

YOUNG FINE GAEL

Our Say on Education

2025



Primary Education

1

National Panel

Introduce a transferable national panel system for teacher appointments to eliminate fragmentation caused by separate patronage-based panels.



2

Irish Language Requirement

Allow individuals who do not meet Irish language requirements to become special education teachers, broadening the pool of eligible candidates and addressing staffing shortages.



3

Early Intervention

Increase supports for early intervention to ensure that all students can avail of supports if needed



4

Junior Infant SNA

Provide a Special Needs Assistant or teaching assistant for every Junior Infant classroom to ensure adequate support for students during key transition stages.



Post-Primary Education

1

Reform

Ensure that reforms are developed in consultation with teachers and implemented only with their informed support.



2

Class Sizes

Implement measures to reduce class sizes at second level to improve teaching and learning outcomes.



3

State Examinations Commission Employees

Introduce tax relief measures for teachers and SNAs engaged by the State Examinations Commission in the delivery of state examinations.



4

Teacher Recruitment

Introduce a centralised teacher recruitment system to provide schools with greater flexibility and choice in staffing.



5

Timeline for Project Component

Establish a clear and published timeline for the introduction and assessment of the 40% project work component in the reformed Leaving Certificate.



Shared Priorities for Primary and Post-Primary Teachers

1

Areas with High Teacher Vacancy Rates

Introduce a targeted tax credit for teachers employed in regions with persistently high vacancy rates—predominantly urban centres.



2

Internal Reinterviews

Require schools to conduct internal reinterviews for permanent contracts before advertising them externally.



3

School Inspections

Prioritise quality over quantity in school inspections to better reflect meaningful educational outcomes.



4

Summer Provision Pay

Equalise pay between SNAs and teachers engaged in Summer Provision, recognising the value of their work.



5

PME Support Payment

Continue and expand the €2,000 payment to newly qualified teachers completing PMEs in 2024/25 to support entry into the profession.

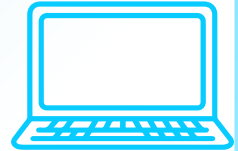


Second-Level Network

1

Increased Technology Grants

Expand technology grants for schools to guarantee adequate resourcing for the rollout of the reformed Leaving Certificate beginning in September 2025. To ensure that all schools have access to the necessary technology.



2

Civic, Legal and Political Literacy Module

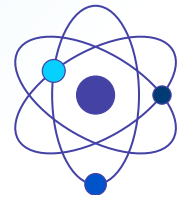
To introduce a mandatory transition year module in civic, legal and political literacy that includes the understanding of the constitution and democracy in Ireland through building on the existing CSPE module.



3

STEM Subject Availability

That the department conducts an annual review of subject availability in all schools with a particular focus on equality of subject choice between single-sex schools with a focus on STEM.



4

Student Councils

Issue a national guideline for student councils across the country to give structure to their internal processes and establish an annual grant scheme for student councils to fund initiatives that enhance student's voices and participation.



5

Students with Additional Needs

Implementing a modular assessment option within the leaving certificate applied for students with additional needs so they can progress beyond the junior certificate with the option of not facing a full exam load.

