Department of Education
www.deni.gov.uk
AN ROINN Oideachais
MÄNNYSTRIE O Lear

Ábhar:

Socruithe Measúnaithe Idirthréimhseacha ó 2009/10

Uimhir Chiorcláin:

2010/06

Dáta Eisiúna:

29 Aibreán 2010

Sprioclucht:

- Príomhoidí agus Boird Ghobharnóirí i ngach bunscoil, iar-bhunscoil agus scoil speisialta dheontaschúnta;
- Boird Oideachais agus Leabharlainne;
- Comhairle na Scoileanna Caitliceacha faoi Chothabháil;
- Comhairle Curaclaim, Scrúdúcháin agus Measúnaithe;
- Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta;
- Comhairle Tuaisceart Éireann um Oideachas Comhtháite; agus
- Ceardchumainn na Múinteoirí.

Achoimre ar Ábhar:
Sa chiorclán seo sonraítear go foirmiúil go dtagann Ord (Tuaisceart Éireann) Oideachais (Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn d'Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 agus 3)
(Idirthréimhseach) 2010 i bhfeidhm ar 30 Aibreán, agus achoimrítear ann na socruithe idirthréimhseacha atá sonraithe san Ord i dtaca le measúnú na ndaltaí i mblianta deiridh Eochairchéimeana 1, 2 agus 3 sna scileanna traschuraclaim den Chumarsáid agus d'Úsáid na Matamaitice.

Feasacht Gobharnóirí:
Riachtanach

Stádas an Ábhair:
Comhairle i ndiaidh reachtaíochta

Doiciméid Ghaolmhara:
Doiciméid Mheasúnaithe CCEA
R.R. 2010 Uimh. 135

Doiciméid Cealaithe:

Ciorclán RO 2006/26

Dáta Éaga:

Ní bhaineann

Suíomh gréasáin DENI:
http://www.deni.gov.uk

Guthán: 028 9127 9565
Facs: 028 9127 9100

Fiosrúcháin:
Ba chóir aon fhiosrúchán faoi ábhar an Chiorcláin seo a chur chuig:

Julie Craig
Foireann Measúnaithe agus Cáilíochtaí
An Roinn Oideachais
Teach Rathgael
Bóthar Balloo
Rathgill
BEANNCHAR
BT19 7PR

Department of Education
www.deni.gov.uk
AN ROINN Oideachais
MÄNNYSTRIE O Lear

Subject:

Transitional Assessment Arrangements from 2009/10

Circular Number: **2010/06**

Date of Issue: 29 April 2010

Audience:

- Principals and Boards of Governors of all grant-aided primary schools, post-primary schools and special schools;
- Education and Library Boards;
- Council for Catholic Maintained Schools;
- Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment;
- Comhairle na Gaelscolaíochta;
- Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education; and
- Teachers' Unions.

Summary of Contents:
This Circular gives notice that the Education (Levels of Progression for Key Stages 1, 2 and 3) (Transitional) Order (Northern Ireland) 2010 comes into operation on 30 April, and summarises the transitional arrangements specified in the Order in relation to the assessment of pupils in the final years of Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 in the cross-curricular skills of Communication and Using Mathematics.

Enquiries:

Any enquiries about the contents of this Circular should be addressed to:

Julie Craig
Assessment and Qualifications Team
Department of Education
Rathgael House
Balloo Road
Rathgill
BANGOR
BT19 7PR

Governor Awareness:
Essential

Status of Contents:
Advice following legislation

Related Documents:
CCEA Assessment Documents
S.R. 2010 No. 135

Superseded Documents:
DE Circular 2006/26

Expiry Date:
Not applicable

DENI Website:
http://www.deni.gov.uk

Tel: 028 9127 9565
Fax: 028 9127 9100

Réamhrá

1. Anuraidh chuir an Roinn in iúl, ar feadh tréimhse idirthréimhsí – go dtí go dtabharfar na Leibhéil nua Dul Chun Cinn isteach – go leanfaí leis na socruithe measúnaithe atá ann faoi láthair, go ndéanfaí measúnú ag deireadh Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 agus 3 i leith na dtuairiscíní leibhéil reatha do Theanga agus don Litearthacht (Béarla - agus/nó Gaeilge de réir mar is cuí i nGaelscoileanna agus in aonaid Gaelscolaíochta) agus don Mhatamaitic agus Uimhearthacht (Matamaitic).

2. I dtaca leis an chúlra seo de, tá Ord déanta ag an Roinn – Ord (Tuaisceart Éireann) Oideachais (Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn d'Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 agus 3) (Idirthréimhseach) 2010 (R.R. 2010 Uimh.) – le foráil a dhéanamh dó de réir dlí.

3. Foráiltear san Ord, a thagann i bhfeidhm ar 30 Aibreán 2010, **gurb iad, ar bhonn idirthréimhseach go dtugtar na Leibhéil nua Dul Chun Cinn isteach, na tuairiscíní leibhéil reatha i dtaca le Teanga agus Litearthacht (Béarla/Gaeilge) (don scil traschuraclaim de Chumarsáid) agus le Matamaitic**

Introduction

1. Last year the Department indicated that for a transitional period – until new Levels of Progression are introduced – the present assessment arrangements would continue, with assessment at the end of Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 against the existing level descriptions for Language and Literacy (English - and/or Irish as appropriate in Irish medium schools and units) and Mathematics and Numeracy (Mathematics).

2. Against this background the Department has now made an Order – the Education (Levels of Progression for Key Stages 1, 2 and 3) (Transitional) Order (Northern Ireland) 2010 (S.R. 2010 No. 135) – to provide for this in law.

3. The Order, which comes into operation on 30 April 2010, provides that **on a transitional basis, pending the introduction of new Levels of Progression, the levels to be used for the purpose of assessing pupils in the final years of Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 will be the current level descriptions in relation to**

agus Uimhearthacht (Matamaitic) (don scil traschuraclaim d’Úsáid an Matamaitice) na leibhéil atá le húsáid le measúnú a dhéanamh ar dhaltaí sna blianta deiridh d’Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 agus 3.

4. Cinnteoidh sé seo, sa tréimhse idirthréimhseach seo sula dtabharfar na leibhéil nua Dul Chun Cinn isteach, go mbeidh measúnú leanúnach ann (chomh maith le tuairisciú na dtorthaí measúnaithe) i dtaca leis na daltaí seo sna heochair-réimsí curaclaim seo. Tá CCEA i gcónaí ag soláthar aonaid measúnaithe do bhunscoileanna agus trialacha ag Eochairchéim 3 do na scoileanna sin ar mhaith leo iad a úsáid.

5. Le foráil a dhéanamh do na tuairiscíní leibhéil reatha atá le húsáid don mheasúnú, tagraíonn an tOrd dóibh seo mar “Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn”. Tá seo amhlaidh cionn is go nascann an reachtaíocht phríomhúil faoina ndearnadh an tOrd reatha, measúnú Cumarsáide agus Úsaid na Matamaitice leis na “Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn”. Is iad na leibhéil atá sonraithe san Ord, áfach, na leibhéil atá in úsáid ag údaráis

Language and Literacy (English/Irish) (for the cross-curricular skill of Communication) and Mathematics and Numeracy (Mathematics) (for the cross curricular skill of Using Mathematics).

4. This will ensure that, in this transitional period prior to the introduction of new Levels of Progression, there is continued assessment (and reporting of assessment outcomes) in relation to these pupils in these key curricular areas. CCEA is continuing to make available assessment units for primary schools and tests at Key Stage 3 for those schools that wish to use them.

5. In providing for the current level descriptions to be used for assessment purposes the Order refers to these as “Levels of Progression”. This is simply because the primary legislation under which the present Order is made relates assessment of Communication and Using Mathematics to “Levels of Progression”. However, it is important to emphasise that the levels specified in the Order are

scoileanna faoi láthair. Tá sé tábhachtach go leagfar béim air seo sa dóigh nach meascfar na leibhéil seo leis na Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn nua atá le tabhairt isteach go fóill. (Tá eolas breise ar an obair atá déanta ar na Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn nua go dtí seo leagtha amach in ailt 15 go 17.)

6. Tá Ord (Tuaisceart Éireann) Oideachais (Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn d'Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 agus 3) (Idirthréimhseach) 2010 ar fáil ar: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/sr/sr2010/pdf/nisr_20100135_en.pdf
   Tá an tOrd Oideachais (Tuaisceart Éireann) 2006 – an reachtaíocht phríomhúil faoina ndearnadh an tOrd – ar fáil ar: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/20061915.htm

Socruithe Measúnaithe

7. Faoin Ord, caithfear measúnú reachtúil a dhéanamh ar na daltaí uilig sna blianta deiridh d'Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 agus 3, ach amháin na daltaí sin a bhfuil díolúine acu ó shocruithe measúnaithe i gcásanna sonraithe (féach alt 10 anseo thíos le sonraí a fháil).

8. Tá na mionsocruithe measúnaithe agus na leibhéil faoina

the current levels being used by schools, and these should not be confused with the new Levels of Progression which have yet to be introduced. (Further information on progress towards the new Levels of Progression is set out in paragraphs 15 to 17.)

6. The Education (Levels of Progression for Key Stages 1, 2 and 3) (Transitional) Order (Northern Ireland) 2010 is accessible via: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/sr/sr2010/pdf/nisr_20100135_en.pdf
   The Education (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 – the primary legislation under which the Order has been made – is accessible via: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2006/20061915.htm

Assessment Arrangements

7. Under the Order, all pupils in the final years of Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 are subject to statutory assessment, except for any pupils exempted from the assessment arrangements in certain specified cases (see paragraph 10 below for details).

8. Assessment Documents, prepared by the Council for the Curriculum,

measúnófar dul chun cinn daltaí sna blianta deiridh d’Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 agus 3 leagtha amach i nDoiciméid Mheasúnaithe a d’ullmhaigh An Chomhairle Curaclaim, Scrúdúcháin agus Measúnaithe (CCEA) agus atá faofa ag an Roinn faoin Ord. Mar atá luaite thuas, is iad seo na leibhéil atá in úsáid i scoileanna faoi láthair.

9. Is féidir na Doiciméid Mheasúnaithe dar teidil:

a. “Socruithe Measúnaithe (Idirthréimhseach) maidir le Daltaí sna Blianta Deiridh d’Eochairchéimeanna 1 agus 2”; agus
b. “Socruithe Measúnaithe (Idirthréimhseach) maidir le Daltaí sa Bhliain Deiridh d’Eochairchéim 3”,

a fháil ar:

Eochairchéimeanna 1 agus 2:
http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk/docs/key_stages_1_and_2/assessment/KS1&2_AssessmentBook_Irish_WEB.pdf

Eochairchéim 3:
http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk/docs/key_stage_3/assessment_reporting/KS3_AssessmentBook_Irish_WEB.pdf

Ar a bharr seo, beidh cóipeanna crua de na doiciméid seo á n-eisiúint ag CCEA go luath amach anseo.

Examinations and Assessment (CCEA) and approved by the Department under the Order, set out the detailed assessment arrangements and the levels against which the progress of pupils in the final years of Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 are to be assessed. As noted above, these are the current levels used by schools.

9. The Assessment Documents, which are entitled:

a. “Assessment Arrangements (Transitional) in relation to Pupils in the Final Years of Key Stages 1 and 2”; and
b. “Assessment Arrangements (Transitional) in relation to Pupils in the Final Year of Key Stage 3”,

may be accessed via:

Key Stages 1 and 2:
http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk/docs/key_stages_1_and_2/assessment/KS1&2_AssessmentBook_web.pdf

Key Stage 3:
http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk/docs/key_stage_3/assessment_reporting/KS3_AssessmentBook_web.pdf

In addition, CCEA will shortly be issuing hard copies of these documents to schools.

Eisceachtaí

10. Déantar foráil san Ord do na díolúintí seo a leanas ón riachtanas measúnuithe a dhéanamh:

(a) dalta ag a bhfuil ráiteas riachtanais speisialta oideachais a ndearnadh measúnú air/uirthi mar dhalta ag a bhfuil deacrachtaí troma foghlama;

(b) sa chás a bhfuil díolúine ag dalta ó cheann ar bith de riachtanais Ailt 5 go 9 d'Ord (Tuaisceart Éireann) Oideachais 2006 – baineann na hAilt seo leis an churaclam, scileanna agus measúnú – i leith Alt 14 (Obair forbartha agus turgnaimh), 15 (Eisceachtaí de réir rialúchán), 16 (Daltaí ag a bhfuil ráitis riachtanais speisialta oideachais) nó 17 (Díolúintí sealadacha do dhaltaí aonair) den Ord sin, ní bhaineann na forálacha measúnaithe i dtaca leis na riachtanais a bhfuil díolúine ag an dalta uathu agus ní dhéanfar measúnú ar an dalta ach i dtaca leis na codanna sin den churaclam nach bhfuil díolúine aige nó aici uathu.

Exceptions

10. The Order provides for the following exemptions from the requirement to undertake assessments:

(a) a pupil with a statement of special educational needs who has been assessed as having severe learning difficulties;

(b) where a pupil has been exempted from any of the requirements of Articles 5 to 9 of the Education (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 – these Articles relate to the curriculum, skills and assessment – by Article 14 (Development work and experiments), 15 (Exceptions by regulations), 16 (Pupils with statements of special educational needs) or 17 (Temporary exemptions for individual pupils) of that Order, the assessment provisions do not apply in relation to the requirements from which the pupil is exempt and the pupil shall be assessed only in relation to those parts of the curriculum from which he or she is not exempt.

Torthaí Measúnaithe a Thuairisciú

Reporting Assessment Results

Tuairisciú chuig CCEA

Reporting To CCEA

11. **Faoin Ord, is riachtanas reachtúil é go gcuirfidh scoileanna na torthaí measúnaithe do dhaltaí sna blianta deiridh d'Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 agus 3 chuig CCEA** gach bliain san fhoirm agus faoin dáta a leagtar síos ag CCEA.

11. **Under the Order it is a statutory requirement that schools send the assessment results for pupils in the final years of Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 to CCEA** each year in such form and by such date as CCEA may require.

Tuairisciú chuig Tuismitheoirí

Reporting to Parents

12. **Faoin Ord chomh maith, caithfidh scoileanna torthaí measúnaithe a thuairisciú chuig tuismitheoirí a bhfuil a bpáiste sa bhliain deiridh d'Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 nó 3.** Tá an fhaisnéis a chaithfear a sholáthar leagtha amach i Rialúcháin (Tuairisciú Dalta) Oideachais (Tuaisceart Éireann) 2009, mar atá:

- an leibhéal atá bainte amach ag dalta i leith na dtuairiscíní leibhéil don Chumarsáid (Teanga agus Litearthacht – Béarla agus/nó Gaeilge) agus Úsáid na Matamaitice (Matamaitic agus Uimhearthacht);

- an leibhéal ionchais sa Chumarsáid (Teanga agus Litearthacht – Béarla agus/nó

12. **The Order also requires schools to report to parents on assessment results where their child is in the final year of Key Stages 1, 2 or 3.** The information to be provided is set out in the Education (Pupil Reporting) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009, viz:

- the level a child has achieved against the level descriptions for Communication (Language and Literacy – English and/or Irish) and Using Mathematics (Mathematics and Numeracy);

- the expected level in Communication (Language and Literacy – English and/or Irish)

Gaeilge) agus Úsáid na Matamaitice (Matamaitic agus Uimhearthacht) do dhaltaí sa bhliain deiridh den Eochairchéim ábhartha. (Féach alt 13 anseo thíos ar na leibhéil ionchais.); agus

- an céatadán de na daltaí sa bhliain deiridh den Eochairchéim sin a ghnóthaíonn: gach leibhéal; an leibhéal ionchais nó os a chionn; atá ag obair i dtreo an leibhéil ionchais ach nach bhfuil sé gnóthaithe go fóill acu; agus, a bhfuil díolúine acu ó mheasúnú sa scil traschuraclaim sin.

Sa chás a bhfuil díolúine ag a bpáiste ó aon chuid de na socruithe measúnaithe, caithfear an t-eolas seo a thabhairt do thuismitheoirí.

13. . Is iad seo a leanas “na leibhéil ionchais” do dhaltaí sna blianta deiridh d’Eochairchéimeanna 1, 2 agus 3 i dtaca le Cumarsáid (Teanga agus Litearthacht – Béarla agus/nó Gaeilge) agus Úsáid na Matamaitice (Matamaitic agus Uimhearthacht);

- Deireadh Eochairchéim 1 – Leibhéal 2
- Deireadh Eochairchéim 2 – Leibhéal 4
- Deireadh Eochairchéim 3 – Leibhéal 5.

and Using Mathematics (Mathematics and Numeracy) for pupils in the final year of the relevant Key Stage. (See paragraph 13 below on expected levels.); and

- the percentage of pupils in the final year of that Key Stage in the school attaining: each level; the expected level or above; working towards the expected level but who have not yet attained it; and, exempted from assessment in that cross-curricular skill.

Where their child has been exempted from any part of the assessment arrangements this information must be provided to parents.

13. The “expected levels” for pupils in the final years of Key Stages 1, 2 and 3 in relation to Communication (Language and Literacy – English and/or Irish) and (Mathematics and Numeracy) are as follows:

- End of Key Stage 1 – Level 2
- End of Key Stage 2 – Level 4
- End of Key Stage 3 – Level 5.

14. Tá Rialúcháin (Tuairisciú Dalta) Oideachais (Tuaisceart Éireann) 2009 ar fáil ar: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/sr/sr2009/nisr_20090231_en_1
Tá Ciorclán gaolmhar na Roinne, 2009/15, Rialúcháin Tuairiscithe Dalta 2009 ar fáil ar: http://www.deni.gov.uk/2009_15_-_rialuchain_tuairiscithe_dalta_2009.pdf

I dtreo na Leibhéal Dul Chun Cinn Nua

15. Anuraidh rinne an Roinn Oideachais comhairliúchán ar dhréacht nua de Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn arna bhforbairt maidir leis na scileanna traschuraclaim de Chumarsáid, Úsáid na Matamaitice agus Úsáid TFC faoin churaclam athbhreithnithe. De thoradh ar na freagairtí comhairliúcháin rinne CCEA, ar iarratas ón Roinn, a thuilleadh anailíse ar na freagairtí ar a mbunófar an chéim deiridh de bhreathnú na Roinne ar na Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn agus ar na socruithe gaolmhara measúnaithe.

16. Tá an comhairliúchán sin chóir a bheith déanta anois, agus cuirfidh an Roinn an toradh in iúl do scoileanna go luath amach anseo.

14. The Education (Pupil Reporting) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009 are accessible via: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/sr/sr2009/nisr_20090231_en_1
The associated Departmental Circular, 2009/15, Pupil Reporting Regulations 2009 is accessible via: http://www.deni.gov.uk/2009_15_-_pupil_reporting_regulations_2009.pdf

Progress towards New Levels of Progression

15. Last year the Department consulted on draft new Levels of Progression which had been developed in relation to the cross-curricular skills of Communication, Using Mathematics and Using ICT under the revised curriculum. As a result of the consultation responses the CCEA, at the Department's request, carried out further analysis of these responses to inform the final stage of the Department's consideration of the Levels of Progression and associated assessment arrangements.

16. That consideration is now almost complete, and the Department will be seeking to advise schools of

Is é an rún atá ann go fóill na Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn nua d’Úsáid TFC a thabhairt isteach bliain níos moille ná na Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn nua don Chumarsáid agus d’Úsáid na Matamaitice.

the outcome at an early date. The intention remains to introduce the new Levels of Progression for Using ICT a year later than the new Levels for Communication and Using Maths.

17. Mar atá curtha in iúl do scoileanna cheana féin, ní thabharfaidh an Roinn na Leibhéil Dul Chun Cinn nua isteach go soláthrófar an oiliúint, an tacaíocht agus an treoir atá de dhíth ar scoileanna, agus tá an Roinn ag déanamh socruithe chuige sin i gcomhar le CCEA. Fágann sé seo go mbeidh na socruithe measúnaithe idirthréimhseacha mar atá leagtha amach thuas, i bhfeidhm sa scoilbliain 2010/11 agus gurb é an scoilbhliain 2011/12 an dáta is luaithe a d’fhéadfaí na socruithe measúnaithe a thabhairt isteach faoi na Leibhéil nua.

17. As previously indicated to schools, the Department will not be introducing new Levels of Progression until schools are provided with the training, support and guidance which they need, and is making arrangements for this in conjunction with CCEA. This means that the transitional assessment arrangements set out above will apply in the 2010/11 school year and that the earliest potential date for the introduction of assessment arrangements using the new Levels will be the 2011/12 school year.

BRIAN MORROW

Foireann Measúnaithe & Cáilíochtaí

Assessment & Qualifications Team