

Dept. of Education & Science
Post Primary Teachers Section
Cornamaddy,
Athlone,
Co. Westmeath.

Tel. 090-64-74621



An Roinn Oideachais & Eolaíochta
Rannóg Múinteoirí Iarbhunoidreachais
Cor na Madadh,
Baile Átha Luain

Circular PPT 01/04

To the Authorities of each Second Level School

PARENTAL LEAVE AMENDMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Minister for Education & Science wishes to advise that, following agreement at the Conciliation Council for Teachers, there is an extended entitlement to parental leave for post primary teachers.
- 1.2 This Circular should be read in conjunction with Circular [17/99](#).

2. ENTITLEMENT TO PARENTAL LEAVE AS A RESULT OF THIS AMENDMENT

- 2.1 The effect of the amendment is to extend entitlement to parental leave to :
 - Natural parents of children up to the age of 8 years.
 - Adoptive parents of children.

In the case of an adopted child under three at the time of the adoption, the parental leave must be taken before the child is eight years. (There is no amendment to the entitlement where an adopted child is three or more years but less than eight years at the time of the adoption. In this case parental leave must be taken within two years of the date of the adoption order).

3. EFFECTIVE DATE OF THESE AMENDMENTS

- 3.1 These amendments come into effect from 1 December 2003.

4. APPLICATION OF ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF CIRCULAR 17/99

- 4.1 All other provisions of the Parental Leave Circular ([17/99](#)) including the requirement to give 6 weeks notice continue to apply to this new entitlement to parental leave.

This circular may be accessed on the Department of Education & Science website at www.education.ie.

Liam Kilroy
Principal Officer

February 2004