

An Roinn Oideachais
agus Eolaíochta
Brainse an Iarbhunoidreachais
Bóthar Phort Laoise
Tulach Mhór
Co. Uíbh Fhailí



Department of Education
and Science
Post-Primary Branch
Portlaoise Road
Tullamore
Co Offaly

Freagra a sheoladh go dtí
Address reply to

Fón (Telephone) (0506) 24323/4/5
Fax (0506) 22973/41052
Tag. (Ref.)
Do Thag (Your Ref.)

An Rúnaí

To Principal named in
Address.

Dear Principal,

Further to your request, please find below reproduction of **Circular M3/80**.

COMPUTER STUDIES M3/80

This section is optional. It will not form part of the Leaving Certificate Examination but pupils who take it, and perform satisfactorily, will be given a statement to that effect by the Department. School authorities who wish their pupils to receive such a statement must complete an application form, which may be had from the Department of Education, Post-Primary Branch (Data Base Section), Portlaoise Road, Tullamore Co Offaly.

As part of the application form schools will be asked to give details of the syllabus they propose to follow. The syllabus should include the following aspects:-

Development of the computer; Social implications and use in everyday life; Careers in computing; Structured diagrams; Problem analysis; Communicating with the computer; one low level language, where feasible, such as **CECIL** or **CSSP**; one high level language such as **COMAL**; Emphasis on input, control, process, output, testing, branching, loops, functions; Types of input/output devices.

It is envisaged that pupils would spend about 35 hours on this section in the course of one school-year.

Each pupil should write and successfully run about ten programmes. Two or more pupils may undertake joint projects. Records of the work done must be available for monitoring by the Department.

Application forms in respect of the school-year 2003/2004 should be returned to the Department in good time, preferably by 31 May, 2004.

Yours sincerely,

Database Section.