

Programme of Work

Schools / organisations	Individual Organisation Inspections
Schools / organisations	Follow-up inspections for a proportion of organisations in ETI's follow-up inspection process
Pre-school	An Evaluation of the Sure Start Programme
Schools	An Evaluation of Specialist Provisions in Mainstream Schools - Part 2
Primary Schools	Progress Report - Physical Education in Primary Schools (November 2022)
Youth	Final Review of the Priorities for Youth Policy Framework
Independent Schools	Registration and re-registration visits
Work-based learning	Quality Improvement Planning
Further Education	An Evaluation of the Traineeship Programme and the Step-Up Project
Broader work	ETI engagement with the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA)
Broader work	Reform of Quality Improvement Planning in Further Education
Professional Learning for Impact	Phase Insight Reports
Professional Learning for Impact	Dissemination of: Art and Design at Key Stage 2; Statutory Assessment (Statementing) Process; and Specialist Provisions in Mainstream Schools (Part 1)
Professional Learning for Impact	Empowering Improvement II Programme for senior leaders

Schools/Organisations: Individual Organisation Inspections

Inspections of individual organisations will take place; these will be aligned to the Empowering Improvement Framework which was published on the ETI website in May 2024. If any school/organisation wishes to know more about the new Framework, please contact the District Inspector who will be happy to provide further information and answer any queries you may have. Additional dissemination events will also be scheduled throughout this term. Similarly, the Chief Inspector will continue to consider specific requests for an inspection from schools/organisations in this academic year. Please discuss with the District Inspector in the first instance. Please note that not all requests will be able to be accommodated due to resource availability.

Schools/Organisations: Follow-up inspections for a proportion of organisations in ETI's follow-up inspection process

Follow-up inspections of the small number of schools/organisations in the follow-up process will take place during this term. This will provide these schools/organisations with the opportunity to demonstrate the progress made in addressing areas for action identified at the time of the last inspection and to provide the school/organisation community with an up-to-date report.

Pre-school: An Evaluation of the Sure Start Programme

Inspectors will be undertaking planning for an evaluation of Sure Start provision. This work will likely entail inspectors visiting Sure Start projects early in 2025 to identify and disseminate effective practice relating to the provision of high-quality play-based experiences which promote children's learning and development.

Schools: An Evaluation of Specialist Provisions in Mainstream Schools – Part 2

ETI inspectors will carry out initial visits to new and recently established specialist provisions in mainstream schools (SPIMS) to monitor and report on the development of the provision and the associated impact on the children's outcomes.

Primary Schools: Physical Education in Primary Schools – Progress Report

Further to the publication in November 2022 of ETI's evaluation of Physical Education in Primary Schools, inspectors will be monitoring progress in addressing the seven 'next steps' identified in the report. This work will involve engagement with the relevant officials of the Department of Education, along with the employing authorities, initial teacher education institutions, school governors, leaders, practitioners and children.

Youth: Empowering Improvement Sessions for Youth and Final Review of Priorities for Youth Framework

The ETI will commence a final review of the implementation of the Priorities for Youth Policy. In addition, the ETI will be engaging with full-time youth workers through the Empowering Improvement Programme.

Independent Schools: Registration and Re-registration Visits

The ETI will be conducting re-registration visits with a small number of schools from this sector. These are conducted within a five-year timeframe and offer DE the assurances it needs to continue with the registration and oversight of these schools.

Work-based learning: Quality Improvement Planning

The Department for the Economy (DfE) has commissioned ETI to evaluate the effectiveness of quality improvement planning process in a sample of training providers contracted to deliver the Skills for Life and Work and ApprenticeshipsNI training programmes. The scrutiny evaluation work will commence this term and will be undertaken by the relevant district inspectors.

Further Education: Evaluations of the Traineeship Programme and Step-up Project

DfE has commissioned ETI to evaluate the quality and effectiveness of the Traineeship Programme and the Step-Up Project delivered in the six further education colleges (the colleges).

The Traineeship programme is delivered by the colleges with support for work-based learning being provided by local employers. The programme is delivered across a range of professional and technical areas, allowing young people to achieve level 2 qualifications that enables them to progress to employment or further training or education.

The Step-Up Project in further education provides a range of courses for people aged from 16 to 24 years old who are not yet in employment or education or training or who are care leavers, people aged 24 years and over who are unemployed or economically inactive, young people and adults with a disability or special educational needs and economically inactive women returners. The aim of the programme is to support learners engage with education to develop skills to help them to access employment or progress to further education or training.

For the evaluations, ETI will carry out inspection visits to all of the colleges throughout this academic year. Inspectors will engage with learners, staff, and employers to hear their views on quality and effectiveness of the provision. They will also observe learning, teaching and training sessions, visit work-based learning placements and review relevant information.

Broader work: Engagement with the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA)

The ETI will be engaging in professional learning and development sessions with the RQIA to enhance collaborative working on joint inspection and evaluation work, utilising the skills, experience and expertise of both organisations to best meet the needs of all learners.

Broader work: Quality Improvement Planning Reform in Further Education

The ETI will be engaging with officials in DfE and staff in the colleges to support the ongoing review of the Quality Improvement Planning process in the further education sector. ETI will be reviewing its role and remit in the revised process to ensure its services can be used to best effect to advance self-evaluation and improvement planning processes in the sector.

Professional Learning for Impact: Phase Insight Reports

Insight reports for pre-school, primary, post-primary, special, youth, further education and work-based learning will be published throughout the period. They will set out the key findings from all inspection activity and the key challenges/next steps for each phase. Relevant resources to help address the key challenges will be signposted. Dissemination events will be held throughout Northern Ireland to share examples of the highly effective practice identified through ETI's inspection and evaluation activity.

Professional Learning for Impact: Evaluation disseminations

Three thematic evaluation reports will be published and disseminated throughout this period: Art and Design at Key Stage 2; Statutory Assessment (Statementing) Process; and Specialist Provisions in Mainstream Schools (Part 1).

Professional Learning for Impact: 'Empowering Improvement II' Programme

ETI will continue with the delivery of its Empowering Improvement II programme to further cohorts of the senior leaders across all of the relevant phases who have registered to take part. The programme is centred on the five core questions from the new Empowering Improvement Framework and aims to support the whole-organisation self-evaluation process.