

FROM THE MINISTER/ÓN AIRE



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A Tommy a chaire

PUPIL PROFILE

I am writing in relation to the supplementary question which you asked about pupil profiles at oral question time on 19 January.

As I made clear on that occasion, no money has been wasted on pupil profiles. As much of the evaluation report on pupil profiles was positively received, I will be making very few changes to the detail of what should be covered in the annual school report. I am also making sure that there is the flexibility for schools to add any extra information that they think that parents will find useful. However, in view of the feedback from the pilot programme, my proposals do not require schools to use a standard format for reporting, although the format that was trialled last summer will continue to be made available for the many schools that have found it beneficial.

Regarding the cost of the pupil profile, I quoted the figure of £180,000 which was available at that time, and made it very clear that this related only to 2007/08 and the 2008/09 financial year to date. My Department has now received from CCEA and reviewed pupil profile cost figures for the full period and I provided an overall cost figure to members in my written reply of 21 January to Assembly Question 3995/09. This indicated that the cost of developing the pupil profile and associated training and support for teachers for all years to date was £581,000 and pointed out that it was as a result of trialling the pupil profile and the associated training that I had been able to identify how best to modify the original proposals to meet the needs of schools and parents.

I trust that this clarifies the position.

caitriona Ruane

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