



Circular Letter 0066/2026

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

Interim Senior Cycle Redevelopment (SCR) Implementation Support Measures

**Interim amendment to the operation of the whole school component of the Croke
Park Hours (CPH) for teachers in the Post-Primary Sector**

Introduction

1. This circular supersedes Circular 0068/2025.
2. The Minister for Education and Youth wishes to inform managerial authorities and post-primary teachers of a revision to the interim amendment to the operation of the whole school component of the Croke Park Hours (CPH) to now include all teachers in the Post Primary Sector.
3. It is acknowledged that the successful realisation of Senior Cycle Redevelopment (SCR) requires significant engagement from teachers.
4. The Senior Cycle Redevelopment Implementation Support Measures 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.
5. One such measure is the reconfiguration, on an interim basis pending a review currently being undertaken under the auspices of the Teachers' Conciliation Council (TCC), of the operation of the whole school component of the CPH arrangements as applicable to teachers in the Post Primary sector.

Rebalancing of Croke Park Hours on an Interim Basis

6. The reconfiguration of the operation of the whole school component of the Croke Park Hours (CPH), on an interim basis, for all teachers in the Post Primary Sector is as follows:
 - 19 hours for whole-school commitments (e.g. school planning days, open night, etc.) as provided for in [Circular 0025/2011](#) and
 - 14 hours for teacher led activities to be carried out on a non-whole school, high trust basis.

Provisions of previous circulars will continue to apply.

7. This interim arrangement applies for an initial period of 3 years and commenced in school year 2025/26 under Circular 68/2025. The arrangement will, following a review, be extendable for a further two years at the discretion of the Department. For clarity, the interim arrangement shall apply in school years 2026/27 and 2027/28 with an extension beyond this being subject to the review referenced in this paragraph.
8. The interim configuration arrangements set out in the Agreement and this Circular do not pre-empt longer term configurations that may be agreed upon the conclusion of the review of CPH currently underway under the auspices of the TCC.

Use of Non-whole School Croke Park Hours

9. The 14 non-whole school hours of teacher-led activities can include, but will not be limited to, time to directly support the implementation of SCR. These hours will be used on a non-whole school, high trust basis.
10. The hours will be pro-rata for part-time teachers.
11. This time will include collaborative activities and co-operation amongst teachers and will be used, amongst other purposes, to support:
 - Participation in additional Continuing Professional Development (CPD)/ Teacher Professional Learning (TPL), including that related to SCR.
 - Subject department planning and curriculum design
 - Development of new learning resources
 - Work related to embedding formative assessment practices
12. Without prejudice to the ongoing review of CPH (at the TCC), this interim measure involving the reconfiguration of CPH applied from the commencement of the 2025/26 school year.
13. This interim measure is non-prejudicial to the existing TCC review of the usage of CPH and any resulting permanent structure which may be agreed through that review.

Circulation and Queries

14. 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.
15. This Circular can be accessed on the Department's website under <https://www.gov.ie/en/circulars/>

16. Enquiries regarding this Circular should be emailed to ESR@education.gov.ie



Caoimhe Allman
Principal Officer
External Staff Relations

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