The Special Education Support Service works with mainstream primary and post-primary schools and with special schools and classes. It does not provide a direct service to Youthreach centres or CTCs. However there is a wealth of useful information on its website that centres can use. The following information is taken from the SESS website

**About SESS**

The role of the Special Education Support Service (SESS) is to enhance the quality of learning and teaching in relation to special educational provision. The service co-ordinates, develops and delivers a range of professional development initiatives and support structures for school personnel working with students with special educational needs in mainstream primary and post-primary schools, special schools and special classes. The SESS operates under the remit of the Teacher Education Section (TES) of the Department of Education and Skills.

**SEN Categories**

This section outlines how differing categories of special educational need impact on teaching and learning. It also offers tips for teaching, along with additional resources and references.

Categorising the complex and diverse nature of disability in this form is not intended to equate individuals with disability labels. Rather, these categories act as signposts that enable teachers to negotiate the social, psychological and biological factors that affect each individual pupil’s learning and unique needs.

- **Assessed Syndromes**
  - Autism / Autistic Spectrum Disorders
  - Dyspraxia
  - Emotional Disturbance and/or Behavioural Problems
  - Exceptionally Able
  - General Learning Disabilities
  - Specific Speech and Language Disorders
  - Physical Disabilities
  - Sensory Impairments
  - Specific Learning Disabilities

**Resources**

Resources related to the teaching of pupils with special educational needs are provided under the headings below.

- Teaching Methods and Organisation
- Behaviour Management
- Assessment
- Inclusion
- Reference Material
ICT (inc. 'Index of Featured Apps')
Curricular Material
Transition from Primary to Post-Primary
SESS Book Borrowing Online
Special Schools Seminar 1: *Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life (for Link Teachers, April 17th 2013)*
Special Schools Seminar 2: *Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life (for Link Teachers, October 23rd 2013)*
Special Schools Seminar 1: *Literacy and Numeracy for Learning and Life (for Numeracy Link Teachers, March 12th 2014)*
Miscellaneous Resources

Documents and Publications

DES Circulars
Other DES Publications
Government Agencies
Relevant Legislation
Other Jurisdictions
CABHAIR Newsletter

Links

Colleges of Education / Universities in Ireland
General Education Websites In Ireland
Inclusion
Irish Education Centre Network
Irish Teacher Unions and Educational Organisations
Other Support Services and National Programmes
SEN - ICT and Assistive Technology
Special Education / Disability Sites International Links
Special Education / Disability Sites in Ireland
Teacher Resources & Downloads