

Allowance freeze unacceptable, says ASTI

The ASTI has strongly condemned the Department of Education and Skills' announcement last week that newly appointed teachers taking up employment from February 1 will not be paid qualification and other allowances, pending the conclusion of a public service wide review of allowances and premium payments. The announcement was made via Circular 0003/2012.

This Circular arises from decisions by Government in the December Budget. In breach of normal practice, there were no negotiations/ consultations with the teacher unions about the text of the Circular prior to its issue. This has resulted in a Circular to schools that is unclear and which unfairly targets some teachers.

Newly appointed teachers who have already been singled out for severe pay cuts are once again targeted through the freezing of their qualification and supervision and substitution allowances.

Posts of responsibility allowances

The freeze on allowances also affects existing teachers taking up post of responsibility positions. This means a teacher appointed to a post of responsibility will not be paid their POR allowance pending the conclusion of the review (i.e. they will receive no payment for the post during the review period).

The ASTI has issued advice for ASTI members in this situation via school stewards (the advice is also available at www.asti.ie). It is not acceptable that ASTI members appointed to POR positions will receive no allowance pending the conclusion of the review and will be uncertain about the outcome of the review during that period.

Supervision and substitution

The supervision and substitution allowance has also been frozen for new entrants. This means teachers entering the scheme from February 1st 2012 cannot receive the supervision and substitution scheme annual allowance, pending the conclusion of the review. Existing teachers who are already signed up to the scheme will continue to qualify for their annual payment during the review period. These teachers should continue to operate the scheme as normal. Under the S&S scheme, it is still possible for a school to pay a teacher for casual S&S hours (paid at the casual hourly rate). Under no circumstances should any pressure be brought to bear on newly appointed teachers to participate in the S&S scheme on an unpaid basis. Further information and advice has been issued to school stewards and is available on the ASTI website.

Review of allowances

The Government proposes a 5% cut in public service allowances this year, a 5% cut in 2013 and a further 10% in 2014. It is understood that the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform intends to complete its public service wide review of allowances and premium payments by the end of February, 2012.

The ASTI and the other teacher unions are making a formal submission to the Department of Education and Skills on the above developments. Updates will be posted on the ASTI website.



Kieran Christie is one of five ASTI endorsed candidates running for election to the Teaching Council and is the only ASTI-endorsed candidate contesting the community and comprehensive schools' constituency.

Kieran is a member of the Sligo Branch and has served the ASTI in a number of roles, including Branch Chairman, Standing Committee Representative and Honorary National Organiser.

If you are teaching in the community/comprehensive sector, please make sure you and your ASTI colleagues participate in the Teaching Council elections.

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ASTI directive on oral examinations

The ASTI has written to school stewards reiterating its directive to members on Junior Cert oral examinations.

ASTI members are directed **not to assess their own students or students in their school for the purposes of state examinations** under any circumstances.

The directive states:

“It is ASTI policy that members do not provide marks to their own students in the state certificate examinations. ASTI members are directed not to assess their own students or students in their own school in state certificate examinations. This policy applies to all Junior Certificate oral examinations including Gaeilge.”

It is the ASTI view that the only credible way to conduct oral examinations is through an independent structured arrangement organised by the State Examinations Commission.

Ad-hoc local arrangements whereby teachers assess students in another school do not meet the standards required of State Examination to ensure quality control, objectivity and public credibility.

ASTI Annual Convention

ASTI Annual Convention will be held in the Silversprings Moran Hotel, Cork from Tuesday 10th to Thursday 12th April 2012. For more information see www.asti.ie.

Have your say on junior cycle reform proposals

The ASTI is hosting a series of regional meetings for members on the proposed changes to the junior cycle curriculum. These meetings will provide an important feedback mechanism for the ASTI, which continues to be in discussions with the Department about core aspects of the proposed changes, including changes in examination and assessment. The seminars are open to all ASTI members. For more information contact Eileen at asti.library@asti.ie , Tel: 01-6040170.

Cork		
Thurs, February 9	Cork Education Centre	6.00 - 8.30 pm
Sligo		
Tuesday, February 21	Sligo Education Centre	6.00 - 8.30 pm
Limerick		
Saturday, February 25	Limerick Education Centre	10.00 am - 12.30 pm
Dublin		
Tuesday, March 6	ASTI Head Office	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm
Athlone		
Thursday, March 15	Athlone Education Centre	6.00 pm - 8.30 pm

Loss of ex-quota guidance provision

Budget 2012 was announced on December 5 2011. It included the news that the ex-quota provision for guidance counsellors for second-level schools is to be abolished in September 2012.

The ASTI was the first union to issue a statement expressing its shock at this announcement. ASTI representatives criticised the cut in guidance provision on RTE Six One News, RTE Nine O'Clock News, Drive Time, Radio na Gaeltachta, TV3 Ireland AM, and News at One. The ASTI's statement was also carried in the Irish Examiner, the Irish Independent, the Irish Daily Star, the Irish Daily Mail, and the Evening Echo. In addition the ASTI received a significant amount of coverage in regional newspapers and on local radio stations.

Political lobbying

A letter was sent to the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairi Quinn TD on December 6th. The ASTI also contacted the main opposition parties and requested that the issue be raised in the Dail. The ASTI briefed a number of Dail deputies on the issue.

All teacher TDs were lobbied by the ASTI in the run up to Budget day. Following the announcement on guidance provision the ASTI wrote to these TDs outlining the consequences the decision would have for students, schools and teachers. At its December meeting, ASTI Standing Committee passed a motion deploring the ill-considered decision to abolish the ex-quota guidance allocation. A copy of the motion was sent to the Minister for Education and Skills Ruairi Quinn.

The ASTI has commissioned an independent survey on the impact of the Budget 2012 cuts on second level schools, including the decision to axe the ex-quota guidance provision. This survey will be published in April.

Further information is available on the ASTI website under Campaigns.

Freeze on allowances –

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ASTI General Secretary Pat King has criticised the freeze on allowances and the unilateral manner in which the freeze was announced

“The manner of this announcement – made without any consultation with the teacher unions who represent 60,000 teachers – demonstrates scant regard for the realities facing young teachers and defies normal consultation practices between the Department and unions which have been in existence for decades. We will now have bizarre situations in schools where young teachers who manage to find work in the coming weeks, and teachers appointed to promotional posts, will not know what wages they will receive.” - Pat King, ASTI General Secretary.

Convention crèche facilities

Childcare facilities are available for those attending Convention 2012. Facilities will only be provided for delegates who have booked in advance by Friday 23rd March 2012. There is a late booking fee of €75 per child for bookings made after this deadline for insurance reasons. See www.asti.ie for more.

Support materials on the use of the internet by young people are available on www.webwise.ie. The handbook, *Webwise: Internet Safety Information and Advice for Schools* has also been sent to all schools.

Redeployment information

All schools should have an up-to-date and accessible redeployment seniority list including all permanent and CID teachers

In voluntary secondary schools seniority is determined in accordance with Paragraph D in Appendix Two of Circular PPT 29/02,

In VEC schools seniority is determined in accordance with the principles set out in the internal Teacher Transfer Agreement of March 1999,

In Community and Comprehensive schools seniority is determined in accordance with Circular PPT 07/02

Full details are available on the ASTI website.

A teacher may be redeployed to a school within a maximum radius of 50km from his/her existing school or, where they request, from their place of residence.

A Redeployment Scheme allowing for the redistribution of teachers surplus to requirements other than in the case of school closures was included in the Croke Park Agreement, and has been in operation since last year.

Nomination of teachers for redeployment

If a school or VEC has one or more teachers employed in excess of their allocation, they must notify the Director of the Redeployment Scheme of the teachers identified for redeployment. Only permanent/CID Department-paid teachers may be redeployed.

Firstly, a school or VEC with teachers over its allocation will ascertain if any member of staff wishes to be considered for redeployment voluntarily. Those teachers who volunteer for redeployment will be offered vacancies first and can choose to refuse a redeployment vacancy.

At the same time, teachers will be identified for compulsory redeployment, based on seniority and the school's curricular needs.

Schools must notify nominated redeployees by February 20th 2012.

Determination of seniority

All schools should have an up-to-date and accessible redeployment seniority list including all permanent and CID teachers. In all sectors, calculation of seniority for the purposes of redeployment is based on service in the school/VEC in the first instance. In the event of two or more teachers having equal service in the school, service outside the school will be taken into account (see column).

The school/VEC will consider the position of the most junior teacher on the seniority list and form a view as to whether the school/VEC could cope with the loss of that teacher from within its existing approved resources. If the school concludes that it is not possible to cope without the most junior teacher it will review the position of each teacher in reverse order of seniority until it reaches a nominee whose redeployment can be coped with from within existing resources.

Appeals

Teachers nominated for redeployment will be provided with a written statement by the school setting out the basis for its decision and why, given the curricular needs of the school, that person was nominated rather than those more junior. The statement should include a list of all the permanent/CID teachers in the school along with their teaching subjects. The statement should set out the curricular reasons, based on the curriculum audit, why the school believes it is not possible to cope without the services of any teacher below them on the Seniority List for Redeployment.

A nominated teacher can appeal to the Director of the Redeployment Scheme if they feel the correct process and procedures were not complied with. Nominated teachers wishing to appeal must notify the Director by February 27th. Prior to appealing, teachers should talk to their principal and, if necessary, the ASTI, to see if the issue can be resolved at local level.

Full details of this Redeployment Scheme, including a comprehensive Q&A on the operation of the scheme, are available on the ASTI website.

Voluntary redeployment

Under The Croke Park Agreement it was agreed that discussions would take place with a view to implementing a pilot voluntary redeployment scheme. Such a scheme would allow for teachers in schools not in a surplus teacher situation to transfer on a voluntary basis to another school or geographical area. Discussions on this scheme are ongoing and further information will be available in ASTI publications and on the ASTI website as soon as it becomes available.

New appointees' pay scale

The ASTI is giving consideration to the possibility of taking a claim on equality grounds on behalf of a member who believes that he or she is being discriminated against due to payment on the new appointees' pay scale.

Such teachers, appointed after 1st January, 2011, commence on the first point of the salary scale and have also had a 10% pay cut.

If you are such a teacher and wish to consider the possibility of taking a claim, please send your pay details and other relevant information in the strictest confidence to the General Secretary, ASTI, Thomas MacDonagh House, Winetavern Street, Dublin 8 or email bgalligan@asti.ie.

The ASTI's Non Permanent Teachers' Advisory Committee discusses issues of concern to part-time and temporary and new teachers and advises ASTI Standing Committee on these matters.

Principals and Deputy Principals' seminar

A one-day seminar for ASTI principals and deputy principals will be held on February 29 in Athlone. Come along to find out about:

- the new allocation system at second level;
- the Croke Park Agreement – one year on; and,
- junior cycle reform – NCCA update.

Application forms have been sent to all schools and must be returned to ASTI Head office by Friday, February 10th.

As part of measures to consolidate the five existing employment rights institutions, a single complaint form and a single point of contact have been introduced for those wishing to make complaints in relation to potential contraventions of employment, equality, equal status and certain industrial relations legislation.

The new form can be accessed at www.workplacerelements.ie, which also provides information on employment, equality and industrial relations legislation.

Budget 2012 qualification allowances cap

Last week's announcement on the freezing of allowances comes after Budget 2012 imposed a €4,426 cap on qualification allowances paid to those who enter/entered teaching after December 5, 2011 and ruled out allowances for existing teachers who achieved additional qualifications after that date.

The ASTI has stated that capping qualification allowances represents another unfair attack on young teachers and would be a major deterrent to teachers wishing to undertake professional development.

The ASTI has also made representations to the Department of Education and Skills on behalf of teachers who are engaged in or recently completed a course of studies, and who had a legitimate expectation that the conditions that applied when they commenced their course should be honoured. The ASTI has pointed out that The Teacher Refund Scheme as currently structured excludes applications from Masters/ Degree students on the basis that their qualifications, when achieved, will attract the relevant allowance.

The ASTI has published a Q&A on changes to teachers' allowances on the ASTI website - www.asti.ie.

ASTI endorses candidates for Teaching Council seats

ASTI-endorsed candidates will contest the Teaching Council elections in the following constituencies/electoral categories:

Community and Comprehensive Schools
Leinster, Connaught, Munster, Ulster Constituency

Voluntary Secondary Schools (Female)
Connaught, Munster, Ulster Constituency

Voluntary Secondary Schools (Male)
Connaught, Munster, Ulster Constituency

The term of the current Teaching Council ends on 27 March 2012 and, in advance of that date, elections will be held in March to elect primary and second-level teachers to the new Council.

The ASTI has endorsed a number of teachers who are members of the ASTI to run in the Teaching Council elections.

The Teaching Council, which was established in 2006, plays a vital role in promoting the teaching profession and the professional development of teachers. It is made up of 37 members acting in a voluntary capacity as non-executive members of the Council. There are 22 places on the Council reserved for registered teachers. Six of these are nominated by teacher unions (see page 3). Of the remaining 16, seven are elected by second-level teachers. As two of the ASTI-endorsed candidates are unopposed, they are deemed elected. The remaining five ASTI-endorsed candidates are running for the constituencies and electoral categories highlighted in bold below.

Category and constituency	Candidate
Community and Comprehensive Schools Leinster, Connaught, Munster, Ulster Constituency	Kieran Christie
Voluntary Secondary Schools (Female) Leinster Constituency	Bernadine O'Sullivan
Voluntary Secondary Schools (Male) Leinster Constituency	Christy Maginn
Voluntary Secondary Schools (Female) Connaught, Munster, Ulster Constituency	Lily Cronin Mary Lynch Ann McKiernan
Voluntary Secondary Schools (Male) Connaught, Munster, Ulster Constituency	Noel Buckley

About the Teaching Council

The Teaching Council is the statutory agency responsible for the regulating the teaching profession, including the registration of primary and second-level teachers.

The specific functions of the Teaching Council are:

- to promote teaching as a profession;
- to promote the continuing professional development of teachers;
- to establish and maintain a register of teachers;
- to establish, publish, review and maintain Codes of Professional Conduct for Teachers which include teaching knowledge, skill and competence;
- to regulate the teaching profession; and
- to maintain and improve standards of teaching, knowledge, skill and competence.

The Teaching Council plays no role in negotiating the terms and conditions of employment of teachers such as salary, which must be processed through the Teachers' Conciliation Council.

Teaching Council Elections

Eleven second-level teachers will serve on the new Teaching Council, as follows:

	No. Of Seats	Total
ASTI nominees	2	2
TUI nominees	2	2
Community and Comprehensive Connaught, Munster, Ulster and Leinster	1	1
Voluntary Secondary Connaught, Munster and Ulster	2 (1 male, 1 female)	4
Leinster	2 (1 male, 1 female)	
VEC Connaught, Munster and Ulster	1	2
Leinster	1	
Total seats		11

Voting deadline

The closing date for receipt of ballots in the 2012 Teaching Council election is 13 March. Please ensure your ballot is returned on time.

ASTI Teaching Council Nominees

The ASTI is entitled to nominate two teachers, to the Teaching Council (see above). The two ASTI representatives on the Teaching Council nominated by Standing Committee are:

Michael Barry

Michael teaches in St Patrick's College, Gardiners Hill, Cork. He is a member of the Cork North Branch and is the Standing Committee representative for Region 7 (Fermoy, Cork North, East Cork, West Waterford, Dungarvan).

Elaine Devlin

Elaine is a teacher at De La Salle College in Dundalk. She is a member of the Dundalk Branch and is the Standing Committee Representative for Region 12 (Dundalk, Monaghan, Cavan, Drogheda Sean Higgins).



Michael Barry



Elaine Devlin

We asked each of the ASTI-endorsed candidates to submit a profile in advance of the Teaching Council elections.

The views expressed are the candidates' personal opinions

**Community and Comprehensive Schools
Constituency: Leinster, Connaught,
Munster, Ulster
Candidate: Kieran Christie**



Kieran Christie

School: St. Attracta's Community School, Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo.
ASTI Branch: Sligo

"I have been an ASTI activist for many years and have served in a number of roles including Branch Chairman, Standing Committee Representative and Honorary National Organiser.

"I believe that the Teaching Council should be radically reshaped and curtailed. A substantial reduction in the annual fee is required. The accumulation of eleven million euro in surplus funds, coupled with a steadfast refusal to reduce the annual fee, has been absurd and objectionable. The Council's vote to increase the Director's salary by 20% demonstrated that they have lost their way. Indeed, teachers should be concerned about the way their hard-earned money is being spent. They have awarded research bursaries amounting to hundreds of thousands of euro, much of which has been paid out to persons who were not registered teachers. We have been poorly served. In particular, the current Draft Code of Professional Conduct is too prescriptive and patronising and must be opposed.

"A vote for me will ensure that you have a representative that will work hard for much needed change."

Kieran is the only ASTI endorsed candidate running in this election. It is vital that Kieran is elected to ensure the voices of ASTI members in community and comprehensive schools are represented at the highest level on the Teaching Council.

If you are teaching in the community/comprehensive sector, please make sure you and your ASTI colleagues participate in the Teaching Council elections.

Use your vote!

Voluntary Secondary Schools Constituency: Connaught, Munster, Ulster Female Panel

Candidates: Lily Cronin, Mary Lynch & Ann McKiernan

Lily Cronin

School: Mercy Mounthawk, Tralee, Co. Kerry
ASTI Branch: Kerry

Profile:

- BScHDip[UCC], biology and science teacher
- ASTI Activist, School Steward, Kerry Branch Chair
- ASTI Standing Committee Representative region 5
- ASTI Representative on Board of Studies for Science Convenor and Chair of Biology Course Committee
- The elected Teacher Representative on the Teaching Council for the female panel. Constituency of Connaught, Munster, and Ulster 2006 to present.

“The new Council will face many challenges as Part 5 (fitness to practise) of the Act will be enacted. I feel it is vital to continue to serve teachers on the Council and use the vast experience I have gained from working on the many committees, and in my role as Chair of Council, to continue to raise the status and morale of the teaching profession.

“The role of the classroom teacher has never been more important in Ireland and has never been more in need of a strong supporting voice at Council, a vote for me will ensure I will serve your best interests on Council.”



Mary Lynch

School: Presentation Mitchelstown
ASTI Branch: Fermoy

Profile:

- B.B.S. (T.C.D.)
- H.D.G.C. (UCC)
- Grad Dip Ed (UL)
- ASTI current CEC member and former branch chair and school steward.

“Goals:

- To work towards guaranteeing that our teachers who are guidance counsellors and who have expended time and expense in obtaining their qualifications will continue to have the opportunity to pursue their careers in second level schools. The recent proposal contained in Budget 2012 obviating the role of guidance counsellors is a socially destructive and inequity-creating policy.
- To implement a proper Code of Professional Conduct that is fair and balanced and incorporates into it a code of professional support. The present proposed code appears to be a “Behaviour Management Contract”.
- To ensure a system of Garda vetting that does not infringe our constitutional rights and is not a violation of human rights. There must be a mechanism whereby in the case of doubt, the individual shall be allowed to make representations before information, which could destroy their good name is released.”



**Voluntary Secondary Schools
Constituency: Connaught, Munster, Ulster
Female Panel**

Candidates: Lily Cronin, Mary Lynch & Ann McKiernan



Ann McKiernan

School: Ursuline College Sligo
ASTI Branch: Sligo

"I am a teacher of German, business, LCVP and SPHE. I have over 20 years teaching experience, seven of which were spent in Germany and Switzerland. I have served the ASTI as School Steward, and am presently Branch Secretary, member of CEC, second representative for German and LCVP, representing ASTI on NCCA committee.

"I will ensure that ASTI policy will always be adhered to. I intend to promote teaching as a worthwhile and very relevant profession. I will endeavour to express the views of all teachers. We need highly motivated teachers for the challenging times ahead.

"Vote for me and I will ensure that your voice will be heard and you will be well represented on The Teaching Council."

**Voluntary Secondary Schools
Constituency: Connaught, Munster, Ulster
Male Panel**

Candidate: Noel Buckley



Noel Buckley

School: Presentation Secondary School, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary
ASTI Branch: Tipperary

"For 27 years I have been privileged to work in Presentation Secondary School Clonmel, which values teachers as professionals and has always encouraged us to develop professionally. Over the years I have served as Learning Support Teacher, Year Head, TY Coordinator and Programmes Coordinator along with being a religion and history teacher.

"As an ASTI member of the NCCA, I serve as chair of the Religious Education Committee and I am a member of the Transition Year Committee. I am passionate about education and teaching and serve on the ASTI Education Committee.

"I am chair of the Teaching Council's Education Committee and have worked on your behalf to enhance our profession. In our policy on CPD we have highlighted the damage the hours culture is doing to our profession. From 2013 all newly qualified teachers will be provided with a properly structured induction into our profession and existing teachers provided with a proper framework for CPD to enhance their professional development. I want to continue the work of enhancing our profession on your behalf in the next Council and I am asking you to give me your vote.

"If you have any queries re. the work of the Teaching Council do not hesitate to contact me at 087 8537266."

The following ASTI members are also ASTI-endorsed candidates for the 2012 Teaching Council elections. However, as the candidates are unopposed, they are deemed elected to the Teaching Council

Bernadine O'Sullivan

Bernadine teaches in St Mary's School for Hearing Impaired Girls in Cabra, Dublin and is a member of the Dublin North West Branch. She is a former ASTI President. Bernadine has served on the Teaching Council for two previous terms.



Bernadine O'Sullivan

Christy Maginn

Christy teaches in St Declan's CBS Cabra in Dublin and is a member of the Dublin North West Branch. He previously represented ASTI region 15 on ASTI Standing Committee and has served on the Teaching Council for two previous terms.



Christy Maginn

Teaching Council Elections Frequently Asked Questions

Who can vote?

All registered teachers who were on the Register of Teachers on 30 September 2011 will be eligible to vote.

How will the elections take place?

The elections will take place by means of postal ballot. Ballot papers will be sent to every elector on 17 February 2012 at his or her correspondence address as recorded on the Register. The ballot documentation will include the names of the nominated candidates, a declaration of identity form, a ballot paper envelope, a covering envelope, and details of the deadline for receipt of completed ballot papers (13 March 2012).

What voting system will be used?

Voting will take place using a single transferable vote system and further details in relation to this system will be available on the Elections page of the Council's website.

Set quotas will be prescribed in relation to each category and constituency and the first candidate to reach that quota will be deemed to be elected. Where no candidate reaches the quota, the last candidate to remain standing after all others have been eliminated will be deemed to be elected.

Will teachers be permitted to vote for any candidate they wish?

An elector may vote only in respect of the candidates nominated in the electoral category and geographical constituency in which s/he is entered in the electoral roll.

Source: Teaching Council Website: www.teachingcouncil.ie.

Date for your diary

The closing date for receipt of ballots in the 2012 Teaching Council election is 13 March. Please ensure your ballot is returned on time.

New Secretary General of Department of Education and Skills

Seán Ó Foghlú has been appointed the new Secretary General of the Department of Education and Skills.

Mr. O Foghlú has been an Assistant Secretary General in the Department of Education and Skills for the past three and a half years and, prior to that, was the first Chief Executive of the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland.

SEN inclusion guide

The National Council for Special Education (NCSE) has recently launched a new guide for schools on the inclusion of students with special educational needs. The publication is available to download at www.ncse.ie.

Community and comprehensive schools – Board of Management reps

ASTI members should note that in dual union schools where the ASTI and TUI each have at least 25% of total teaching staff in the school, there is an agreement in place to facilitate the election of an ASTI and a TUI teacher Board of Management rep.

The agreed arrangements are set out in the ASTI's information leaflet "Boards of Management". The leaflet also covers agreed procedures in the event that there are more than two candidates standing for election as Board of Management teacher reps.

You can download a copy at www.asti.ie - go to 'Operation of Schools' and click on 'Boards of Management'.

Teacher codes of conduct

The Teaching Council issued draft revised codes of conduct in December 2011. The draft codes were considered by ASTI's Teaching Council Advisory Committee, Education Committee, Equality Committee, Standing Committee and Central Executive Council (CEC). The ASTI made a detailed submission to the Teaching Council in January. Members were also encouraged to give direct feedback to the Teaching Council.

The teacher unions have expressed their concern at the limited consultation period available for feedback on the Draft Codes. The Teaching Council has confirmed that a final draft of the Codes will be made available for further consideration by the education partners.

Your membership details

ASTI Head Office is in the process of updating its membership database system. The new system will be in operation from the end of February. We would like to apologise for any disruption during the changeover period.

The new system will allow us to provide better services to members and to communicate more effectively with you.

If any of your contact details have changed recently, you can update them online in the membership section of our website – www.asti.ie.

If you have changed school or contract type, please notify us by downloading a Change of Membership form and sending it to us at www.asti.ie.

To contact the ASTI Membership Department, Tel: 01-604 0162 or Email: membership@asti.ie.