

Leamy, Michael, 2002, *Early School Leaving: An Exploration of Occurrence and Prevention*.

ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION

Chapter 1 - The research questions being posed by this researcher are as follows:

- a) How do the figures for early school leaving in selected schools in the County of Cork compare with those for the Irish Republic as a whole?
- b) What structures and initiatives are in place in the selected schools to help prevent unnecessary early school leaving?
- c) What are the perceptions of school principals on the issue of early school leaving?

Chapter 2 — Reviews the literature on early school leavers and educational disadvantage taking into account Irish Policy and educational initiatives.

Chapter 3 — Examines the research methodology chosen for the research. The research instrument chosen for the research is a questionnaire. Reasons for choosing a questionnaire and the type of questions asked are explained.

Chapter 4 — Presents the results of research carried out in six selected schools from different geographical and sociological backgrounds in the County of Cork

Chapter 5 — Analyses the results of the research and reviews the educational initiatives that have been implemented by the Department of Education and Science that help prevent unnecessary early school leaving. Recommendations are presented in regard to early school leaving.