



Association of Community
and Comprehensive Schools

*Cumann na Scoileanna Pobail
agus Cuimsitheacha*

30th August, 2022.

The Secretary,
Board of Management and
School Principal in
each Community and Comprehensive School.

Members of the Executive of ACCS.

ACCS/Info Bulletin 19/22. Re:

- A: Circular 0056/2022: School Self Evaluation & Circular 0058/2022: The Arrangements Regarding Inspectorate Engagement with Schools in 2022/23.
B: Looking at our School 2022, A Guide to Inspection in Post Primary Schools, Code of Practice for DE Inspectorate and the Procedure for Review of Inspections.

Please note the following circulars have been issued by the DE Inspectorate and are available on www.gov.ie or at the links below.

A: [Circular 0056/2022](#): School Self Evaluation & [Circular 0058/2022](#): The Arrangements Regarding Inspectorate Engagement with Schools in 2022/23.

1. [Circular 0056/2022](#) outlines the SSE Next Steps 2022-2026 gov.ie - [School Self-Evaluation \(www.gov.ie\)](#)

In this 3rd cycle of SSE:

During 2022/23:

- Identify and reflect on impact of Covid-19 on students' educational experiences and outcomes, their wellbeing, their motivation to learn, and their engagement in learning.
- Take stock of effectiveness of SSE process to date developing and consolidating it as necessary to ensure it is collaborative, inclusive and impactful.

During 2022/25:

- Initiate a wellbeing promotion review and development cycle See [Circular 0033/2021](#)

During 2023/26:

Schools have the autonomy to choose the focus of their SSE, subject to having a concise three-year SSE plan that enables them to address:

- Context-specific school priorities related to teaching, learning, equity and inclusion.
- National wellbeing goals.
- National curriculum goals *relating to the junior cycle and senior cycle*.
- Other national strategies, for example, the Digital Strategy for Schools and the National Strategy for Education for Sustainable Development.

Notes:

- i. In DEIS (Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools) schools, **the SSE process is the DEIS action planning process**. In schools participating in the **Gaeltacht School Recognition Process**, SSE facilitates planning for and strengthening of the quality of immersion education.

- ii. Inspectorate will continue to support schools (apply via email to SSE@education.gov.ie) with **advisory visits** during Sept-December 2022. All other supports and relevant publications are available on www.gov.ie
 - iii. **PISA (8th cycle)** is due to take place in 2022. 170 post primary schools have been selected on a representative basis to participate between 17th October and 18th November. These schools have been notified earlier this year.
2. **Circular 0058/2022** outlining the arrangements for the Inspectorate's engagement with schools for Sept.-Dec. 2022
- From September 2022**, the inspection programme will include the following:
- Incidental inspections.
 - Subject inspections.
 - Child protection and safeguarding inspections (CPSI) that monitor the Evaluations of provision for students with additional and special educational needs.
 - Follow-through inspections to monitor and support the implementation of recommendations arising from previous inspections.
 - Priority inspections in a small number of schools as required.
 - The completion of inspections that commenced in the 2021/2022 school year.
 - Advisory visits and other activities that will include school self-evaluation advisory visits, visits to schools participating in the Gaeltacht School Recognition Scheme and other advisory visits.
- From September 2022**, the following three aspects of the Anti-Bullying Procedures will be monitored:
- Anti-bullying policy and annual review.
 - BOM minutes re: record of Principal's report (see record template) (once per term).
 - School's anti-bullying policy is published on its website/made available to the school community.
- From November 2022**, the inspection programme will include:
- Special Care Units.
 - Programme Evaluations of TY, LCA and LCVP.
- From January 2023:**
- All other types of inspection, including whole-school evaluations and evaluations of DEIS action planning will recommence.
- From January 2023 (Re anti-bullying):**
- The school has appropriate initiatives in place to promote a positive and inclusive school culture and environment.
 - All teachers visited report that they have read the school's policy on anti-bullying and that they are aware of their roles and responsibilities in preventing and tackling bullying.

The inspection programme will be kept under review in the light of public health advice in relation to Covid-19.

B: Looking at our School 2022, A Guide to Inspection in Post Primary Schools, Code of Practice for DE Inspectorate and the Procedure for Review of Inspections.

Additionally, the following documents have been updated and are now available on www.gov.ie

1. [Looking at our School 2022 \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

While the structure and content of LAOS 2022 remain substantially the same as in the 2016 publication, the framework has been updated to reflect recent educational reform, thinking and developments in areas such as:

- *child safeguarding,*
- *anti-bullying,*
- *inclusion,*
- *student participation,*
- *parent participation,*
- *creativity,*
- *education for sustainable development (ESD),*
- *support of student transitions,*
- *Cosán, the national framework for teachers' learning.*

There are also strengthened references to aspects of learning and teaching that became all the more significant as schools responded to the needs of their students in the context of Covid-19. These aspects include:

- a. *digital competence,*
- b. *approaches to remote learning and teaching,*
- c. *the role of assessment and feedback in supporting progression in learning,*
- d. *the development of students' independent learning skills.*

2. [A Guide to Inspections in Post Primary Schools \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

Appendix 1 of this guide provides an outline of each of the inspection types used in post primary schools:

- a. Incidental inspection.
- b. Subject inspection.
- c. Whole-school evaluation - management, leadership and learning (WSE-MLL).
- d. Whole-school evaluation (WSE).
- e. Programme evaluation.
- f. Evaluation of provision for students with additional and special educational needs.
- g. Evaluation of action planning for improvement in DEIS schools (DEIS).
- h. Evaluation of schools attached to Special Care Units and Children Detention Centres.
- i. Child protection and safeguarding inspection.
- j. Supporting the safe provision of schooling.
- k. Evaluation of remote teaching and learning.
- l. Follow-through inspection.

3. [Code of Practice for the DE Inspectorate \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

4. **Procedure for review of inspections** carried out by DE Inspectorate S13(9) for Ed Act 1998 & relevant Inspection Request Review Form. [Procedure for Review of Inspections on Schools and Teachers under Section 13\(9\) of the Education Act 1998 \(www.gov.ie\)](http://www.gov.ie)

Is mise,
le mór mheas,



John Irwin,
GENERAL SECRETARY.