

An Roinn Oideachais agus Scileanna
Corr na Madadh
Baile Átha Luain
Co. na hIarmhí
N37 X659



Department of Education and Skills
Cornamaddy
Athlone
Co. Westmeath
N37 X659

Circular: 0036/2016

To: Principals of Secondary, Community and Comprehensive and ETB Schools and the Chief Executives of Education and Training Boards.

Guidelines on access to PLC for certain participants in the asylum process for the 2016/2017 academic year.

I refer to [Circular 0048/2015](#). Pilot arrangements for access to PLC are being continued for the 2016/17 academic year on the following basis for the three particular groups referenced in that Circular (asylum applicants, subsidiary protection applicants and those at the leave to remain stage but in respect of whom a deportation order has not issued):

- Applicants in these three groups must
 - meet the definition of protection applicant or person at leave to remain stage as defined in the Pilot Support Scheme 2016;
 - have a combined period of 5 years or more in the protection process or leave to remain stage on the 31st August 2016;
 - have attended five academic years in the Irish school system; and
 - have obtained the Leaving Certificate in the State.
- Applicants may be eligible for the special pilot support scheme, details of which are on the Department's website (<http://www.education.ie/en/Learners/Services/Pilot-Support-Scheme/>)

Phil O'Flaherty
Principal Officer
Further Education and Training Section
3rd June 2016