

**ALTERNATIVE
EDUCATION
ASSESSMENT &
REGISTRATION**

Alternative Education Assessment & Registration
Service
Regulatory Notice

Title	Amendment to Assessment Process
QMS Reference	AEARS – RN01.3
Ref	01/2025
Version	1.0
Issued	May 2025

Amendment to Assessment Process

1. Background

The Child & Family agency is responsible for maintaining a register of all children in receipt of education in a place other than a recognised school. A recognised school is one that is designated by the Minister for Education or deemed recognised as such under the provisions of Section 10 of the Education Act 1998.

Children are entered on to the Section 14 Register when the Child & Family Agency's Alternative Education Assessment & Registration Service (AEARS) has, following receipt of a prescribed application and subsequent assessment of the child's education, deemed that it meets a minimum standard as set down by Guidelines on the Assessment of Education in Places other than a Recognised School (Dept of Education 2003) (See Section 16, Education Welfare Act 2000).

2. Update

In February 2025 [S.I. No. 758/2024 - Education \(Welfare\) Act 2000 \(Prescribed Form\) \(Section 14\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#) was published. This amends the previous [S.I. 330, 220 of Education \(Welfare\) Act 2000, \(prescribed form\) \(Section 14\) Regulations 2020](#). The new SI states that *Pursuant to Part 2, Section 9 (4) of the Child and Family Agency Act, 2013 the assessor will speak to your child in order to ascertain their views as part of the assessment process.*

The AEARS assessor will meet the child in all education assessments undertaken.

Tusla is mandated by the Child Care Act 1991 to promote the welfare and safeguarding of children. (see Part II, Section (3) 2). This duty as applicable to children subject to the provisions of the Education Welfare Act 2000, is set out in the Child and Family Agency Act 2013 as detailed below

9. (1) The agency shall, when making decisions in relation to the performance of its functions under section 8 (1) (a), (b) or (c) have regard to best interests of the child in all matters.

9. (4) The Agency shall, in performing its functions in respect of an individual child under the [Child Care Act 1991](#), the [Education \(Welfare\) Act 2000](#), the [Adoption Act 2010](#) or [section 8 \(1\)\(c\)](#) or [8 \(3\)](#), ensure that the views of that individual child, where that child is capable of forming and expressing his or her own views, be ascertained and given due weight having regard to the age and maturity of the child.

3. Date Effective

This will be implemented with immediate effect and will form part of legislative amendments to the R1 application form as prescribed in [S.I. No. 758/2024 - Education \(Welfare\) Act 2000 \(Prescribed Form\) \(Section 14\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2024](#)