

The following e-mail was received by members of the Parents Association who had communicated with Minister Sean Haughey, on behalf of parents, requesting that shared catchment area be continued.

From: [Haughey, Sean](#)

Sent: Tuesday, February 08, 2011 3:56 PM

Thank you for your representations in relation to school transport provision and in particular to the current temporary shared catchment area between Gort/Kinvara.

You will be aware that a number of changes to school transport provision were included as part of the 2011 Budget announcements in December including changes to the catchment boundary area system. The specific change in relation to the catchment boundary area system is:

From the 2012/13 school year, the use of the catchment boundary system will cease for all new post-primary children and school transport eligibility for all new children entering post-primary will be on the basis of the nearest post-primary centre or school. Existing arrangements will remain in place for existing post primary pupils for the duration of their schooling.

In light of these impending changes to the catchment boundary system nationally, the Department has decided, as an exceptional measure that the existing temporary shared catchment area for school transport eligibility and provision in the Gort/ Kinvara catchment area may be retained for the school year 2011/2012. This exceptional measure should not be considered to create a precedent in relation to such matters.

Please note that from the 2012/13 school year, however, it is intended that the use of the catchment boundary system to assess school transport eligibility will cease for all new post-primary children. Transport eligibility for all new children entering post-primary school will be on the basis of the nearest post-primary centre or school and existing eligibility arrangements will remain in place for existing post primary pupils for the duration of their schooling under the terms of the post primary school transport scheme.

I hope that this explains the position.

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Seán Haughey
Minister for Lifelong Learning