

DIRECTOR OF TEACHING AND LEARNING EXCELLENCE



Rathgael House
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15 June 2026

Irish Medium Education (IME) Assessment Arrangements

Dear Principal

As you are aware in March 2026 all pupils in all Irish medium schools in Years 4, 7 and 10 participated in system level checks in Irish Literacy, Literacy (English) and Numeracy. I wish to thank you, your staff and pupils for your positive contribution.

Interim Assessment Arrangements 2026/27 to 2028/29

Whilst the Department progresses the introduction of the new [Statutory Assessment Policy Framework](#), interim arrangements will continue to operate. Timescales are available at the [TransformED Implementation Roadmap](#).

The current system-level assessments for Years 4,7 and 10 will continue to operate until the end of the 2028/29 academic year, providing system-level insights during the transition period. Pupils in Irish medium schools will complete two tests at Key Stage 1 (Irish Literacy; and Numeracy) and three tests at Key Stage 2 and 3 (Irish Literacy, Literacy (English) and Numeracy) to reflect the introduction of English as a formal area of learning in Year 4. The tests will be provided by and marked by CCEA, with pupils sitting the written assessments in early March. The Department will continue to meet the costs of substitute cover for the invigilation of the assessment.

The ongoing interim arrangements will ensure appropriate and accurate data is available to inform the future development and support of Irish medium education. As in the English medium sector, outcomes will not be published at pupil or school level nor used for school accountability purposes. Schools will be able to access their own outcomes for internal planning and self-evaluation purposes.

Thank you for your continued support and engagement.

Yours faithfully



Director of Teaching and Learning Excellence

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