

Staffing and Special Education Teacher (SET) Allocation Circulars

The annual staffing circular ([Circular 0025/2026](#)) and SET Allocation circular ([Circular 0011/2026](#)) issued to schools today. IPPN is very conscious of the implications for school leaders of the late issuing of the circulars and on the timing of recruitment of teachers for the 2026/27 school year.

The combination of the two circulars details the total allocation of teaching staff to schools for the 2026/27 school year and the rationale that underpins that allocation.

SET Allocations to schools were calculated in accordance with the following weightings –

- Enrolment 25%
- Educational Teaching Needs Profile 68.5%
- Educational Disadvantage 6.5%

School should have received an email from the NCSE detailing the breakdown of its allocation.

The DEY has confirmed that

- 47% of schools had no change to their SET allocation
- 32% of schools received an increased SET allocation and
- 21% of schools received a reduced SET allocation

Appendix C of the Staffing Circular details the allocation of SET hours to all schools with additional detail on the allocation to be provided via email by the NCSE.

Schools who wish to appeal their SET allocation may do so via the [SET Review Process 2026](#), details of which will be on the [NCSE website](#). The appeal process is also detailed in Appendix 1 of the SET Allocation circular. Applications for review may be made **between 13th April and 1st May** with reviews being undertaken in the period from April to June.

Points to note

- As SET allocations have been adjusted for 2026/27, all existing Special Education cluster posts will cease at the end of the 2025/26 school year and new clusters for 2026/27 can now be formed.
- Schools may combine SET hours and principal release day hours to form full-time posts.
- Schools can now use the SET Clustering Noticeboard on [EducationPosts.ie](#) to connect with neighbouring schools and form SET clusters for 2026/27. It provides a central space to post or find clustering opportunities, helping schools organise posts efficiently as SET allocations change.

Forms to be returned to the DEY (where relevant)

Form	Found in	Purpose	Return by
Form SET. Cluster 2026/27	Appendix D	Details of SET clusters for 2025/26	28/04/2026
Form MPF	Appendix E	Access to main redeployment panel	28/04/'26
Form Prim-EAL 2026/27	Appendix Fd	EAL Resources	TBC
Application to the Primary Staffing Appeals Board 2026/27 School Year	Appendix Fa Appendix Fb Appendix Fc Appendix Fd Appendix Fe Appendix Ff Appendix Fg	Exceptional Accommod Difficulties Additional Enrolments Projected Enrolments Additional EAL Resources Small Schools Losing 3 or more posts Alleviating Infant Class Size	TBC