



Circular 0035/2016

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

Recruitment of Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) - Supplementary Assignment Arrangements for the 2016/17 school year:

The Minister for Education and Skills directs you to implement the following supplementary assignment arrangements for SNAs for the 2016/17 school year. These arrangements are to be implemented by each employer with immediate effect and all schools/ETBs and special needs assistants must adhere to the terms of this circular.

This Circular replaces and supersedes Circular 0041/2015. The purpose of this Circular is to notify managerial authorities, Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards (ETBs) and SNAs of supplementary assignment arrangements for SNAs for the 2016/17 school year.

As implemented in Circular 0041/2015, to address the issue of casualisation of employment amongst SNAs, where a school/ETB has an additional allocation of SNA hours/posts (e.g. an additional allocation of SNA hours/posts or an SNA has left the employment) then that additional allocation of hours/posts must be offered to any existing part-time SNAs in that school, in order of seniority, before the employer has recourse to these arrangements. This means that before an employer opts to recruit a further person as an SNA(s), they must ensure that all existing part-time SNAs in their employment, in order of seniority, have been offered a full-time position in the school or, in the case of ETBs, a full-time position in a school within the ETB scheme.

Full details are set out in Section 15 of this Circular.

Circulars or regulations governing the recruitment of SNAs are taken to be amended only to the extent outlined in this Circular. Accordingly, employers should continue to follow existing procedures on recruitment of SNAs subject to the inclusion of the following measures to facilitate the operation of these supplementary assignment arrangements for SNAs. In the case of primary and special schools this is in accordance with Appendix H of the Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2015-2019, or any revision of same that is applicable at that time.

Circulation:

Please ensure that copies of this Circular are provided to the Board of Management/ Education and Training Board and its contents are brought to the attention of all SNAs in your employment including those on leave of absence.

Queries:

Any queries in respect of this Circular should be directed by e-mail only to the following dedicated e-mail address: snasupplementpanel@education.gov.ie

This Circular can be accessed on the Department's website <http://www.education.ie>

Philip Crosby
External Staff Relations
20 May 2016

DEFINITIONS AND EXPLANATORY TERMS:

For the purposes of this circular the following terms shall have the meanings assigned to them here unless the context indicates otherwise:

Purpose of SNA Supplementary Assignment Arrangements – The purpose of these arrangements is to facilitate eligible SNAs who are being made redundant by one employer in filling SNA vacancies that may become available in another school / ETB.

Employer – means an Education and Training Board (ETB) for vocational schools/community colleges and a Board of Management/Manager in the case of primary, voluntary secondary, community and comprehensive schools. The Education and Training Board or Board of Management/Manager may delegate responsibility for matters set out in this circular to the Principal of the school.

The Department – means the Department of Education and Skills.

Supplementary Assignment Manager – means a person assigned by the Department of Education and Skills to fulfil the role outlined in paragraph 28 (page 14) of this Circular.

Carryover of Service – An SNA who is deemed to be a member of this supplementary assignment panel and who is appointed to a further SNA position on or before 1 June 2017 will carry forward any reckonable service that s/he has already accrued as an SNA with their previous employer. This will be carried forward and reckonable, for redundancy purposes only, if a future redundancy situation arises in respect of that person e.g. An SNA served in a full-time position in School A from 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2015. S/he then gets a full-time SNA position in School B and serves in School B from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2018 at which point s/he is made redundant and opts for a redundancy payment. His/Her service for that redundancy payment will be 6 years i.e. 3 years from School A added to 3 years from School B.

Process Verification Document – See pages 12 and 13. This form must be completed by employers in respect of every SNA vacancy, **including the filling of additional hours (i.e. where an existing part-time SNA receives additional hours)**, other than substitute or “cover” vacancies and must be returned to the supplementary assignment manager.

Panel Form 1 (PF1) – See pages 17 and 18. When an employer is notifying an SNA that s/he is being made redundant the employer should immediately give the SNA a completed Panel Form 1 (PF1). SNAs should always submit a copy of the completed Panel Form 1 (PF1) to employers when applying for vacancies as that is the only method for employers to determine whether an applicant has Panel Rights.

OPT OUT FORM – See pages 19 and 20. This form is to be completed by an SNA who wishes to opt out of the 2016/17 SNA supplementary assignment panel. This will trigger the processing of his/her redundancy payment in line with the terms set out in the SNA redundancy scheme (DES Circular 58/06) or any revision of same that is

applicable at that time. The decision to opt out of the 2016/17 supplementary assignment panel for SNAs is final and binding.

Supplementary Assignment Arrangements for Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) employed in recognised Primary, Secondary, Community and Comprehensive Schools and Education and Training Boards (ETBs).

What happens when an SNA is notified that s/he is to be made redundant.

1. Employers **must** process the redundancy as normal. If an SNA is employed by a recognised Primary, Secondary or Community and Comprehensive School then the SNA should be formally notified of the redundancy by the employer and the SNA RED1 form and the RP50 form completed and forwarded to the address below immediately. The deadline for receipt of applications is as outlined in DES Circular 58/2006 (currently 52 weeks from date of redundancy) or any revision of same that is applicable at that time. The above mentioned forms are available on the Department's website www.education.ie along with guidelines for completion.

SNA Redundancy Unit
Payroll Division
Department of Education and Skills
Cornamaddy
Athlone
Co Westmeath
N37 X659

2. **If a Redundancy application is not received within the normal deadline for receipt of redundancy applications (currently 52 weeks from the date of redundancy) then the SNA will not be eligible for redundancy if they do not gain a position via these arrangements.**
3. In circumstances where an SNA is currently employed by an ETB the provisions which currently exist to re-assign within the ETB should be completed prior to the issuing of any redundancy notification. Following this his/her employer should continue to process the redundancy as normal, the SNA should be formally notified of the redundancy and RP50 should be completed and forwarded to the relevant section in the ETB.
4. Once an SNA with a minimum of one year's service (Service in a substitute capacity i.e. covering for maternity leave, sick leave, career breaks, job-sharing etc. does not count, nor does service in a substitute capacity count for redundancy purposes) is notified by his/her employer that s/he is to be made redundant then s/he shall be deemed to be a member of a supplementary assignment panel for SNAs. **This does not apply where an SNA loses hours but remains with his/her existing employer.**
5. When an employer is notifying an SNA that s/he is being made redundant the employer should **immediately** give the SNA a completed Panel Form 1 (PF1) which is appended to this Circular at pages 17 and 18.

6. SNAs should always submit a copy of the completed Panel Form 1 (PF1) to employers when applying for vacancies as that is the only method for employers to determine whether an applicant has Panel Rights.
7. SNAs who are made redundant on or after 1 May 2015 and who have not obtained a new position will remain on this panel until 1 June 2017 with a view to gaining further SNA employment. Such SNAs may of course opt out of the panel and have their redundancy payment processed but this will not happen automatically.
8. SNAs who were made redundant between 1 May 2014 and 30 April 2015 and who have not yet obtained a new SNA position in their own right will now have their redundancy processed provided that:
 - i. They have submitted their SNA Red1 and RP50 forms within the requisite deadlines for receipt of same;
 - ii. They have not already received their redundancy payment via the “opt-out” mechanism.

Opting out of the SNA supplementary assignment panel:

9. An SNA may opt out of this supplementary assignment panel at any point in time triggering the processing of his/her redundancy payment in line with the terms set out in the SNA redundancy scheme (DES Circular 58/06) or any revision of same that is applicable at that time. The decision to opt out of the 2016/17 supplementary assignment panel for SNAs is final and binding. Any SNA who wishes to opt out should complete the SNA OPT OUT FORM on pages 19 and 20 of this Circular and send the completed form to:

SNA Redundancy Unit, Payroll Division

Department of Education and Skills

Cornamaddy

Athlone

Co Westmeath, N37 X659

Please note that if the SNA was employed by an ETB then the opt-out form should be returned to the HR Department of that ETB.

10. The Department/ETB employs a system of checks and balances when processing opt-outs and when processing redundancy claims. If it is found that a person has sent an opt-out form in to the Department/ETB but has actually secured a new SNA position in a different school, then processing of the opt-out form will cease and no redundancy payment will be made.
11. Any SNA who opts for a redundancy payment as outlined above and who is subsequently re-employed as an SNA by **any** school or ETB within 1 year of being made redundant must notify the Department of Education and Skills or the relevant Education and Training Board that s/he has received such a payment. In these circumstances, re-imbursalment of the enhanced (*ex gratia*) element of the redundancy payment will be required from that person. The arrangements for the re-imbursalment will be made at that time, subject to the re-imbursalment being completed within a 12 month time- frame. This re-imbursalment will not be payable to the SNA even in the event of a future redundancy event because the service in respect of which the payment was made will be deemed to have been broken by dint of s/he having received his/her statutory redundancy entitlements.
12. It should be noted that even when an SNA re-imburses the enhanced (*ex gratia*) element of the redundancy payment, the service in respect of which the payment was made will be deemed to have been broken by dint of s/he having received his/her statutory redundancy entitlements and any such service will not be reckonable for redundancy purposes in the event of the person being made redundant by his/her new employer subsequently.
13. Acceptance of the redundancy payment will require the SNA to sign a declaration to this effect. This declaration will also include an authorisation that the information can be used by the Department, and any employer of SNAs in the education sector, for the purposes of monitoring compliance with this provision.

EMPLOYERS–PROCESS TO FOLLOW TO FILL AN SNA VACANCY:

Subject to any exceptions permitted by the Employment Equality Acts, 1998 to 2011, the recruitment and selection process must not indicate an intention to discriminate or contain information in any form which might reasonably be understood as indicating any such intention.

14. An SNA who is a member of the supplementary assignment panel may be employed as a substitute SNA while retaining his/her membership of the supplementary assignment panel. Such service is not reckonable for seniority, incremental or redundancy purposes.
Supplementary assignment panel rules do not apply to the filling of Substitute or “Cover” vacancies i.e. Maternity Leave, Sick Leave, Career Breaks, job-sharing replacement, unpaid leave replacement etc., which should be filled at Primary level in accordance with Appendix H of the Governance Manual 2015-2019. At Post Primary level all standard SNA and cover SNA vacancies of 24 weeks or more must be advertised on one of the websites listed at point 17 below.

15. **Where a school/ETB has an additional allocation of SNA hours/posts (e.g. an additional allocation of SNA hours/posts or an SNA has left the employment) then that additional allocation of hours/posts must be offered to any existing part-time SNAs in that school, in order of seniority, before the employer has recourse to these arrangements. This means that before an employer opts to recruit a further person as an SNA(s), they must ensure that all existing part-time SNAs in their employment, in order of seniority, have been offered a full-time position in the school or, in the case of ETBs, a full-time position in a school within the ETB scheme.**
(At the sole discretion of the school/ETB and in line with the specific allocation of the NCSE, where additional hours arise because of an SNA taking up a Career Break those additional hours may be offered to existing part-time SNAs in that school, in order of seniority. A separate contract for the additional hours should be issued to any SNA receiving such hours (Refer to DES Circular 22/2012, Section 8.2). Any such offer will be on the understanding that the part-time SNA resumes the part-time hours when the Career Break SNA resumes duty. Service in a substitute capacity for additional hours will not count for redundancy purposes.)
 - This offer will be made subject to the SNA undertaking the full duties of the post, including any training/upskilling required to meet the care needs of the pupil(s) and fulfil the full duties of the post.
 - If a part-time SNA(s) turns down the opportunity of a full-time position and/or there are additional SNA hours/posts remaining then the employer should commence this process to fill such a vacancy(s).
 - The only exception that can be made to this rule is where a school/ETB has a determination in writing from the NCSE / SENO stating that their allocation must be split amongst a specific number of SNAs and/or stating that the allocation must be implemented in a specific fashion to address the care needs of the pupil(s).

- In cases where this exception is being invoked by a school/ETB then this written determination from the NCSE / SENO must be provided to the existing part-time SNA(s) affected.
 - The position in relation to the allocation and distribution of Infant days, which is a distinct and specific feature of the SNA scheme, remains unaffected.
16. Schools/ETBs must complete a separate Process Verification Document (pages 12 & 13) in respect of the filling of all vacancies, **including the filling of additional hours (i.e. where an existing part-time SNA receives additional hours)**, which must be returned to the supplementary assignment manager **within six weeks of the vacancy being filled.**
17. All standard SNA vacancies and cover SNA vacancies of 24 weeks or more must be advertised on one of the following websites as soon as practicable. SNA vacancies may also be advertised locally as required / deemed necessary. This will enable SNAs who are being made redundant to know what SNA vacancies are available.
- List of Websites:**
www.educationposts.ie
www.staffroom.ie
www.educationcareers.ie
www.educatetogether.ie
www.jobsireland.ie
 Any Education and Training Board website
18. The advertisement must list any specific competencies and/or requirements to meet the special educational needs of the pupil(s).
19. Employers are reminded that with effect from 1 September 2011, the minimum required standard of education for appointment to an SNA post is: A FETAC level 3 major qualification on the national framework of qualifications **or** a minimum of three grade Ds in the Junior Cert **or** Equivalent.
20. If an employer receives an application for a vacancy from one or more SNAs who are due to be made redundant and who furnishes the employer with a certified copy of Panel Form 1 (PF1), then the employer is **obliged** to offer the vacancy to one of those SNAs. **This is subject to the SNA meeting any specific competencies and/or requirements to meet the special educational needs of the pupil(s).** This will require an interview process to ascertain. This is also subject to the checking and verification of References, meeting any Occupational Health & Safety (OHS) requirements and satisfactory Garda vetting. The SNA must agree to respect the ethos of the employer in question.

21. Short listing of such applicants for interview:
Employers may only interview SNAs with a certified copy of Panel Form 1 (PF1) in the first instance. If there are five or fewer such applicants, all of them shall be called for interview. Otherwise, at least five such applicants shall be called for interview.
22. If an employer does not receive an application for a vacancy from an SNA who is due to be made redundant and who furnishes the employer with a certified copy of Panel Form 1 (PF1) within the time-period specified in the advertisement **or** if having interviewed at least five such applicants, it has been established that none of those applicants meet the specific competencies and/or requirements to meet the special educational needs of the pupil(s) **then and only then** can the employer call other applicants for interview with a view to filling its vacancy from all the other applicants (which may include further panel applicants) for the vacancy. **This second interview process, if required, must be held on a separate day and is subject to Appendix H of the Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2015-2019.**
23. If, following interview, a number of candidates obtain the same marks then seniority as an SNA should be the determining factor in filling the vacancy. The seniority of the SNAs can be determined from the PF1 form.
24. The successful candidate when offered the post, will be obliged to confirm acceptance in writing to reach the employer **no later than six calendar days** from the date of the letter of offer. Failure to accept the vacancy offered in the requisite time period will result in withdrawal of the offer.
25. **Garda Vetting:**
The employer must ensure compliance with the relevant Garda Vetting requirements and the provision of a child protection related statutory declaration and associated form of undertaking by persons being appointed to SNA positions. Current requirements are outlined on www.education.ie
26. **Contracts of Employment:**
Appointees must be offered a contract of employment in accordance with the terms outlined in the relevant circulars which are available on the Department's website. The current contracts for SNAs at Primary and Post-Primary level are available at the following web addresses:
http://www.education.ie/en/Circulars-and-Forms/Active-Circulars/sna15_05.pdf
http://www.education.ie/en/Circulars-and-Forms/Active-Circulars/sna12_05.pdf

27. Notification of appointment to the Department of Education and Skills:

On completion of the appointments procedure as outlined above, employers (other than ETBs) shall complete and submit the form "Notification of Appointment-SNA", which is available at the following web address:
<http://www.education.ie/en/Circulars-and-Forms/Popular-forms/Special-Needs-Assistant-Appointment-Form.pdf>

Process Verification Document – for completion by employers

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A separate Process Verification Document should be completed by employers in respect of every SNA vacancy, **including the filling of additional hours (i.e. where an existing part-time SNA receives additional hours)**, other than substitute or “cover” vacancies.

A completed version of this document must be returned to the supplementary assignment manager within six weeks of the vacancy being filled. ***Please ensure to use the PVD which has the 2016/17 Circular Number printed on the top right hand corner. Older PVD forms will be returned to the school/ETB and you will be asked to re-submit a current form.***

1. Did your school/ETB have an SNA Vacancy?

2. If Yes, was this a part-time or full-time vacancy?

3. If Yes, did your school/ETB advertise the vacancy on one or more of the websites listed on paragraph 17 of this Circular.

4. Did you receive applications from an SNA(s) attaching a certified copy of Panel Form 1 (PF1)?

5. If Yes, did you in the first instance **solely** interview applicants for the vacancy who had certified copies of Panel Form 1 (PF1) in line with the provisions of paragraphs 20 and 21 of this Circular.

6. Did you award the vacancy to an SNA who had a certified copy of Panel Form 1 (PF1)?

7. If No, please indicate the reason why the vacancy was not awarded to an SNA with a certified PF1.

It should be remembered that the only reason why a school/ETB cannot fill a vacancy with a person with a certified Panel Form 1(PF1) is if, following interview, none of the Panel Form 1 applicants meet the specific competencies and/or requirements to meet the special educational needs of the pupil(s). Obviously, this is subject to the checking and verification of References, meeting any OHS requirements and satisfactory Garda vetting.

School Details:

School Name:

School Address:

School Telephone No: _____

School Roll No: _____

To be signed by the Principal / ETB HR Dept.:

I certify that, in so far as I am aware, the information supplied on this form is correct.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Principal /ETB HR Dept. Telephone No: _____

To be signed by the Chairperson, Board of Management / ETB HR Dept.:

I certify that, in so far as I am aware, the information supplied on this form is correct.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Chairperson /ETB HR Dept. Telephone No: _____

This form should be completed and returned to the supplementary assignment manager at the following address within six weeks of the vacancy being filled:

**Supplementary Assignment Manager
Block 1, Floor 3
Department of Education and Skills
Marlborough Street
Dublin 1
D01 RC96**

28. Supplementary Assignment Manager:

A supplementary assignment manager has been assigned by the Department of Education and Skills. The role of the supplementary assignment manager will be as follows for the 2016/17 school year:

- Any employer recruiting an SNA is obliged to provide the supplementary assignment manager with a copy of the completed Process Verification Document.
- Review the cases of a number of SNAs (if any) who are unsuccessful in gaining further employment via these arrangements with a view to establishing if there are specific recurring reasons why SNAs did not gain further SNA employment via these arrangements.
- In conjunction with the Department of Education and Skills, the Managerial Authorities and the Unions conduct a review of the operation of these arrangements/Circular in advance of the 2017/18 school year with a view to making any amendments deemed necessary to improve upon the operation of these arrangements.

Other relevant information:

29. As already outlined, DES Circular 41/2015 is superseded by this Circular in all respects. This means that SNAs who are made redundant after 1 May 2015 and who have not obtained a new position will remain on this panel until 1 June 2017 with a view to gaining further SNA employment. Such SNAs may of course opt out of the panel and have their redundancy payment processed but this will not happen automatically.
30. An SNA shall only be appointed to a post which is to be filled within the allocation of posts approved by the NCSE.
31. If an SNA is appointed to a further SNA position on or before 1 June 2017 s/he will no longer be deemed to be a member of the 2016/17 supplementary assignment panel for SNAs.
32. It should be noted that if an SNA resigns a post (or a part time post), s/he will not be entitled to membership of the supplementary assignment panel for SNAs and s/he will not be entitled to claim a redundancy payment as has always been the case.
33. SNAs who are members of this supplementary assignment panel will have no entitlement to salary by virtue of his/her membership of this panel.
34. Time spent on the SNA supplementary assignment panel will not be reckonable for any purposes. This includes but is not limited to the following:
 - a. Time spent on the SNA supplementary assignment panel will not count towards service.
 - b. Time spent on the SNA supplementary assignment panel will not count in the event of a future redundancy situation.
 - c. Time spent on the SNA supplementary assignment panel will not count for incremental progression.
35. **Pension:** A period of time spent on the supplementary assignment panel does not constitute pensionable service.
36. **Existing service – Seniority:**

The arrangements in respect of SNA seniority are detailed in DES circular 59/2006 (and in the case of career breaks by DES Circular 22/2012). If an SNA receives a position via this supplementary assignment panel then any existing service as an SNA will **not** be reckonable for future seniority purposes as an SNA with the new employer i.e. s/he becomes the most junior SNA for seniority purposes in his/her new employment.
37. The 2016/17 SNA supplementary assignment panel will terminate on 1 June 2017.

Processing of Redundancy Payments:

38. Processing of Redundancy payments for SNAs who are deemed to be members of this supplementary assignment panel will not commence until 1 June 2017. At that time any SNA who has not been appointed to a further SNA position will no longer be deemed to be a member of the SNA supplementary assignment panel, as the panel will have terminated, and processing of his/her redundancy payment will commence with a view to being finalised as soon as practicable.
39. **Existing service – Redundancy:**
No redundancy payment will be made in respect of any SNA who is deemed to be a member of this supplementary assignment panel and who is appointed to a further SNA position on or before 1 June 2017. However, if s/he is appointed to a further SNA position during the 2016/17 school year, such service as an SNA that s/he has already accrued as an SNA in the current employer from which s/he is being made redundant and for which s/he would now be entitled to a redundancy payment in line with the terms of DES Circular 58/06, will be carried forward and reckonable, for redundancy purposes only, if a future redundancy situation arises in respect of that person.
40. **Any queries in respect of this Circular should be directed by e-mail only to the following dedicated e-mail address:**

snasupplementpanel@education.gov.ie

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SNA – SUPPLEMENTARY ASSIGNMENT PANEL FORM 2016/17

This form is to be filled in by a school/ETB where an SNA (**with a minimum of one year's continuous service**) is notified by his/her employer that s/he is to be made redundant. (Service in a substitute capacity i.e. covering for maternity leave, sick leave, career breaks, job-sharing etc. does not count)

Only complete in respect of SNAs made redundant on or after 1 May 2015. This form should not be completed where an SNA loses hours but remains with his/her existing employer.

If an SNA is appointed to a further SNA position on or before 1 June 2017 s/he will no longer be deemed to be a member of the 2016/17 supplementary assignment panel for SNAs.

School Details:

School Name:

School Address:

School Telephone No:

School Roll No:

Special Needs Assistant Details:

Special Needs Assistant Name:

SNA Address:

SNA PPS Number:

SNA Telephone No:

On what date did this SNA commence employment in the school / ETB:

__/__/____

Has this Special Needs Assistant been notified that s/he is to be made redundant?

Yes ____ No ____

On what date was the SNA formally notified that s/he is to be made redundant:

__/__/____.

With effect from what date will this Special Needs Assistant cease to be employed by your school/ETB __/__/____ [31st August should be used where SNA ceases to be employed at the end of the school year]

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To be signed by the Principal Teacher/ ETB HR Dept.:

I certify that, in so far as I am aware, the information supplied on this form is correct.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Principal /ETB HR Dept. Telephone No: _____

To be signed by the Chairperson, Board of Management / ETB HR Dept.:

I certify that, in so far as I am aware, the information supplied on this form is correct.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Chairpersons / ETB HR Dept. Telephone No: _____

To be signed by the Special Needs Assistant:

I certify that, in so far as I am aware, the information supplied on this form is correct.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

This form should be completed and given to the SNA who has been notified that s/he is to be made redundant. A copy of this form should be held by the school/ETB for their own records.

SNAs should always submit a copy of the completed Panel Form 1 (PF1) to employers when applying for vacancies as that is the only method for employers to determine whether an applicant has Panel Rights.

**SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANTS - FORM TO OPT OUT OF THE 2016/17
SUPPLEMENTARY ASSIGNMENT PANEL FOR SNAs**

SNAs are advised to read this form and the associated Circular 0035/2016 carefully before signing.

This form is to be completed by an SNA who wishes to opt out of the 2016/17 SNA supplementary assignment panel. This will trigger the processing of his/her redundancy payment in line with the terms set out in the SNA redundancy scheme (DES Circular 58/06) or any revision of same that is applicable at that time. The decision to opt out of the 2016/17 supplementary assignment panel for SNAs is final and binding.

Any SNA who opts out of the 2016/17 supplementary assignment panel for SNAs and who receives a redundancy payment, and who then is subsequently re-employed as an SNA by **any** school or ETB within 1 year of being made redundant must notify the Department of Education and Skills or the ETB as appropriate that s/he has received such a redundancy payment. In these circumstances, re-imburement of the enhanced (*ex gratia*) element of the redundancy payment will be required from the SNA. Arrangements for re-imburement will be made at that time, subject to re-imburement being completed within a 12 month time-frame.

Even where an SNA re-imburses the enhanced (*ex gratia*) element of the redundancy payment, the service in respect of which the payment was made will be deemed to have been broken by dint of them having received their statutory redundancy entitlements and any such service will not be reckonable for redundancy purposes in the event of the person being made redundant by their new employer at a subsequent date.

Completion of this form will be deemed to be acceptance of these terms and conditions. Completion of this form also authorises the Department of Education and Skills, and any employer of SNAs in the education sector, to utilise the data contained in this form for the purposes of monitoring compliance with this provision.

School Details:

School Name:

School Address:

School Telephone No:

School Roll No:

Special Needs Assistant Details:

Special Need Assistant Name:

SNA Address:

SNA PPS Number:

To be signed by the Special Needs Assistant:

I, _____ (name in block capitals) have read carefully and fully understand the terms and conditions associated with the 2016/17 SNA supplementary assignment panel. I certify that I wish to opt out of membership of the 2016/17 supplementary assignment panel for SNAs. I acknowledge that if I receive a Redundancy Payment as outlined earlier in this form and if I am subsequently employed as an SNA by **any** school/ETB within 1 year of being made redundant I must notify the Department of Education and Skills or the ETB as appropriate, that I have received such a payment. In these circumstances, reimbursement of the enhanced (*ex gratia*) element of the redundancy payment will be required from myself. I hereby consent to the storage of my PPS number in a Central Database. I also consent that all of the information contained in this form can be used by the Department of Education and Skills, and any employer of SNAs in the education sector, for the purposes of monitoring compliance with this provision.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

This form should be completed and returned to:

**SNA Redundancy Unit
Payroll Division
Department of Education and Skills
Cornamaddy
Athlone
Co. Westmeath
N37 X659**

A copy of this form should be kept for your own records.

Please note that if you were employed by an ETB then the opt-out form should be returned to the HR Department of that ETB who will process the payment.

Once Payroll Division receives this completed form this will trigger the processing of a redundancy payment in line with the terms set out in the SNA redundancy scheme (DES Circular 58/06) or any revision of same that is applicable at that time provided that the SNA is entitled to such a redundancy payment.