

## ***Droichead* Covid-19 Guidelines for Professional Support Team members (PSTs) 2019/2020**

This guideline document has been developed to address any issues that may arise for PST members when finalising the *Droichead* process for NQTs in the 2019/2020 school year. During these unprecedented times flexibility is being introduced for PSTs.

This document should be read in conjunction with the policy document *Droichead: The Integrated Professional Induction Framework*, March 2017 which is available on the Teaching Council website [www.teachingcouncil.ie](http://www.teachingcouncil.ie) and the NIPT website [www.teacherinduction.ie](http://www.teacherinduction.ie).

NQTs will fall into one of three groups. Please read the instructions below carefully when signing the Form D. A separate guidance document has been prepared giving instructions as to the actions required by the NQTs which is available on the Teaching Council and NIPT website.

### Notes:

- Strand A (school based) relates to the in-school support including observations and professional discussions.
- Strand B (Professional Learning Activities) relates to Cluster Meeting(s) and professional learning activities.
- The minimum time requirement for Strand A is 60 days (Primary) and 200 hours (Post-primary) from the date listed on the confirmation email issued to the NQT at the start of the process.

| <b>Group</b>   | <b>Criteria</b>  | <b>Instructions</b>  |
|----------------|--|--|
| <b>Group 1</b> | The NQT has completed the <i>Droichead</i> process (Strand A and Strand B) on or before 12 March 2020.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form D must be completed by the NQT and signed by the PST team in the normal manner.</li> <li>• This year PST members who have fully completed days 1 and 2 of their training but have yet to conclude days 3 and 4 of the PST training may sign the form</li> <li>• Where only one PST member is currently available, the NIPT should be contacted for advice at <a href="mailto:droicheadinterimmeasures@teacherinduction.ie">droicheadinterimmeasures@teacherinduction.ie</a>.</li> <li>• The Council reserves the right to verify any information provided on Form D.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Group 2</b> | The NQT has engaged in the <i>Droichead</i> process for the required minimum time and has completed Strand A, but may not have completed all of Strand B (additional professional learning activities) on or before 12 March 2020. | <p><b>Proceed as for Group 1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is the Council's expectation that each NQT will have the majority of Strand B completed, e.g. Cluster Meetings and/or Professional Learning Activities. As new entrants to the profession, the Council advises that NQTs should participate further in a range of additional professional learning activities (including online Induction Workshops, webinars etc.) in order to address any shortfall in Strand B.</li> <li>• Where the PST believes that the NQT has not completed all of Strand A, the NIPT may be contacted for advice at <a href="mailto:droicheadinterimmeasures@teacherinduction.ie">droicheadinterimmeasures@teacherinduction.ie</a></li> </ul> |
| <b>Group 3</b> | The NQT commenced the <i>Droichead</i> process but has not completed Strand A including the minimum time requirement on or before 12 March 2020.   | <p><b>Proceed as for Group 1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PST are signing Form D on the understanding that the process was partially completed and that the remaining elements will be completed at a future date and may involve a different PST/school.</li> <li>• Time completed by the NQT engaging in the <i>Droichead</i> process during 2019/2020 will be 'banked' towards the completion of the <i>Droichead</i> process at a future date by the NQT.</li> <li>• Additional guidelines will be issued to support PSTs working with NQTs in this group in advance of the new school year.</li> </ul>   |