

## **Supplementary Programme Information provided by Department of Education**

**(10<sup>th</sup> February 2021)**

### ***Can the programme be delivered in schools?***

No, the programme is intended to supplement the school remote learning programme and be delivered in the child's home.

### ***Is it possible to deliver the programme by Zoom?***

No, the purpose of the scheme is to provide in-person support to help ensure a better learning experience for eligible pupils. This support cannot be provided remotely.

### ***What level of registration with the Teaching Council is required ?***

Any teacher currently registered with the Teaching Council of Ireland is eligible to participate in the scheme.

To be eligible for the qualified rate of payment, a tutor must be registered and recognised by the Teaching Council in the primary sector.

Teachers who are registered by the Teaching Council in another sector will receive the modified rate of payment.

### ***Can a student deliver the programme to pupils?***

Any teacher, including a student teacher currently registered with the Teaching Council of Ireland is eligible to participate in the scheme.

Teachers who are registered by the Teaching Council in another sector can participate in the scheme but will receive the modified rate of payment.

### ***Can a post-primary teacher deliver the programme?***

Any teacher, including a post-primary teacher currently registered with the Teaching Council of Ireland is eligible to participate in the scheme.

Teachers who are registered by the Teaching Council in the Post Primary sector can participate in the scheme but will receive the modified rate of payment.

### ***Can a teacher or SNA deliver the programme to more than one pupil?***

Yes, but support can be only be provided by a teacher or SNA in a pupil's home, at evenings and weekends.

Teachers and SNAs should work consistently with the same families and support must be delivered in accordance with Public Health Advice.

### ***Which children are eligible for this programme?***

The pupils who will be eligible include ;

- All pupils enrolled in special schools and primary special classes
- Pupils in mainstream schools who are accessing the highest level of the continuum of support (i.e. School Support Plus/for a Few). This will include pupils with Autism, Down syndrome, sensory impairments, and other disabilities who were identified for the summer programme of 2020.
- Pupils identified by their school as requiring the highest level of support at any given time. This will ensure that pupils presenting with exceptional needs due to the current school closures can participate in the scheme.

### ***Can a pupil attending a special school or a special class engage in this supplementary programme outside of school time ?***

Yes. An allocation of five hours per week for 4 weeks of home-based teaching or care supports is available to all eligible pupils.

Support can be provided by a teacher or SNA in a pupil's home at evenings and weekends or during the Easter break

Eligible families may utilise the hours at any time before 30 April 2021.

### ***What is the position regarding insurance for this programme?***

Similar to the Department's home based summer programme Parents/Guardians select and engage teacher/SNAs for the provision of the supplementary programme in a private arrangement which is then funded through the scheme. It is the responsibility of the parent and teacher/SNA to ensure any necessary insurance arrangements are in place.

### ***What is required in terms of vetting for teachers and SNA's?***

All teachers/SNAs are required to show parents a vetting disclosure

All teachers/SNAs are also required to have a current Statutory Declaration, signed by the relevant authority. (i.e. Appendix 1 of the Grant Claim Form.) A Statutory Declaration signed at any time in 2020 is valid until the end of 2021.

Both the parent and the teacher/SNA must complete the Form of Undertaking, i.e. Appendix 2 of the Grant Claim Form

Parents can request a newly-issued vetting disclosure if they have not previously engaged the teacher/SNA.

Further information can be obtained by contacting [supplementaryprogramme@education.gov.ie](mailto:supplementaryprogramme@education.gov.ie)