

NIPT Update - April 2021

A Chairde,

On behalf of NIPT, I would like to extend our warmest wishes for the term ahead. We hope you are keeping safe and well as we navigate such a long period of uncertain times.

Please see a brief update on NIPT provisions below and in light of the changing nature of the current Covid-19 context, we encourage you to monitor our website www.teacherinduction.ie.

Droichead applications closed on March 19th. Currently and cross-sectorally, 3460 NQTs from 1694 schools have had their *Droichead* applications accepted.

Droichead updated Post-qualification Professional Practice Conditions-Transitionary Arrangements were published by the Teaching Council on February 3rd to provide additional flexibility due to the impact of Covid-19. In addition, as advised by the Teaching Council and agreed by the Department of Education, in the context of Covid-19, the Teaching Council recognises the variety of teaching and learning environments in which *Droichead* can operate and that elements of *Droichead* can take place on-site or online. Further information can be accessed on our website www.teacherinduction.ie

NIPT provisions will continue to be delivered entirely online for the remainder of the academic year 2020/21. This includes Professional Support Team (PST) training, cluster meetings, induction workshops and other additional events.

Strand B-Cluster Meetings:

As in previous years, NQTs are required to attend one cluster meeting per term, specific to their sector, in sequential order for the duration of their *Droichead* process. NQTs must have applied for *Droichead* via www.teachingcouncil.ie and have received a confirmation email from the Teaching Council before registering to attend Cluster Meeting 1.

Cluster Meeting 1

Cluster Meeting 1 remains available online via the NIPT online learning platform and will continue to do so for the remainder of this term. This can be accessed at <https://onlinelearning.teacherinduction.ie>. Protocols apply in order to be credited with the required 2-hour attendance and subsequent certification to confirm this attendance.

Cluster Meeting 2

Cluster Meeting 2 was facilitated remotely by associates, via Zoom, in March 2021. This will continue to be the case for an additional 2 weeks from April 20th - 29th with dates/times released at staggered time in advance (April 12th and 19th). Additional protocols also apply to this cluster meeting and those NQTs wishing to attend are required to familiarise themselves with them prior to registering. For your information, protocols can be accessed on our website www.teacherinduction.ie.

Cluster Meeting 3

Cluster Meeting 3 will be facilitated remotely by associates, via Zoom, in May 2021 in a similar format to Cluster Meeting 2 above. Further information will be published on our website www.teacherinduction.ie in due course.

Induction Workshops

Induction workshops are open to all NQTs to support their professional learning. While they are not a requirement of the *Droichead* process, many NQTs use them as an Additional Professional Learning Activity.

The suite of online workshops continues to be available to NQTs via the NIPT online learning platform - 4 Primary workshops; 5 Post-Primary workshops and 3 Cross-Sectoral workshops.

Evidence Based Behavioural Support (NIPTWS09) for Post-Primary NQTs has been added to the suite and is now available. This brings the suite of online workshops to 12, details of which are outlined on our website www.teacherinduction.ie.

If NQTs registered with your centre would like details of the workshops they have completed, they are asked to contact the local Education Centre where they attended the workshop(s). If they require further assistance or confirmation they are asked to email nipt.admin@ecdonegal.ie in Donegal EC or info@teacherinduction.ie (NIPT-DWEC we will re-direct from there.)

As ever, we look forward to re-engaging with our colleagues within the ESCI network as soon as it is safe to do so and as we plan for the 2021/22 academic year ahead, we hope to be in touch again in due course.

Is mise le meas,



Mary O'Callaghan,
National Coordinator.