

**O'Shea, Mary, 2002, Remedial education in the Irish primary school sector: Learning-support teacher agreement for the Guidelines on Remedial Education 1988, and learning-support teacher perceptions of the Learning-Support Guidelines 2000.**

## **ABSTRACT OF DISSERTATION**

Remedial education has been part of the Irish education system since 1963 and was designed to ensure that all pupils achieved basic literacy and numeracy by the time they had completed their primary education. It was the function of the remedial teacher to supplement the efforts of the class teacher, usually by providing more intensive tuition to those pupils whose attainments in the basic skills were very significantly below those of their peers.

To facilitate this procedure as well as attempting to provide guidance on the organisation of a positive environment for children with learning difficulties, the Department of Education issued two documents solely for the area of learning-support. The first document, *Guidelines on Remedial Education* was issued in 1998 and the *Learning-Support Guidelines* were published in September 2000.

The objective of this survey was, firstly, to investigate the attitudes of teachers towards the *Guidelines on Remedial Education*, and to observe if these attitudes were reflected in practice, and secondly to assess teachers' perceptions of the *LearningSupport Guidelines*.