



To: Principals of National Schools, Secondary Schools, Community Schools, Comprehensive Schools

Circular Letter 0021/2006

Revision of the Spouses' and Children's Pension Scheme

**Reminder: - The Closing Date
for Return of Option Forms is
31 March 2006**

1. Introduction

The Government decided that all members of the National Teachers' and Secondary Teachers' Superannuation Schemes in service on 31 March 2004 should be given the option of joining the Revised Spouses' and Children's Pension Scheme. This was communicated to schools by [Circular letter Pen 14/05](#) in May 2005.

2. Closing Date for Receipt of Completed Option Forms.

In November 2005 individual Option Forms were issued to all eligible teachers who were in service between 31 March 2004 and 31 August 2005. **The deadline specified for return of the completed Option Forms is 31 March 2006.**

This circular is to remind teachers who have not already returned the Option Form to do so immediately, but in any event not later than 31 March 2006.

is most important that the Option Form be returned by all teachers, including those who do not wish to change their current status as:-

- (1) **non-members of the Scheme or**
- (2) **members of the Original Scheme**

3. Acknowledgements.

All options made will be acknowledged. Some Teachers who returned Option Forms have subsequently notified the Department in writing of a change to the option as indicated on the Form. In such a case, the Acknowledgement Letter should relate to the latest option received. The Department should be notified in writing (at Pensions Unit – Options, Cornamaddy, Athlone) where an Acknowledgement Letter has not been received or where the Acknowledgement Letter does not refer to the latest option made.

4. Late return of the Option Form.

An option to join the Scheme which is forwarded to the Department after the closing date of 31 March will not be accepted and the teacher will not be given a further option in regard to membership of the Scheme.

5. Circulation

School authorities are requested to bring the contents of this circular to the attention of all teachers.

This circular is also available on the Department's website, www.education.ie