 issued on 3 April 1970 and 1 September 1971 respectively.

1.3 **Teachers who have already been granted recognition under the terms of the replaced Circulars will continue to be recognised.** Holders of qualifications gained before 31 December 1973 listed on Annex A to this Circular which would have enabled recognition to be granted under the terms of the replaced Circulars, will still be eligible to teach if they are teaching in a grant-aided school on, or if they take up a teaching appointment within 2 years from, the date of this Circular. **AFTER THAT DATE ALL WILL BE REQUIRED TO QUALIFY UNDER THE TERMS OF THIS CIRCULAR.**

1.4 When making appointments, relevant bodies should bear in mind that although a teacher may be eligible to teach in either Primary or Secondary Schools, they should ensure that the teacher is suitably trained for the required phase and subject, especially in practical and physical subjects where there is a potential health and safety risk. See Annex C in relation to the teaching of Technology and Design.

1.5 When making appointments for nursery teaching an emphasis on early years initial training is desirable but not essential.

2. QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS IN NURSERY, PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Students who have successfully completed one of the following courses of study at any approved university or teacher training college in the United Kingdom will be eligible to teach in grant-aided schools in Northern Ireland.

A. UNIVERSITY DEGREES

- 1 Bachelor of Education Degrees.
- 11 Other degree courses with an approved Teacher Training element.

B. COURSES OF TEACHER TRAINING

1. An approved degree course and a Post Graduate Certificate in Education.

11 . An approved degree course and a Post Graduate Diploma In Further and Higher Education obtained while serving as a teacher in an Institution of Further Education.

2.2 A teacher who has been awarded a teaching qualification after 21 August 1984 must also have attained at least a grade C in Mathematics and English in GCSE (General Certificate of ,Secondary Education) or an equivalent qualification.

2.3 Teachers who have obtained qualified teacher status (QTS) from the Department for Education and Science (DES), the Department for Education (DFE), the Department for Education and Employment (DFEE) and the General Teaching Council for Scotland (GTC) are eligible to teach in grant-aided schools in Northern Ireland.

2.4 Teachers who have gained teaching qualifications in another Member State of the European Union will be qualified to teach in Northern Ireland if they satisfy certain criteria. Form TR-261 which is obtainable from the Department of Education for Northern Ireland, Waterside House, 75 Duke Street, Londonderry BT47 1 FP should be completed and returned to the Department together with a written statement from the Member State, which recognises their qualifications, confirming that they are entitled to practice as a qualified teacher in that Member State.

.5 Teachers who have gained teaching qualifications in non-European Union countries and who wish to teach in grant-aided schools in Northern Ireland should complete form 0Q14 which is obtainable from the Department of Education for Northern Ireland, Waterside House, 75 Duke Street, Londonderry BT47 1 FP and return it to the Department.

2.6 To be eligible to teach pupils with visual and hearing impairment, the teacher must have successfully completed one of the approved courses listed on Annex B to this Circular.

2.7 Only those teachers who meet the above requirements may be appointed to grant-aided schools.

N REDMOND

Teachers' Administration and Salaries Branch

QUALIFICATIONS GAINED BEFORE 31 DECEMBER 1973 WHICH ARE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR RECOGNITION AS A QUALIFIED TEACHER IN. NURSERY AND PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Courses of training in Northern Ireland

a. General courses

Two-year, three-year and four-year courses at Stranmillis College, St Mary's College and St Joseph's College. Course of emergency training at Larkfield Training College. Course leading to the Certificate in Education of the University of Ulster.

b. Specialist courses

Course leading to:

- i. The Teacher's Diploma at the Belfast College of Domestic Science;
- ii . The Art Teacher's Diploma at the Ulster College of Art and Design (formerly Belfast College of Art); or
- iii . The Teacher's Certificate at the Ulster College of Physical Education;

One-year course for teachers of music at Stranmillis College.

2. Postgraduate courses

Courses (part-time or full-time), leading to the graduate certificate or diploma in education of the Queen's University of Belfast or the University of Ulster, or the equivalent certificate or diploma of a university in Great Britain.

3. University degrees

Degree of Bachelor of Education of a university in the United Kingdom (or, in the case of the University of Ulster, degree of Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science which includes approved teacher training).

NOTE

England and Wales - a course of training at a recognised general college of education extending over at least two years is accepted. A course at a college of education (technical) is not accepted

QUALIFICATIONS GAINED BEFORE 31 DECEMBER 1973 WHICH ARE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR RECOGNITION AS A QUALIFIED TEACHER IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

1. University degrees

a. A degree obtained at a university in the United Kingdom or the Republic of Ireland or awarded by the Council for National Academic Awards.

b. A degree obtained at any other university, provided that the Department of Education accepts the standard and content of the degree as approximating to those of degrees under a..

11. Courses of training in Northern Ireland

a. General courses

Two-year, three-year and four-year courses at Stranmillis College, St Mary's College and St Joseph's College. Course of emergency training at Larkfield Training College. Course leading to the Certificate in Education of the University of Ulster.

b. Specialist courses

Courses leading to:

i. The Teacher's Diploma at the Ulster College (College of Domestic Science);

ii. The Art Teacher's Diploma at the Ulster College (College of Art and Design);

iii. The Teacher's Certificate at the Ulster College (Ulster College of Physical Education);

iv. The Teacher's Diploma in Commercial subjects at Londonderry Technical College; or

v. The Teacher's Diploma in a. Carpentry and Joinery and Woodwork or b. Metalwork and Workshop Practice at the Belfast College of Technology.

NOTES -

1. A course at a general or specialist college of education in England and Wales is accepted.

2. A one-year course at a college of education (technical) in England and Wales is accepted provided that the teacher at entry to the course held qualifications which have entitled him to admission to either of the courses mentioned above at 11 b., 1v., and v..

3. A course of training accepted for recognition as a primary school teacher is accepted for the preparatory department in grammar schools.

111. Diplomas and Certificates - in a., b. and c. below must have been obtained before

31 December 1973.

- a.
 - i. Diploma in Art and Design (NCDAD);
 - ii. Diploma in Associationship of the Royal College of Art (ARCA);
 - iii. Diploma of Designer of the Royal College of Art (DesRCA);
 - iv. Certificate of Designer of the Royal College of Art (CERTDesRCA);
 - v. The London University Diploma of Fine Art (Slade School);
 - vi. The National Diploma in Design;
 - vii. The Diploma of the College of Art and Design (formerly the Belfast College of Art) or other approved School of Art, together with an approved Teacher's Certificate in Art.;
 - viii. Certificate of the Royal Academy Schools awarded on the successful completion of the course at the Academy.
- b.
 - i. A First Class Teacher's Certificate in Handicraft of the City and Guilds of London Institute (i.e. Sections 1 and 11 of the Second Handicraft Examination) obtained not later than 31 December 1960;
 - ii. The First Handicraft Examination of the City and Guilds of London Institute and Section 1 of the Second Handicraft Examination followed by the successful completion at a training college of a one-year course of full-time study approved for this purpose;
 - iii. The First Handicraft Examination and Section 1 of the Second Handicraft Examination of the City and Guilds of London Institute, together with a three-year course of general training;
 - iv. A certificate awarded on the results of the Department of Education's special examination for teachers' qualifications in Woodwork or in Metalwork and Workshop Practice (the last examinations were held in 1968).

C

- i. Birmingham School of Music- the Graduate Diploma, C13SM;
- ii. Guildhall School of Music- the Graduate Diploma, GCSM;
- iii. London College of Music- the Graduate Diploma, GLCM
- iv. Northern School of Music - the Graduate Diploma, GMSM;
- v. Royal College of Music - degree of Master in Music, MMusRCM;

- vi. Royal College of Organists - FRCO;
 - vii. Royal Manchester College of Music - the Graduate Diploma, GRSM (Manchester);
 - viii. Royal Schools of Music - GRSM;
 - ix. Trinity College of Music ~ the Graduate Diploma, GTCL.
- d. The following qualifications, obtained not later than 31 July 1964. If obtained after that date, the holder must have successfully completed a course of teacher training of not less than one year's duration:-
- 1. Birmingham School of Music- the Diploma awarded on the successful completion of the two-year teaching training course for the ABSM(TTD) ending in 1947 or later, or the Diploma of ABSM (Teacher) of any instrument or the voice awarded on the successful completion of the three-year full-time courses or a period of part-time study;
 - ii. The London School of Dalcroze Eurhythmics, Liphock, Hants - Teaching Certificate awarded on the successful completion of the three-year course ending in 1955 or earlier;
 - iii. The Dalcroze Society (Incorporated) Training Centre Certificate awarded on the successful completion of the three-year course ending in 1954 or 1955;
 - iv. The Dalcroze Society (Incorporated) London School of Eurhythmics - Certificate awarded on the successful completion of the three-year course ending in 1956 or later;
 - v. Dartington College and Arts Centre - Diploma of Music Education for Schools;
 - vi. Guildhall School of Music - AGSM or LCSM with special Teacher's Diploma (Music) or AGSM or LGSM Teacher's Diploma (instrumental or otherwise) or AGSM or LGSM Aural Training and Musical Appreciation or AGSM or LGSM Class Singing and Voice Training;
 - vii. Huddersfield College of Technology - Diploma in Music;
 - viii. London College of Music - LI-CM(TD) i.e. the Teacher's Diploma in an instrument, or the voice, or (if obtained not later than 1960) in School Music, or LLCM in School Music;
 - ix. Northern School of Music - Associate Diploma of Music Education;

- x. Royal Academy of Music - LRAM Teacher's Diploma (Instrumental or otherwise) or LRAM Aural Training, or LRAM Voice Culture and Class Singing;
 - xi. Royal College of Music - ARCM Teacher's Diploma (instrumental or otherwise);
 - xii. Royal Manchester College of Music - AR---MCM or AR-MCM (School Music);
 - xiii. Trinity College of Music - Licentiate Teacher's Diploma, LTCL (instrumental or otherwise) or Fellowship, FTCL, or Diploma of Music Education for Schools LTCM used;
 - xiv. The Diploma in Music of any College of the University of Wales;
 - xv. Royal Schools of Music LSRM Teacher's Diploma (Instrumental or otherwise);
 - xvi. Royal Irish Academy of Music - LRIAM (Teacher's Diploma) or ARIAM.
- C.
- i. Teaching Diploma awarded on successful completion of the three-year course at the Central School of Speech Training and Dramatic Act;
 - ii. The Teaching Diploma in Speech and Drama awarded on successful completion of the three-year course at the New College of Speech and Drama;
 - iii. The Teaching Diploma in Speech and Drama awarded on successful completion of the three-year course at the New College of Speech and Drama;
 - iv. AGSM Teacher's Diploma in Speech and Drama awarded on successful completion of the three-year course at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama not later than 1959;
- V.
- The Diploma awarded on successful completion of the three-year course in Speech and Drama conducted by the Rose Bruford Training College of Speech and Drama;
 - vi. The Teacher's Diploma awarded on successful completion of the three-year full-time course of training in Speech and Drama conducted by the Northern School of Music.

NOTE

Teachers who before 1 August 1969 were granted recognition by the Department on the basis of the following qualifications continue (subject to paragraph 1.3 of the Circular) to be recognised as qualified teachers:

i. Stage III Certificates of the Royal Society of Arts in English Language or Literature, Typewriting, Shorthand and Book-keeping, of which not less than three are First Class.

A Teacher's Diploma of the Joint Examining Board for Teachers' Diplomas in Pitman's Shorthand or of the Gregg Association in Gregg Shorthand or a Teacher's Certificate of the Royal Society of Arts in Shorthand or Typewriting may be accepted in lieu of a Stage III (First Class) Certificate. A Stage II Certificate in Book-keeping (First or Second Class) may be accepted in lieu of a Stage III Certificate in Book-keeping.

ii.

At least two of the following Royal Society of Arts Certificates (one of which must be Shorthand or Typewriting):

Shorthand 100 words per minute

Typewriting)

Book-keeping) - Stage II First Class Certificate
Commerce)

together with a three-year course of general training.

ANNEX B

APPROVED COURSES FOR TEACHING PUPILS WITH VISUAL OR HEARING IMPAIRMENT		
Visual Impairment		
University/ College	Course	Study
University of Birmingham Faculty of Education Ring Road North PO Box 363 BIRMINGHAM B15 2TT	Bachelor of Philosophy in Education (Special Education visually handicapped) Diploma in Special Education (visually handicapped)	One year full-time One year full-time and distance learning
Hearing Impairment		
University/College	Course	Study
University of Birmingham Faculty of Education Ring Road North PO Box 363 BIRMINGHAM B 15 2TT	Diploma in Advanced Studies Special Education (hearing impaired)	One year full-time or two years part-time
University of Manchester Department of Audiology Education of the deaf and speech pathology MANCHESTER M13 9 PL	Diploma in Advanced Studies of Education for hearing impaired children Master of Education (hearing impaired)	One year full-time or two years part-time 2/3 years part-time course
Oxford Brookes -University Gypsy Lane Campus Headington OXFORD OX3 OB1	CNAA Certificate in Education for the teaching of hearing impaired children	One year full-time

University/College	Course	Study
University of Hertfordshire College Lane Hatfield. HERTFORDSHIRE AL10 9AB	Cambridge Institute of Education Certificate for teachers of the hearing impaired	One year full-time
Moray House College of Education Admissions Department Holyrood Road EDINBURGH EH8 SAQ	Diploma in Professional Studies in Education for teachers of hearing impaired-children (recorded and non-recorded)	One year full-time
University College Courses for teachers of the deaf University College Dublin Room C1 0 1 DUBLIN 4	Diploma for teachers of the deaf	One year full-time

ANNEX C

TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN ~ QUALIFICATIONS TO TEACH IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

When making appointments relevant bodies should bear in mind that although any of the qualifications listed in the circular will enable a teacher to teach they should ensure that in practical subjects where there is potential health and safety risk, the teachers are suitably qualified.

Suitable qualifications which are acceptable to teach technology and design in the Northern Ireland curriculum (NIC) include:

1 . Degree or Teachers' Certificate in Education (three or four year duration), specialising in craft, design and technology/technology and design. The designation - craft, design and technology is used as an umbrella title and includes the designated courses entitled:- Crafts; Handicraft; Design and Technology (resistant materials option); Design, Craft and Technology and Technology (resistant material option).

or

2. Degree in Science or Technology with a substantive element of the degree content reflecting the nature and scope of the NIC together with

a Post Graduate Certificate in Technology and Design together with the City and Guilds Certificate No 6131 - Workshop Competency

or

3. Recognised qualification to teach in a cognate area of the NIC/together with

a Post Graduate Certificate in Technology Education from the University of Ulster together with the City and Guilds Certificate No 6131 - Workshop Competency.