

LETTER FROM EMPLOYING AUTHORITY TO PRINCIPALS

To: All Principals/Line Managers

Reference:

Date:

Dear Principal

REVISED THRESHOLD ASSESSMENT ARRANGEMENTS – 2007

I am writing to advise of changes to the Threshold Assessment arrangements with effect from 1st September 2007.

It will still be necessary for teachers to apply for assessment against the Northern Ireland Threshold Standards (which remain the same as last year); however, there will no longer be external assessment of applications. Decisions to move teachers to point 1 of the upper pay scale from 1st September 2007 onwards will be based solely on the professional judgement of the principal. In making your assessment you will need to analyse the teacher's performance in the four threshold standards taking account of the two most recent PRSD review statements. A revised application form taking account of this change in process is attached to this guidance. Verification of evidence will continue to be required for all applicants.

Teachers who were on M6 of the main pay scale on or before 1st September 2006 are eligible to apply for threshold assessment before 12th October 2007. Any such teacher successful in their application will progress to point 1 of the upper pay scale effective from 1st September 2007.

Please find enclosed:

A Quick Guide;
Guidance Notes;
Application Form;
Sample Record form for Principal;
Feedback form for Teachers;
TR268 (UPS1);
Handbook for Threshold Assessment for issue to teachers.

This documentation not only provides the necessary application and feedback forms but also useful advice and guidance on the process.

It is recommended that you hold an induction meeting with eligible staff as soon as possible and issue application forms and supporting information to them. You should also explain how you intend to proceed with your assessment of their application, for example, your use of PRSD review statements, discussion with Heads of Department etc.

All application forms should then be assessed by you and the outcome notified to the Governing Body and the Department of Education, Teachers' Salaries Branch, Waterside House, 75 Duke St., Londonderry BT47 6FD using the multiple entry form TR268 (UPS1) **by 31 October 2007 at the latest.**

If you need any further clarification or assistance please contact **EMPLOYING AUTHORITY TO INSERT CONTACT DETAILS**

Yours sincerely

Employing Authority