

Feighan takes Minister to task!

'Clarify Back to Education courses'

Frank Feighan TD, *right*, has asked the Tánaiste and Minister for Education and Skills if she will clarify conditions for qualifying for FETAC and HETAC courses.

He said that clarification was needed so that students can plan in advance and asked if changes are to be made in the qualifying conditions for persons with degrees in areas in which there is no work at the present time so that they can qualify and plan to do a further degree or diploma.

He also asked the Minister if her attention has been drawn to the fact that at the present time students are not covered if they already have a degree despite the fact that employment is not available in their field.

"Under the terms of the Higher Education Grant Scheme a student is not eligible for grant assistance in respect of a second period of study at the same level, irrespective of whether or not a grant was paid previously. However, financial assistance is available to eligible candidates who already hold a postgraduate qualification and who wish to enter a further postgraduate course, at a higher level, which represents progression from the level at which the first qualification was attained.

"The progression route at postgraduate level, for grant purposes, is as follows: Higher Diploma or Postgraduate Diploma; Masters; PhD/Doctorate. Candidates who hold an undergraduate qualification and are pursuing a second under-



graduate qualification cannot be considered for funding. In addition, persons pursuing a second undergraduate degree cannot, in general, avail of the Free Fees Initiative. It should also be noted that the Free Fees Initiative does not extend to postgraduate study."



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Pictured at the official opening of Papa John's Pizza in Roscommon Town were Killian McDonald, i102-104, Pat McDonagh, Supermac's, Tess Casey, Jim Casey, Papa John's Pizza and Stephen Baker, i102-104. Picture: Andrew Fox.



Pictured at the official opening of Papa John's Pizza in Roscommon Town were Pat McDonagh, Supermac's, Tess Casey, Jim Casey, Papa John's Pizza. Picture: Andrew Fox.



Pictured at the official opening of Papa John's Pizza in Roscommon Town were Fergal Darcy, Killian McDonald and Stephen Baker, i102-104. Picture: Andrew Fox.



This young girl was pictured at the official opening of Papa John's Pizza in Roscommon Town. Picture: Andrew Fox.



Pictured at the official opening of Papa John's Pizza in Roscommon Town were Pat McDonagh, Supermac's, David Siwak, Papa John's Pizza, Tess Casey, Jim Casey and Jim McCausland, Papa John's Pizza. Picture: Andrew Fox.