

# An update on the work of ETI: April 2022 – June 2022

April 2022

## **Schools/Organisations: Follow-up inspections and monitoring visits for a proportion of organisations in ETI's follow-up process, including those schools in the Department of Education's Formal Intervention Process (FIP)**

Follow-up inspections of early years settings, schools and youth centres will take place during this term, commencing with those schools currently receiving support through FIP. The monitoring visits to organisations in ETI's follow-up process, including those in FIP, have already been carried out. It is now timely that the quality of education can be evaluated and reported on formally, assuring the school and its community, parents, the Department of Education and other stakeholders that improvement is being achieved in the best interests of the learners.

### **Primary: The provision of physical education in primary schools**

The evaluation visits conducted in term 2 focused on the nature and quality of the provision of physical education within a sample of primary schools. The report, which focuses on the system-level strengths (including exemplars of best practice), barriers to participation and areas for improvement in the delivery of high quality provision, will be published in June 2022.

### **Primary and Post-primary: Specialist Provisions (learning) in mainstream schools**

The evaluation visits conducted during term 1 and 2 focused on the arrangements for, and the quality of the provision in, Specialist Provisions (learning) in mainstream schools. Inspectors also engaged with parents to seek their views on the quality of the provision. The report will be published in June 2022.

### **Schools and Education Other Than At School (EOTAS) Centres: The preventative curriculum and safeguarding practices in schools and EOTAS centres**

This evaluation aims to identify the approaches and challenges around delivering effective preventative safeguarding practices in schools and EOTAS centres. Pupils in Year 7, 10, 12 and 14 in a sample of settings have been invited to complete an online questionnaire. ETI has undertaken a series of district visits to review safeguarding practices and discuss aspects of the preventative curriculum. Visits will now take place to a small sample of schools/centres to develop exemplars of effective practice. The report will be published in September 2022.

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## Schools and EOTAS Centres: Engage II evaluation

This evaluation aims to ascertain the extent to which early years settings, schools, and EOTAS centres are providing effective intervention programmes through the Department of Education's Engage II Programme for those pupils whose learning has been impacted adversely by the COVID-19 pandemic. ETI will undertake a series of district visits to evaluate, through professional discussions and a sample of lesson observations, the quality of the additional support provided through the Programme. The report will be published in September 2022.

## Work-based Learning and European Social Fund: Follow-up inspections, baseline visits and showcase event

The Department for the Economy (DfE) has commissioned ETI to complete follow-up inspections of the work-based learning provision of those training supplier organisations currently in the follow-up inspection process, by the end of June 2022. The focus will be on the areas for improvement from the last inspection and improvements effected. Baseline visits to new training supplier organisations will also be undertaken.

A DfE European Social Fund Call 2 Showcase Event will take place on 12 May 2022, at which ETI will provide a four year review of inspection activity, focusing on sharing effective and impactful practice.

## Youth work: Wellbeing programmes for young people

Through district visits, the ETI will assess the impact of a sample of wellbeing programmes across the voluntary and statutory youth sector, including the recently introduced Resilience Education Assisting Change to Happen (REACH) programme.

## Development work: 'Empowering Improvement - Stepping Forward Together' Project

The ETI's project 'Empowering Improvement – Stepping Forward Together' reflects ETI's commitment to wide-scale consultation and engagement with schools, organisations and other stakeholders around sustainable capacity-building in the area of self-evaluation leading to improvement.

Specifically, the project focuses on self-evaluation:

- leading to whole-organisation improvement (from the perspective of middle leadership); and
- of learning and teaching, encompassing digital learning.



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To date, the Empowering Improvement workshops have been delivered to over 600 senior leaders of early years settings and middle leaders of post-primary schools and EOTAS centres. In May, approximately 700 middle leaders in primary and special schools will engage in the workshops. In addition, over 760 pre-school settings, schools and EOTAS centres have expressed an interest in being involved in consultation around the development of an inspection strategy. This work has begun and will be taken forward throughout this term.

## **Other Commissioned Work: Planning for a Joint Child Protection Inspection with the Criminal Justice Inspection (CJI) and Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA)**

In collaboration with CJI and RQIA, ETI will continue the planning for a pilot joint child protection inspection. This joint working is in keeping with the Children's Service Co-operation Act (NI) 2015 and its aim to improve co-operation among Departments and authorities in advancing the welfare of children.