Department of Education
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AN ROINN Oideachais
MÃNNYSTRIE O Lear

9 Samhain 2011

9 November 2011

**Le haghaidh:**

Príomhoidí agus Boird Ghobharnóirí i ngach bunscoil, iar-bhunscoil ina bhfuil roinn ullmhúcháin agus scoil speisialta dheontaschúnta;

**To:**

Principals and Boards of Governors of all grant-aided primary schools, post-primary schools with preparatory departments and special schools;

**MEASÚNÚ RÍOMHCHUIDITHE**

**COMPUTER BASED ASSESSMENT**

A Phríomhoide, a chara

Soláthraíonn Ord (TÉ) Oideachais (Socruithe Measúnaithe) (Bonnchéim go hEochairchéim 3) 2007 (Ord 2007) le haghaidh mheasúnú daltaí i mBlianta 4 go 7 le linn théarma an fhómhair, ag baint úsáid as modh ríomhchuidithe a sonraíonn an Roinn é. De réir an Oird seo chomh maith caithfear torthaí na measúnuithe seo a thaifeadadh agus a thuairisciú do thuismitheoirí an dalta faoi dheireadh an téarma sin.

Is é InCAS an modh atá sonraithe ag an Roinn faoi láthair le húsáid i scoileanna leis na measúnuithe seo a

Dear Principal

The Education (Assessment Arrangements) (Foundation to Key Stage 3) Order (NI) 2007 (the 2007 Order) provides for the assessment of pupils in Years 4 to 7 during the autumn term, using a computer-based method specified by the Department. The Order also requires the outcomes of these assessments to be recorded and notified to the pupil's parents by the end of that term.

InCAS is the method currently specified by the Department to be used by schools in carrying out these

dhéanamh i dtéarma an fhómhar. Tá an conradh le CEM (Ollscoil Durham) maidir le soláthar na measúnuithe InCAS seo le críochnú i ndeireadh Eanáir 2012.

Is gné thábhachtach de chuid pholasaí feabhsaithe scoile na Roinne go fóill é úsáid a bhaint as sonraí ó mheasúnuithe ríomhchuidithe agus táthar i ndiaidh próiseas poiblí soláthair a chur i gcrích le soláthraithe na measúnuithe seo a shainaithint ó Mheán Fómhair 2012 ar aghaidh. Is é an toradh a bhí ar an phróiseas seo ná go bhfuil soláthraithe nua le haghaidh measúnuithe Litearthachta agus Uimhearthachta sainaitheanta againn.

Aithnímid na dúshláin atá roimh na húdaráis scoile i mbliana, agus iad ag ullmhú go háirithe do na hathruithe ar na riachtanais mheasúnaithe reachtúil in 2012/13. Beidh oiliúint ar líne ar fáil, mar sin, ó Bhealtaine go Meán Fómhair lena chinntiú go mbeidh solúbthacht ag scoileanna leis an oiliúint agus an tacaíocht chuí a rochtain agus iad ag ullmhú do na measúnuithe ríomhchuidithe i dtéarma an fhómhair 2012. Beidh scaoileadh múinteora ar fáil chomh maith do na múinteoirí uilig ó Bhliain 4 go Bliain 7 a bhfuil an oiliúint seo á rochtain acu. Chomh maith leis seo, beidh saoráid deasc cuidithe ar fáil in CCEA ar 028 90261274 le tacaíocht a thabhairt do scoileanna agus le

autumn term assessments. The contract with CEM (University of Durham) for provision of the InCAS assessments is due to end in January 2012.

The use of data from computer-based assessments remains a key aspect of the Department's school improvement policy and a public procurement process has been carried out to identify suppliers of these assessments from September 2012 onwards. The outcome of this process is that new providers for Literacy and Numeracy assessments have been identified.

We recognise the challenges that schools face this year, particularly in relation to preparation for the changes to statutory assessment requirements in 2012/13. Therefore, to ensure that schools have flexibility in accessing appropriate training and support to prepare for computer-based assessments in the autumn term 2012, online training will be made available from May to September. Teacher release will also be provided for all Year 4 to Year 7 teachers accessing this training. In addition, a Helpdesk facility will be available in CCEA on 028 90261274 to support schools and to answer any queries arising.

ceisteanna a thagann chun cinn a fhreagairt.

Chomh maith leis seo, tá an Roinn ag smaoineamh ar an dóigh is fearr le solúbthacht a chur ar fáil do scoileanna maidir le cur i bhfeidhm na measúnuithe ríomchuidithe nua seo sa chéad bhliain 2012.

Déanfar mionchumarsáid le scoileanna go luath amach anseo, ar a n-áirítear na socruithe leis na measúnuithe nua a thriail agus a mheas roimh á gcur i bhfeidhm agus beidh an chumarsáid seo ar fáil ar shuíomh gréasáin Churaclam TÉ ag www.nicurriculum.org.uk.

Is mise le meas,

In addition, the Department is considering how best to offer flexibility to schools in the first year of implementation of these new computer-based assessments for 2012.

More detailed communication with schools, including arrangements for trialling and evaluation of the new assessments prior to implementation, will follow shortly and will also be available on the NI Curriculum web site at: www.nicurriculum.org.uk

Your sincerely,

**Dale Heaney**

**Foireann Measúnaithe agus Cáilíochtaí**

**Assessment & Qualifications Team**