



# Budget 2021 Education



## Primary and Post Primary Schools

- Pupil/teacher ratio for primary schools to reduce to 25:1.
- 503 additional teaching posts to support children with special needs.
- 990 Special Needs Assistants (SNAs) will be recruited
- 80 occupational, speech and language and behavioural therapists to be recruited
- 30 NEPS psychologists will be recruited to
- Funding has been allocated to provide hot school meals for up to 35,000 extra children in 2021.
- €232 million will be available for schools to operate safely during COVID-19 including PPE and school transport services.

## Higher Education

- The grant for postgraduate students will increase by €1,500 to €3,500 and the income eligibility threshold will be adjusted.
- €50 million fund has been made available to support online learning.
- 1916 Bursary fund to have 200 extra places.
- 1,500 new places on Springboard courses.
- 4,000 new apprenticeship training places.
- €8 million has been allocated to a Digital Capability Fund for vulnerable learners.
- Over 10,000 upskilling and reskilling opportunities will be available through SOLAS and Skillnet Ireland.

