



## Droichead - Interschool Model

\* For use by schools that are not in a position to form an internal Professional Support Team (PST).

### What is an Interschool Model?

An interschool model consists of two or more schools working together to offer the Droichead process to at least one Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT). This model may be most effective where two or more geographically close schools or schools of similar type form a joint PST to offer the Droichead process in either or both schools. It is advocated that each school would have a minimum of one fully trained PST member and at least one trained PST member must be from the NQT's school. This interschool team would conduct induction activities with the NQT(s) and support the NQT(s) in line with their needs. For the purposes of clarity, we'll assume that there are two schools working together to support at least one NQT.

### Why?

This model would support individual schools that cannot for good reason form an in-school PST. This may be due to the size of the school (e.g. two-teacher school), the location of the school (e.g. an island school) and it would also be employed where the NQT is in a shared Special Educational Needs (SEN) position (Primary) or where the NQT at Post-Primary is shared between schools to teach a specific subject (e.g. Art, Music). In this latter case, the ideal would be that both schools would be PST-trained. However, the base school must be trained, unless exceptional circumstances are deemed by the Teaching Council to apply in a particular situation. This would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Teaching Council.

### How?

The process would be conducted in a collaborative manner as in an in-school model and the interactions with the PST and/or NQT may be on-site or via online platforms. The PST guides and supports the NQT during school-based induction and subsequently forms a joint declaration with the NQT that they have participated in a quality teaching and learning process.

Release time would be available to support the induction activities. Release time is in accordance with the number of NQTs in each school. As a general rule, the release time follows the NQT(s).

Some examples are outlined below:

- School A has one NQT and School B has one NQT = four release days (primary) or 22 hours (post-primary) per school.
- School A has one NQT and School B does not = four release days in total (primary) or 22 hours (post-primary). In this case, the two schools will need to agree how release time is shared between the schools.

Priority would be given to the needs of the NQT(s) in the use of all release time.

The Droichead Induction Division of Oide has a limited amount of discretionary time or days which may be allocated where additional support would be required.

