

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

3 Charlemont Place • The Mall • Armagh • BT61 9AX

Tel: 028 3751 2200

Email: selb.hq@selb.org • Website: www.selb.org



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Our Ref: 1000110

**Board Circular: 2009/195**

16 September 2009

To: All Chairs and Principals of Controlled Post Primary Schools

CC: All Chairs and Principals of Controlled Primary Schools and Special Schools for Information

Dear Colleague

**TRANSFER 2010: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FINAL GUIDANCE**

Earlier this year I wrote to you regarding the above, emphasising the need for your Board of Governors to give proper and due regard to the Guidance when establishing admissions criteria for your school for the 2010/11 academic year.

Please find attached a copy of a letter recently received from the Minister concerning this matter. As requested, I would ask that you 'give particular consideration to the information in Annex 1 of the Guidance before reaching final decisions on admissions criteria.'

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Yours sincerely

A P Murphy

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

*Tel:* 028 37 512227

*Fax:* 028 37 512535

*E-Mail:* tony.murphy@selb.org

APM/JC

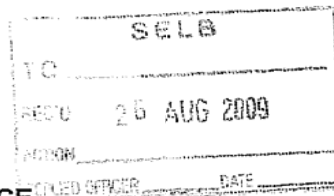
FROM THE MINISTER/ÓN AIRE



AN ROINN  
**Oideachais**  
Department of  
**Education**  
MANNYSTRIE O  
**Lear**  
[www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)

Ms Helen McClenaghan  
Chief Executive  
Southern Education and Library Board  
3 Charlemont Place  
ARMAGH  
BT61 9AX

Tel: 9127 9618  
Fax: 9127 9779  
Dialing codes: 028 from North of Ireland  
048 from South of Ireland



25 August 2009

Dear Ms McClenaghan

**TRANSFER 2010 GUIDANCE**

I am writing to you in your capacity as the statutory managing authority for all controlled schools to bring to your attention the final version of the Transfer 2010 Guidance which was published on 25 June 2009.

The Guidance has been sent to all schools directly as it is an important document for each Board of Governors to take account of in reaching decisions about admissions criteria for the Transfer 2010 process.

The Guidance has been revised in light of helpful and practical comments received during the consultation. In particular I should draw your attention to Annex 1 that, while not exhaustive, details many of the complex and challenging issues that need to be addressed by any school contemplating departing from the guidance and using entrance tests.

I am mindful that as the managing authority for controlled schools you have a particular role to play in advising and guiding schools under your control. Given that some controlled grammar schools may decide to depart from the Department's Guidance and deploy entrance tests for the purpose of using academic admissions criteria you may wish to write to them, urging them to give particular consideration to the information in Annex 1 of the Guidance before reaching final decisions on admissions criteria.

*CAITRÍONA RUANE*

**CAITRÍONA RUANE MLA**



An Roinn Oideachais, Teach Ráth Giall, Bóthar Bhaile Aodha, Beannachar, Co an Dúin  
Department of Education, Rathgael House, 43 Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down  
Mannystrie o Lear, Rathgael Hoose, 43 Balloo Róad, Bang'r, Coontie Doon