

## Useful organisations to support schools

### [Centre for School Leadership \(CSL\)](#)

The Centre for School Leadership was established in September 2014 on a partnership basis between IPPN/NAPD and the Department of Education. The CSL's responsibility extends across the continuum of leadership development commencing with pre appointment training through to induction of newly appointed principals to continuous professional development throughout the leader's career. The Centre also advises the Department on policy in this area.

### [Education Support Centres Ireland \(ESCI\)](#)

The Education Support Centres in Ireland (ESCI) is the umbrella organisation for the National Network of Teacher/Education (Support) Centres, which comprises 21 Full-time and 9 Part-time Education Centres. It represents the interest of the Network as a whole including Management, Directors and Staff.

### [HSE Education Programme](#)

The HSE Health and Wellbeing Team supports teachers to promote wellbeing, physical activity and healthy eating in school.

### [Junior Cycle for Teachers \(JCT\)](#)

Junior Cycle for Teachers (JCT) is a dedicated continuing professional development (CPD) support service of the Department of Education. The aim is to support schools in their implementation of the Framework for Junior Cycle (2015) through the provision of appropriate high quality CPD for school leaders and teachers, and the provision of effective teaching and learning resources.

### [National Council for Curriculum and Assessment](#)

The NCCA advises the Minister for Education on curriculum and assessment for early childhood education, primary and post-primary schools and on assessment procedures used in schools and examinations on subjects which are part of the curriculum. This advice is developed through research, deliberation, consultation and networks.

### [National Council for Guidance in Education \(NCGE\)](#)

The National Centre for Guidance in Education (NCGE) is an agency of the Department of Education, with responsibility to support and develop guidance practice in all areas of education and to inform the policy of the Department in the field of guidance. The mission of the NCGE is to develop, support and influence guidance policy and quality guidance provision in the education and training sector as part of lifelong learning in accordance with national and international best practice.

### [National Council for Special Education \(NCSE\)](#)

The National Council for Special Education (NCSE) was set up to improve the delivery of education services to persons with special educational needs arising from disabilities with particular emphasis on children. The local service is delivered through a national network of Special Educational Needs Organisers (SENOs) who interact with parents and schools and liaise with the HSE in providing resources to support children with special educational needs.

#### [Professional Development Service for Teachers \(PDST\)](#)

The PDST is the country's largest single support service offering professional learning opportunities to teachers and school leaders in a range of pedagogical, curricular and educational areas. The PDST was established in September 2010 as a generic, integrated and cross-sectoral support service for schools. The establishment of the organisation was synonymous with the amalgamation and restructuring of a number of stand-alone services which now operate under the PDST providing their services to schools in the context of PDST's overall vision and mission.

#### [Spectrum Life \(Employee Assistance Service\)](#)

The Employee Assistance Service (EAS) is currently available to all school staff. The EAS provides advice to employees on a range of issues including: wellbeing, legal, financial, bereavement, conflict and mediation. The EAS also provides advice and support to managers and delivers interventions to help them deal with health and wellbeing issues in the workplace.

#### [Teaching Council](#)

The Teaching Council is the professional standards body for the teaching profession, which promotes and regulates professional standards in teaching. It acts in the interests of the public good while upholding and enhancing standards in the teaching profession.

#### [Tusla Education Support Service](#)

TESS is part Tusla and operates under the Education (Welfare) Act, 2000, a piece of legislation that emphasises the promotion of school attendance, participation and retention. TESS has three strands namely the Statutory Educational Welfare Service (EWS) and the two school support services the Home School Community Liaison Scheme (HSCL) and the School Completion Programme (SCP). The three TESS strands work together collaboratively with schools, families and other relevant services to achieve the best educational outcomes for children and young people.