

September 6, 2013

## Update on Status of Tests for Post-primary Schools

### **Differential Aptitude Test, Form T (DATS) (Long Form, Adapted Irish Version)**

The ERC intends to discontinue its support for the DAT over the next three years. Test booklets and manuals will continue to be on sale until August 31, 2015. Answer sheets and scoring services will be available until August 31, 2016. No support for the DAT will be provided after August, 2016, and users are advised to look to other suppliers after that time.

### **Drumcondra Reasoning Test (DRT)**

The DRT is a test of verbal reasoning and numerical ability, with norms for students in Sixth class (primary level) and First and Second years (post-primary level).

The ERC is in the process of revising the DRT, and a revised, computer-based version will be available from Spring 2016, together with a revised paper-based version. Support for the current DRT will continue until August, 2016.

### **Standardised Tests in English Reading, Mathematics, Science and Gaeilge (Second Year)**

The ERC understands that the DES plans to introduce standardised testing of English reading, mathematics and science for all students in Second year, as well as testing of Gaeilge for students in Irish-medium schools, from Spring 2016.

The Centre recently completed a standardization of paper-based English reading and mathematics tests for Second years, and these will be available to schools from January 2014. Ordering information will be available on [www.erc.ie/tests](http://www.erc.ie/tests) for schools that wish to use them.

The Centre is currently working on the development of standardised tests of science and Gaeilge for Second years, and it is planned to make these and the tests of English reading and mathematics ready for computer-based assessment by Spring 2016.