

11th August 2009

Press Release re Leaving Certificate Examination Results 2009 from the Joint Managerial Body

The Joint Managerial Body, on behalf of the management of the four hundred Voluntary Secondary schools in this country, would like to congratulate the class of 2009 on the excellent results achieved in this year's Leaving Certificate Examinations. This is a moment when we, as a country, can be so proud of our young people and their achievements.

For many the results will provide the opportunity to proceed to further full-time study and for others there are a variety of other pathways in life. It's important that each Leaving Certificate student appreciates their own sense of uniqueness, value and worth. Those who initially may feel a sense of disappointment at their results should realise that there are many opportunities and alternative routes available to achieve your hopes and ambitions. Those who are uncertain of the appropriate way forward should seek the advice of their families, schools and other support agencies in coming to a decision about their future path in life.

In reaching this important milestone young people have come through an education system that provides the support and guidance for successive groups of students to approach the future with confidence. The remarkable work of school management and school staffs in preparing students each year for the landmark event of the Leaving Certificate must be recognised and commended. Internationally the excellence of our education system and, in particular, the commitment and giftedness of our school management and teachers has been noted. We should also recognise the high level of co-operation between Department of Education and Science, school management, teacher and parents which ensures the best interest of students is at the centre of our education system.

It is vital at a time when the country's finances are in such a perilous state, that education is treated as a priority when it comes to the distribution of resources. The achievement of this year's Leaving Certificate students is even more remarkable when one reflects that international comparisons places this country close to the bottom of the league table in relation to the provision of resources for education.

It is critical that the Government provides the opportunities for our young people to receive the best possible educational experience at all levels of our education system. It is widely recognised that it is only through a well-educated generation of young people that Ireland will be able to benefit from the upturn in the global economy. Investment in education is an investment in our young people's future.

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