

Professional Support Team (PST) Training

Training for Schools New to the *Droichead* Process

How many days training will be provided?

The National Induction Programme for Teachers (NIPT) provides four days training for Professional Support Team (PST) members. This training is run a number of times during the school year. The training takes place in two blocks of two days usually scheduled over a month to two month period.

How many may attend training from one school?

NIPT recommends that each school trains 3 PST members in a 3 year period. Trained PST members are asked to make a commitment of 3 years to the school's PST. It is recommended that a team would attend training together.

Is substitution provided?

Yes. Substitute cover is provided for teachers and teaching principals as per DES guidelines. The code on the Online Claims System for recording attendance at this training is 'Teacher Induction' or 'Ionductú Múinteoirí'. Standard travel rates will apply from your school to the nearest training venue.

How do I register for training?

If a school wishes to train a professional support team, the school should register for *Droichead* at www.teacherinduction.ie.

How will training support me in my role as PST member?

The role of a PST is to support newly qualified teachers (NQTs) during the *Droichead* process and to subsequently complete a joint declaration with the NQT at the end of the process. Training will support PST members in their role by enabling participants to

- foster professional relationships
- mentor, support and engage NQTs and fellow experienced teachers in professional, reflective dialogue
- facilitate classroom observations to enhance teaching and learning
- engage in action planning
- support NQTs in relation to planning, preparation and effective classroom management practices
- reflect on their own professionalism and professional vision
- deepen their commitment to ongoing professional development



When can a school begin to offer the *Droichead* process to an NQT?

Schools can offer the process to NQTs after at least 2 PST members have fully completed Day 1 and Day 2 of training and the NQT has received a confirmation email from the Teaching Council, that their online application to commence the *Droichead* process has been accepted.

What preparation should a school undertake before Professional Support Team training begins?

As a school awaits PST training, the principal should nominate the school's professional support team members. These should be fully registered teachers and have at least 5 years teaching experience. While not a requirement in the *Droichead* policy, the principal may decide to be part of the PST.

How can a school access NIPT support after training?

As part of NIPT's continuing support to schools offering the *Droichead* process, the PST can avail of phone and email support from NIPT. The PST may also request a school visit by, completing a School Visit Request Form available at www.teacherinduction.ie (see *Droichead* webpage).

When a school has an NQT who is eligible to engage in the *Droichead* process what should the school do after the PST completes Day 2 of training?

The NQT applies to commence the *Droichead* process using the online 'My Registration Login' on www.teachingcouncil.ie The NQT provides the school's PST with a copy of the confirmation email received from the Teaching Council. The *Droichead* process begins when this is done. The *Droichead* process cannot be completed, and the joint declaration on Form D cannot be signed, until at least 2 members of the PST have fully completed all 4 days of training.

