Department of
Education
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AN ROINN
Oideachais
MÄNNYSTRIE O
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Chuig: Príomhoidí agus Cathaoirligh Bhoird Gobharnóirí Bunscoileanna

To: Principals and Chairs of Boards of Governors of Primary Schools

9 Feabhra 2010

9 February 2010

AISTRIÚ 2010: BUNSCOILEANNA AGUS PLEANANNA CÚINSÍ AR LEITH SCOILEANNA TRIAIL IONTRÁLA

1. Sonraíodh go soiléir agus go cuimsitheach polasaí na Roinne ar Aistriú 2010 ina Treoir ar Aistriú 2010, a foilsíodh ar 25 Meitheamh, 2009: mhol an Roinn go soiléir nár chóir d'iar-bhunscoileanna leanúint d'úsáid critéir acadúla iontrála.

2. Chomhairligh an Treoir do scoileanna a bhí le leanúint d'úsáid critéir iontrála acadúla freagracht aonair a ghlacadh as gach gné de ghnáthaimh roghnaithe ar bhonn acadúil ar bith a bhféachadh siad leo. Le leas bunscoileanna agus le leas na bpáistí a mbíonn siad ag freastal orthu, go háirithe, comhairlíodh do na scoileanna gramadaí seo Gnáthamh Cúinsí Ar Leith a fhorbairt nár thug aon ról do bhunscoil.

3. Tá foirm foilsithe ar na mallaibh ag na heagrais atá freagrach as trialacha iontrála le haghaidh Aistriú 2010 a n-iarrtar ar thuismitheoirí a chomhlánú más mian leo, ar son a bpáiste, cur isteach ar Ghnáthamh Cúinsí Ar Leith scoile a d'úsáid triail iontrála. Mar is eol do chuid mhór príomhoidí bunscoile, is gá, go ginearálta, do thuismitheoirí a chomlánaíonn na foirmeacha seo agus sa Ghnáthamh Cúinsí Ar Leith atá molta ag cuid mhór scoileanna a d'úsáid trialacha iontrála, eolas a fháil ó phríomhoide bhunscoil a bpáiste.

TRANSFER 2010: PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND THE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES PLANS OF ENTRANCE TEST SCHOOLS

1. The Department's policy on Transfer 2010 was clearly and comprehensively stated in its Transfer 2010 Guidance, published on 25 June, 2009: the Department clearly recommended against post-primary schools' continued use of academic admissions criteria.

2. The Guidance advised schools continuing to use academic admissions criteria to bear sole responsibility in all aspects of any academically selective procedures that they might attempt. In particular, in the interests of primary schools and the children they serve, such grammar schools were advised to develop a special circumstances procedure that ascribed no role to a primary school.

3. The organisations responsible for providing grammar schools with entrance tests for Transfer 2010 have recently published forms which parents are requested to complete if they wish, on behalf of their child, to apply to an entrance test school's Special Circumstances Procedure. As many primary principals will be aware, the completion of these forms by parents, and the Special Circumstances Procedures proposed by many entrance test schools generally, require parents to obtain information from their child's primary principal.

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4. Ós rud é nach raibh comhairliúchán de chineál ar bith ag na scoileanna gramadaí leis an Roinn ná le hearnáil na bunscolaíochta, tá an roinn ag eisiúint na treorach breise seo. Léiríonn an treoir seo an fhíric gur shuigh páistí scrúduithe i mbunscoileanna ar mhaithe le cuspóirí dearfacha oideachais na bunscoile agus nár cruthaíodh ná nár cuireadh i bhfeidhm iad le haghaidh gnáthaimh iontrála iar-bhunscoileanna.

4. In the absence of any form of consultation on the part of grammar schools with the Department or the primary sector, the Department is issuing this further guidance. This guidance reflects the fact that tests sat by children in primary schools were sat for the constructive educational purposes of the primary school and were not designed, or operated, for the admissions processes of post primary schools.

5. Maidir le socruithe Cúinsí Ar Leith scoileanna gramadaí, ba chóir do phríomhoidí bunscoile a ról a mheas de réir na bpointí seo a leanas:

5. In relation to the special circumstances arrangements of grammar schools, primary principals should consider their role according to the following points:

- Tá ceart dleathach ag tuismitheoirí/caomhnóirí ar eolas ar bith atá ag bunscoil a bhaineann lena bpáiste agus leis sin amháin;
- Níl d'iachall ar bhunscoileanna, de réir dlí, eolas a chur ar fáil i bhformáid a iarradh go sainiúil;
- Níor chóir do bhunscoileanna eolas gnóthachtála a chur ar fáil do thuismitheoirí a bhaineann le páiste ar bith seachas a bpáiste féin;
- Níor chóir do bhunscoil, de réir dlí, eolas gnóthachtála a bhaineann le duine ar bith dá cuid daltaí a chur ar fáil do scoil ar bith eile[1].

- Parents/guardians have a legal right to any information held by a primary school that relates solely to their child;
- Primary schools are not required, in law, to provide information in a specifically requested format;
- Primary schools should not provide performance information to parents or guardians relating to any child other than their own;
- A primary school should not, in law, provide performance information relating to any of its pupils to any other school[1].

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[1] Is eisceacht air seo má chuireann scoil taifid dalta ar fáil do scoil inar glacadh dalta le haghaidh iontrála agus a mbeidh sé/sí ag aistriú chuici ar ball – mar a leagtar síos go sainiúil sa reachtaíocht.

[1] Excepted from this is a school's provision of a pupil's records to a school into which the pupil has been accepted for admission and will shortly transfer - as specifically provided for in legislation.