



Circular Letter 0037/2026

**To: The Managerial Authorities of Recognised Secondary,
Community and Comprehensive Schools
and
the Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards**

Senior Cycle Redevelopment (SCR) Implementation Support Measures

Provision of a dedicated Post of Responsibility to support the enactment and subsequent development of Senior Cycle Redevelopment – the Senior Cycle Redevelopment Co-ordinator

Introduction

1. The Senior Cycle Redevelopment Programme Implementation Support Measures document (the SCRISM) published in May 2025 contains a commitment to provide an additional post of responsibility at Assistant Principal I or II level (as defined in Circular 0003/2018) to support the enactment and realisation of the Senior Cycle Redevelopment programme. This Circular gives effect to that commitment and provides for the post to be known as the Senior Cycle Redevelopment (SCR) Co-ordinator.
2. Circular 0026/2025 (and subsequent revisions to same) sets out that the number of Assistant Principal posts in a school is determined by reference to the final approved teacher allocation for the previous school year excluding supernumerary posts and substitution allocation. The SCR Co-ordinator post is additional to and does not form part of the normal cohort of school posts of responsibility. The post responds to the specific needs of the school in relation to supporting the full implementation of the senior cycle redevelopment programme determined by the Minister for Education and Youth.
3. The SCR Co-ordinator post will be reviewed by the Department during the school year 2030/31 and to be completed by the end of that school year. The review will, amongst other matters, have regard to the eligibility criteria; the student enrolment thresholds and the levels of timetable alleviation.
4. The allocation of the SCR Co-ordinator post is determined by reference to the final aggregated number of students enrolled in a school on Leaving Certificate programmes for the previous school year. For the avoidance of doubt, students

enrolled in Transition Year and Senior Cycle Level 1 and Level 2 Programmes are not counted in the relevant enrolment numbers.

5. The provision of this post is contingent on schools confirming that their Senior Cycle students have access to teaching, learning and assessment practices fully in line with the senior cycle redevelopment programme as outlined by the Minister for Education and Youth, and the associated specifications designed by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) and approved by the Minister, including all assessment arrangements.

Eligibility to apply for, and be appointed to, the Senior Cycle Redevelopment Co-Ordinator post

6. The Senior Cycle Redevelopment Implementation Support Measures (SCRISM) Agreement (the Agreement) contains a package of measures designed to support the implementation of the Senior Cycle Redevelopment programme in schools and the related curriculum development, assessment and teacher professional learning processes. The SCRISM measures apply to those post-primary teachers who have accepted the Agreement and do not apply to those who rejected it.
7. Therefore, where a Union has accepted the terms of the Agreement its members shall be eligible to apply for, and be appointed to, the Senior Cycle Redevelopment Co-ordinator post provided for by this Circular. As the Agreement has been accepted by members of the TUI, those teachers are entitled to this benefit. ASTI members, by virtue of their rejection of the Agreement, are not entitled to this benefit and therefore are not eligible to apply for or to be appointed to these posts. Provision to apply for the SCR Co-ordinator post must also be made for teachers who are not members of either Union.
8. Accordingly, to ensure that school management is aware of whether this Circular shall apply to a particular teacher applying for the post, school management shall have regard to the Declaration Form at Appendix 1 of this Circular which should be submitted by teachers by the closing date for applications.
9. The eligibility, advertising, selection and appeal processes outlined in circular 0003/2018 or any subsequent Circular which supersedes it, are also applicable to the SCR Co-Ordinator post. Specifically, Section 7 of circular 0003/2018 (and Information Note 04/2024) as regards eligibility applies in addition to the post-specific criteria set out in this Circular.
10. Section 9 of circular 0003/2018, refers to the composition of interview boards as comprising some members to be agreed with relevant union(s) For the purposes of a post as SCR Co-ordinator, that is the subject of this Circular, such references to union(s) shall mean only a union or unions whose members have accepted the SCRISM Agreement.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Senior Cycle Co-ordinator

11. The Department recognises the importance of supporting the implementation of Senior Cycle Redevelopment at a leadership level within schools. In this context, the SCR Co-ordinator operates as part of a distributed leadership framework, working in close collaboration with the Principal, Deputy Principal(s) and the wider team of post of responsibility holders to support the school's strategic and coherent implementation of Senior Cycle Redevelopment. Senior Cycle Redevelopment is a whole-school reform process, grounded in the vision of equity and excellence for all.

As such, responsibility for its implementation rests with the senior leadership team, supported by middle leadership structures. The role of the SCR Co-ordinator is to support, facilitate and connect this work across the school, and to carry out the administrative functions associated with Senior Cycle Redevelopment as appropriate to the school context.

12. As per circular 0003/2018, in line with the principles of distributed leadership, Assistant Principals, including the SCR Co-Ordinator, work in teams in collaboration with the Principal and/or Deputy Principal(s).

13. Whilst the needs and priorities may vary according to school context, the SCR Co-ordinator's responsibilities will include:

- Collaborating with Principal and Deputy Principal(s) to align the school's SCR priorities with the school's broader teaching, learning and school improvement processes through subject planning groups and whole school planning groups such as teaching and learning committees, School Self Evaluation/Improvement processes and DEIS planning processes.
- Supporting teachers and school management in the oversight of the completion by students of Additional Assessment Components (AACs) and in respect of coursework in its subsequent authentication and submission in line with the SEC's published Coursework Rules and Procedures.
- Liaising with the State Examinations Commission on:
 - the assessment arrangements for Leaving Certificate subjects and modules;
 - ensuring teachers are informed of developments
 - suspected breaches of coursework regulations
 - the management of appeals processes arising from the above; and

and being available, as required, to respond to SEC queries during relevant assessment and marking periods.

- Facilitating (i) greater teacher collaboration, and (ii) the coordination and delivery of senior cycle redevelopment teacher professional learning.
- Promoting the development and enhancement of teachers' assessment literacy.
- Attending subject department meetings as appropriate to support a shared understanding and consistent implementation of SEC Coursework Rules and Procedures.
- Co-ordinating the AAC calendar and ensuring compliance with the stated timelines; including co-ordination with the Junior Cycle CBA calendar, so that a coherent, planned whole school assessment approach is in place;
- Communicating with teachers, students and the wider school community on the Senior Cycle Redevelopment programme; and,
- Liaising with programme coordinators for Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA), Leaving Certificate Life, Community & Work (LCW), and Transition Year.

14. The Provisions of Circular 0003/2018 (including Section 12) apply to the SCR Co-Ordinator post other than as may be provided for by this Circular.
15. This post will be implemented across all schools from the commencement of the 2026/27 school year and will include timetable alleviation at an appropriate level (as set out below).

Timetable alleviation

16. The timetable alleviation for the SCR Co-ordinator will be resourced by way of a commensurate increase in the teacher allocation to the school. Provision of these additional resources is contingent on schools confirming that their Senior Cycle students have access to teaching, learning and assessment practices fully in line with the redevelopment programme as outlined by the Minister for Education and Youth, and the associated specifications designed by the NCCA and approved by the Minister, including all assessment arrangements.
17. This additional time allocation is in the form of weekly hours. The hours are to be utilised for Senior Cycle Redevelopment by provision of a weekly timetable alleviation for the post holder.
18. A school will arrange to provide the appropriate reduction in teaching hours (as set out below) to the SCR Co-ordinator post holder from within the overall hours available to the school.
19. The reduction in hours will be as follows:
 - 4 hour reduction of class contact time for the AP1 SCR Co-ordinator post holder in each school
 - 2 hour reduction of contact time for the AP2 SCR Co-ordinator post holder in each school.

The reduction in teaching hours will be compensated for by way of a commensurate concession in the teacher allocation to the school.

Senior Cycle Programme enrolment criteria for the allocation of SCR Co-ordinator post in non-DEIS and DEIS schools

20. It is accepted that the Senior Cycle Redevelopment programme depends on the professional skills and abilities of teachers and requires effective school leadership. In line with the policy approach of targeting additional resources at schools with the highest concentration of students at risk of educational disadvantage, the allocation of the post for non-DEIS and DEIS schools is differentiated.

(i) Allocation of SCR Co-Ordinator Post, in non DEIS Schools

SCR Co-Ordinator Assistant Principal posts of responsibility will be filled by Boards of Management/ ETBs, as appropriate, in accordance with the allocation set out in Table 1 below, subject to full adherence to this Circular (0037/2026).

Table 1 - Allocation in non DEIS schools

Number of students enrolled in Leaving Certificate programmes across 5th and 6th year	AP I	APII
1-216	0	1
217 +	1	0

(ii) Allocation of SCR Co-ordinator Post in DEIS Schools

SCR Co-Ordinator Assistant Principal posts of responsibility will be filled by Boards of Management/ ETBs, as appropriate, in accordance with the allocation set out in Table 2 below, subject to full adherence to this Circular (0037/2026).

Table 2 - Allocation in DEIS schools

Number of students enrolled in Leaving Certificate programmes	AP I	AP II
1 - 144	0	1
145+	1	0

Circulation and Queries

21. Please ensure that copies of this Circular are provided to all members of the Board of Management/Education and Training Board and its contents are brought to the attention of all post-primary teachers in your employment including those on leave of absence.
22. This Circular can be accessed on the Department's website under <https://www.gov.ie/en/circulars/>
23. Enquiries regarding this Circular should be e-mailed to SCR_Info@education.gov.ie

Neville Kenny
Principal Officer
Senior Cycle Redevelopment Programme Management Office
9 April 2026

APPENDIX 1 - TEACHER DECLARATION FORM - CIRCULAR 0037/2026

To be completed by teachers applying for this post, SCR Co-Ordinator

Teacher Name: (enter name here)	
	In the space provided below, please indicate clearly the declaration you are making; i.e. by writing Yes in the box below.
<p>(i) I confirm that I am a member of the TUI or neither a member of the TUI nor ASTI; and I hereby confirm my entitlement to have the benefit set out in Circular 37/2026 (i.e. eligibility to apply for and be appointed to a Senior Cycle Redevelopment Co-ordinator post of responsibility) applied to me.</p> <p>I also consent to the data provided herein being shared with the Department of Education and Youth\or my employer Education and Training Board for the purpose of verifying this declaration; and that data relating to my union affiliation in the payroll systems of the Department of Education and Youth or my employer Education and Training Board being used for the purposes of verifying my entitlement under Circular 37/2026</p>	
<i>Only for the purpose of facilitating the verification of the declaration made above please provide the following additional data:</i>	
Teacher Payroll Number (not Teaching Council registration number)	
PPSN	

Signature: _____

Date: _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS DECLARATION TO YOUR SCHOOL PRINCIPAL BY THE CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS. PLEASE RETAIN A COPY FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS.