

Rannán na Scoileanna
An Roinn Oideachais & Scileanna
Cor na Madadh
Baile Átha Luain
Co na Iarmhí



Schools Division
Department of Education & Skills
Cornamaddy
Athlone

Circular 0031/2012

To the Management Authorities of Recognised National, Secondary, Community and Comprehensive Schools and the Chief Executive Officers of Vocational Education Committees

Switchover from Analogue to Digital TV Network

The Minister for Education and Skills wishes to advise school Management Authorities that the free to air national television network will switch from analogue to digital on the 24th October 2012.

The digital switchover provides for the closure of the existing Analogue National TV network and its replacement with a modern digital TV network, and will deliver better quality TV reception and more channels to those affected.

The analogue TV network provides, via an aerial (indoor or outdoor), the Irish TV channels, RTE 1, RTE 2, TV3 and TG4. It will close on Wednesday 24th October 2012. As with the analogue TV network, the replacement digital TV network is operated by RTE. The new network is called SAORVIEW and similar to the analogue system is free to air. Further information on this service is available from SAORVIEW, www.saorview.ie

Schools receiving a TV service should consider if any action is required in light of the impending switchover to digital. If your school currently uses a pay TV service provider, such as SKY, UPC, magnet or a local cable or broadband TV service provider, you are unaffected by the digital switchover. Otherwise you may need to obtain a SAORVIEW-approved set-top box or SAORVIEW-approved TV set.

SAORVIEW does not cover all parts of Ireland. RTE has developed the SAORSAT free to air satellite TV service for the small number of viewers (2%) who cannot get SAORVIEW. To find out more about SAORSAT, contact SAORVIEW on 1890 222 012 or www.saorview.ie

Further information can also be obtained on the national digital switchover helpline on 1890 940 980 or visit www.goingdigital.ie

This circular can be accessed on the Department of Education and Skills web page: www.education.ie.

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