



Association of Community  
and Comprehensive Schools

*Cumann na Scoileanna Pobail  
agus Cuimsitheacha*

**11<sup>th</sup> May, 2022.**

**The Secretary,  
Board of Management and  
School Principal in  
each Community and Comprehensive School.**

**Members of the Executive of ACCS.**

**ACCS/Info Bulletin 13/22. Re:**

- 1. Department of Education Update Regarding the Ukraine Crisis**
- 2. The Summer Programme 2022**
- 3. Publication of Inspectorate Reports on SSPS and Implementation of Anti-bullying Measures in Schools**
- 4. “Belong To” Supports for Schools**

**1. Department of Education Update Regarding the Ukraine Crisis**

Sincere thanks to all schools which have completed the capacity survey issued by the Department just prior to Easter. It is very beneficial in planning for the potential school placement of students displaced because of the crisis in Ukraine.

Where schools have the capacity to enroll students arriving from the Ukraine they are asked to do so and at the earliest opportunity to record their attendance on P.Pod. One of the challenges being experienced in schools in some areas is the temporary nature of placements. This is related to the availability of secure medium to long term accommodation for students and their families. It has been reported by the Department that EAL allocation applications are being processed quickly for schools.

Where schools do not have capacity to accept students from Ukraine they are asked to provide the contact details of the local REALT team and assist students and their families contacting the services available through the REALT team.

Access to school transport has been a challenge in a limited number of areas. Bus Eireann is coordinating the provision of school transport. Schools are advised not to engage in potentially expensive local solutions with private contractors and instead report any issues to the local REALT team.

While the numbers arriving on a weekly basis appear to have slowed slightly, somewhere less than 60% of children of school going age have enrolled in schools. In some cases, students are accessing educational supports online including supports from Ukraine. The Department are seeking any information from schools where students have requested support from Ukrainian students seeking access to the Ukrainian equivalent of our Leaving Certificate.

The work schools and communities are engaged in responding to this latest crisis and supporting Ukrainian students and their families is immense and greatly appreciated.

a. **The School-based Summer Programme** (see below) offers an opportunity for schools to address the needs of migrant students such as addressing English language skills and integration, including students who have recently arrived in Ireland from the Ukraine. Where schools see a need for English language supports for post-primary students enrolled on these programmes, they will be able to avail of ESOL tutors via the Regional Education and Language Teams. The NCSE provides resources to support the school-based summer programme. The resources support tutors to provide fun and engaging learning experiences for students that focus on consolidating relationships with their schools, supporting physical, social and emotional well-being, developing resilience, building their confidence as learners and developing skills and routines to support successful transition into the next stage of their schooling. Resources will be available in Irish, English, Ukrainian and Russian. The resources will be available in May 2022 at this link: <https://ncse.ie/summer-programme>

b. **The Teaching Council** has developed a tailored registration process to support the registration of qualified Ukrainian teachers who have been granted Temporary Protection under the EU Temporary Protection Directive. The two below links provide further guidance and information in this regard:

[Qualified in Ukraine - Teaching Council](#)

[Tailored Registration Process for Qualified Ukrainian Teachers - Teaching Council](#)

To date, the Council has received approximately 70 queries and five applications from Ukrainian nationals who may meet the eligibility requirements for qualified teachers wishing to register in Ireland. Qualified Ukrainian teachers with an interest in registering to teach in Ireland are advised to visit the web links above. All queries and requests for application documents should be addressed to [ukrainianteachers@teachingcouncil.ie](mailto:ukrainianteachers@teachingcouncil.ie).

## 2. The Summer Programme 2022

The following documents are published on [www.gov.ie/summerprogramme](http://www.gov.ie/summerprogramme) and will issue shortly to schools.

a. **Letter to Principals re School-based Summer Programme** available for all Post-Primary Schools for Students with Complex Educational Needs and Students at risk of Educational Disadvantage.

### Related documents:

- 2022 Summer Programme for Post-Primary Schools **Overview – Terms and Conditions + Supports available to schools.**
- Summer Programme 2022 – Information leaflet for Parents.

**Online Registration Portal:** Post-Primary schools that wish to participate in the 2022 Summer Programme must register on the Department's Online Registration Portal. The portal will be open from 10.00am on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022 through the link published on [www.gov.ie/summerprogramme](http://www.gov.ie/summerprogramme). Following registration, sanction letters will issue to schools for each programme from the Department outlining resources that have been sanctioned. All relevant information and training resources for the Summer programme can be found at this link: <https://www.gov.ie/Summerprogramme>

All other queries can be directed to [schoolsummerprogramme@education.gov.ie](mailto:schoolsummerprogramme@education.gov.ie). A Summer Programme helpline is also available at **09064 84292**.

- b. **Letter to Principals re: Home-Based Summer Programme** to Support the Education or Care Needs of Students with Complex Needs **where schools are not providing a school-based programme**. The Department recognises that not all schools will be able to provide a school-based programme.

**Related documents:**

- **Overview/Terms and Conditions for Parents, Teachers and SNAs**. Schools should provide a copy of this document to parents of eligible student(s) and bring it to the attention of teachers and SNAs in the school.
- **Application form for Sanctioning**. This document should also be provided to the parent of eligible student(s), along with the Overview document.
- **Sanctioning Portal Instructions for Schools**. (For the 2022 Home-based Summer Programme, the Department has introduced an **Online Sanctioning Portal**.) **The link for the Online Sanctioning Portal will be circulated to schools by email on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and the Portal will remain open until Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

All queries from parents/schools can be emailed to [homebasedsummerprogram@education.gov.ie](mailto:homebasedsummerprogram@education.gov.ie) or phone the helpline on **0906 484292**.

### 3. **Publication of Inspectorate Reports on SSPS and Implementation of Anti-bullying Measures in Schools**

See links below to the recently published reports by the Inspectorate.

- a. <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/12a17-supporting-the-safe-provision-of-schooling-ssps>. **Supporting the Safe Provision of Schools (2020-22)**, in its conclusion, the report highlights that the collaborative nature of the development of the SSPS inspection model ensured that school communities and education partners were fully involved in the development of the inspection framework. This was a key factor in the successful implementation of the SSPS model.
- b. <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/93c45-report-on-the-implementation-of-aspects-of-anti-bullying-measures-in-schools/>. **The Inspectorate's monitoring of anti-bullying measures as set out in the Procedures published in 2013 in schools in the September-November 2021**. Overall, the findings of this report are broadly positive. The report confirms the extensive work being undertaken by many principals, teachers, other staff, parents and students to raise awareness of and prevent school bullying. The report illustrates how schools, in the main, are both mindful of and alert to the breadth of their responsibilities for the social, emotional and behavioural support of children and young people.

Schools should ensure that the anti-bullying prevention and intervention strategies in place are regularly reviewed and monitored for effectiveness and impact. The Department of Education has commenced a review of the 2013 procedures.

#### 4. “Belong To” Supports for Schools

Belong To is delighted to launch a **new evidence-based LGBTQ+ Quality Mark** designed to support and accredit **LGBTQ+ Safe and Supportive Schools**.

The LGBTQ+ Quality Mark is a whole school approach which focuses on the four key areas of wellbeing promotion from an LGBTQ+ perspective:

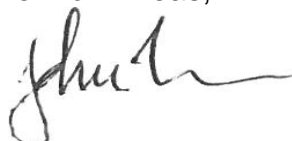
- Creating an LGBTQ+ culture and environment
- Resourcing an LGBTQ+ inclusive curriculum
- Nurturing LGBTQ+ inclusive relationships and partnerships
- Supporting LGBTQ+ inclusive policies and planning

Belong To will provide supports and training to schools embarking on and engaged in this journey of inclusion and participation in 2022/23 which is strictly limited to 35 schools in 2022. For any enquiries, please contact Stephen Cassidy: [stephen@belongto.org](mailto:stephen@belongto.org) / 01 670 6223 and see further information at <https://www.belongto.org/lgbtq-quality-mark/>.

#### ACCS Newsletter

The closing date for submission to the final ACCS newsletter of this academic year is Monday 16<sup>th</sup> May. Please contact Elaine in ACCS Head Office at [emooney@accs.ie](mailto:emooney@accs.ie) with any news stories from your school which you wish to showcase in our newsletter. To accommodate as many schools as possible we would appreciate if articles could be kept to a maximum of 200 words. If you wish to submit a photo, please submit in jpeg format.

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le mór mheas,



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John Irwin,  
GENERAL SECRETARY.