

Online resources

How can we help at this busy

By sharing our resources, that's how. You can access a range of resources on our websites, from reports, consultative documents, draft syllabuses and guidelines (www.ncca.ie) to the entire range of syllabus and curriculum documents (www.curriculumonline.ie). Here we give you just a few examples of the resources available to help you in planning for the new school year. To find out what else is available, just go to the addresses above and...explore.



“ You can read all about our DVD for parents when you visit the NCCA website. ”

Tipsheets for parents provide parents with information on how to help their child with early learning at home. The first one is about reading and writing in the infant classes and explains how to help children develop their skills. Additional tipsheets will be developed during the school year and will be made available to download from the NCCA website.

To download the first tipsheet (*Infant classes: Helping your young child to get ready to read and write*), go to: www.ncca.ie/primary/parents.

Do you need information for parents on how they can support their child's learning?

You can read all about our DVD for parents when you visit the NCCA website. The DVD is produced in 5 languages: English, Irish, French, Lithuanian and Polish and shows how parents can support their child's learning at home: before going to school, during primary school, and in getting ready for post-primary school. The DVD is available in all primary schools and you can find further information about it at: www.ncca.ie/primary/parents.

Reporting to primary school parents?

As the year progresses you will be arranging to meet with parents to talk to them about how their children are doing in primary school. To help you to report on your pupils' progress, the NCCA has developed draft Report Card Templates, which have been piloted in schools this year. If you have been using them, we would love to hear how helpful you found them. If you haven't tried them yet, they are still available to download from the website, at: www.ncca.ie/primary/assessment.

for teachers

time of the year?

Curriculumonline



Planning in primary schools?

Go to: www.curriculumonline.ie. Here you can access the Primary School Curriculum. Whether you are planning yearly, monthly or fortnightly schemes you can use the drop-down menu to access the curriculum for your class level in each of the curricular areas. Just choose your subject from the drop-down menu on the home page, then follow the links on the side menu to get to the planning page for your chosen subject.

ICT in the Primary School Curriculum: Guidelines for Teachers offers teachers ideas and sample lessons and projects on how to include ICT across the curriculum. It also provides advice on planning curriculum approaches and methodologies and on the use of software and the Internet in a curriculum context. The ICT Guidelines can be accessed at: www.ncca.ie/primary/ICT.

Planning in post-primary schools?

Go to: www.curriculumonline.ie. Here you can access syllabus documents and teacher guidelines. The drop down menu can be used to access the Junior Cycle Curriculum

and the Senior Cycle Curriculum, which includes Transition Year, Leaving Certificate (Established), Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme and Leaving Certificate Applied.

Teaching in sixth class or junior cycle?

Moving Up is an information booklet for schools, teachers and parents on how best to support students making the transition from primary to post-primary schools. The booklet summarises the main findings of research conducted by the ESRI (Economic Social and Research Institute) as the first part of a study of over 900 students in their first three years of post-primary school. You can download *Moving Up* from www.ncca.ie/publications.

Interested in different ways of assessing student work?

Click on the *Assessment for Learning* link on the NCCA home page for useful information and examples of how classroom-based assessment can support and improve students' learning. You can also download a leaflet here explaining what AFL is all about.

Special educational needs

The *Guidelines for Teachers of Students with General Learning Disabilities* have recently been revised. Revisions were informed by the feedback you provided as you used the earlier draft guidelines, which were designed to provide ways in which teachers can enable students with general learning disabilities to access the curriculum for primary and post-primary education. The NCCA has developed a digipack of all the guidelines, which can be downloaded or accessed online. For further information on this material, go to www.ncca.ie/primary/inclusion and follow the link to special educational needs.

Are there children in your primary school class for whom English is an additional language?

The guidelines, *English as an additional language in Primary schools*, provide information on how to help the child whose home language is neither English nor Irish when she/he first arrives in school. The guidelines also provide suggestions for involving parents and other members of the child's community in the school. Included are exemplars to assist teachers as they help children access all areas of the Primary School Curriculum.

To download the guidelines, follow the 'English as an additional language' link on the inclusion page of the website: www.ncca.ie/primary/inclusion.

Watch out also for **ACTION**, a new NCCA website that will soon be going live and will feature examples of good practice for teachers using these guidelines. For an exclusive preview, log on to: <http://action.ncca.ie>.