

Inspection of Youth Service

Information for Parents/Carers

**ETI: Promoting Improvement in the
Interest of all Learners**



Providing inspection services for:

Department of Education
Department for the Economy
and other commissioning Departments



WHY IS OUR ORGANISATION BEING INSPECTED?

Youth centres/organisations are inspected and visited regularly by inspectors from the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI).

The inspection in your child's youth centre/organisation will tell you and others about:

- the quality of the leadership and management of the provision; i.e. how well the organisation is being managed;
- the quality of the provision i.e. what programmes are particularly good and those areas which may need improvement;
- the quality of the outcomes for the young people i.e. how well the provision is helping the young people to develop as individuals; and
- how well the young people's care and welfare is impacting on their learning.

Inspections inform all interested parties, including, parents, the Education Authorities, the Voluntary Headquarters Organisations, the Department of Education and the Government, how good the Youth Service in Northern Ireland is and what needs to improve.

WHO INSPECTS?

An inspection team has inspectors who have experience and qualifications in Education and/or the Youth Service. Occasionally, an Associate Assessor, who is a current practitioner in the Youth Service, will be part of the team. The Reporting Inspector leads the inspection and is responsible for writing up the report of the findings.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING AN INSPECTION?

During the inspection, the inspectors will:

- observe the young people in the centre/organisation;
- talk to the young people about their experiences, including the arrangements for care welfare and safeguarding;
- talk to the youth workers and volunteers about their work in the centre/organisation;
- evaluate how well the young people participate in activities, and how they help plan, and on occasions, lead the activities;
- evaluate how well the centre/organisation is led and managed; and
- evaluate how well the organisation relates to the parents/carers and the wider community.

Members of the team will talk to small groups of the young people about:

- the programmes they enjoy in the youth centre/organisation;
- how the centre/organisation promotes positive behaviour;
- the skills and knowledge that they gain as a result of their involvement in the centre;
- how they are supervised during both centre-based and out of centre activities; and
- how their care and welfare are dealt with.

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE TO THE INSPECTION PROCESS?

You can give your views on the quality of the youth centre's/organisation's provision by:

- writing to, or speaking with, the Chairperson or a member of the management committee;
- contacting the Reporting Inspector through a telephone call or letter to the Inspection Services Team (see the telephone number and address below); and
- meeting with an inspector during the inspection.

It is important to remember that ETI does not pursue/investigate individual complaints on the part of parents.

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, or to receive any further information about the inspection process, 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