

EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSPECTORATE

INSPECTION SUPPORT MATERIAL

Inspection of Education Other than at School (EOTAS)

Information for Parents/Carers



Providing Inspection services for:
Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments



Why is our organisation being inspected?

All EOTAS provision is inspected and visited regularly by the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI).

The inspection in your organisation will assess how well:

- the pupils are progressing in their learning;
- the organisation is helping them to learn and develop and where possible to re-engage with their former school; and
- the organisation is attending to the young pupils care, welfare and safety.

Inspections tell **all** those who need to know, such as the parents/carers, the Department of Education (DE) and the Government, how good the organisations in Northern Ireland are and what needs to be changed to improve matters.

Who inspects?

An inspection team has members of ETI who have qualifications and a range of experience in the field of EOTAS provision. In most inspections an Associate Assessor may join the team to give an additional perspective on the life and work of the organisation. The team is led by a Reporting Inspector (RI) who is in charge of the inspection and the report of the findings.

What happens during an inspection?

During the inspection, the inspectors:

- observe the pupils at work;
- talk to the pupils about what they are learning;
- listen to the pupils account of their experiences;
- look carefully at samples of the pupils work;
- observe the teaching, and talk to the staff; and
- discuss aspects of the organisation's work with teachers and support staff and the leadership and management .

They assess:

- the quality of the relationships throughout the organisation;
- the way in which the organisation looks after the pupils needs, including the its arrangements for care and welfare, and safeguarding;
- how well the pupils are learning, and are being taught;
- the standards being attained by the organisation as a whole;
- how well the organisation is run and led; and
- how well the organisation relates to the parents/carers and the wider community.

When practical, two members of the team will also talk informally to some of the pupil's outside the classroom and without a member of staff being present. During these discussions the Inspectors will talk to the pupils about:

- the things they enjoy while attending the organisation;
- how the organisation promotes positive behaviour;
- how the pupils are supervised outside the classroom; and
- how the organisation deals with their concerns and worries.

How can I contribute to the inspection process?

As part of the inspection you will receive a questionnaire which you are invited to complete and return to the Department. This questionnaire is confidential and your name will not be shared with anyone.

In addition you may request to meet with the RI, or any member of the inspection team, during the inspection if you wish to do so, to do so you should contact the Inspection Services Team (see telephone number and address below).

What happens after an inspection?

When the report on the organisation is published, a copy of the report will be available on the Education and Training Inspectorate website at www.etini.gov.uk or at the organisation.

If the report finds that there are important areas for improvement, the governors/management will be asked to make a response and a follow-up inspection will take place.

If you wish to comment on any aspect of the inspection or the report, you should write to the Chief Inspector, at the address below.

**The Chief Inspector
The Reporting Inspector and
Inspection Services Team may be contacted at:**

Department of Education Rathgael House
Rathgill
43 Balloo Road
BANGOR
Co Down
BT19 7PR

Telephone: 028 9127 9726

Email: eti@education-ni.gov.uk

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