



## Circular 0019/2016

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

### **Further Extension to the ‘Grace Period’ for Superannuation Benefits in respect of Special Needs Assistants**

1. I am directed by the Minister for Education and Skills to refer to Circular 0034/2013 which states that a Special Needs Assistant who retires on or before 31 August 2014 will have his or her superannuation benefits calculated by reference to the pay scales applying on 30 June 2013. This ‘Grace Period’ was subsequently extended to 30 June 2016 in circular 0013/2015.
2. The Government has now decided to further extend the ‘Grace Period’ and consequently a Special Needs Assistant who retires on or before 1 April 2019 will have his or her superannuation benefits calculated by reference to the pay scales applying on 30 June 2013.
3. Please note that this circular letter supersedes Circular 0013/2015.
4. Please ensure that copies of this Circular are provided to all members of the Board of Management/ Education and Training Board and its contents are brought to the attention of all Special Needs Assistants in your employment including those on approved paid or unpaid leave.
5. This Circular can be accessed on the Department’s website under <http://www.education.ie>

Philip Crosby  
Principal  
26 February 2016