Note on Department Briefing for Primary Education Partners

on

Inspection and Supporting Schools Jan-June 2021

Tuesday 19th January 2021 at 3pm Online

In attendance from the Department of Education and Skills: Harold Hislop (Chief Inspector),Yvonne Keating (Deputy Chief Inspector), Gary Ó Donnchadha (Deputy Chief Inspector), Suzanne Conneely (Assistant Chief inspector), Martin Lally (Assistant Chief inspector), Padraig McFhlannchadha (Assistant Chief inspector), Elizabeth Sheridan (Divisional Inspector OCI)

Partners in attendance:

Name	Organisation	Name	Organisation
Fionnuala Ward	ETI	Megan Whyte	ETBI
Damian White	IPPN	Aine Lynch	NPC - Primary
Tomás Ó Póil	An Foras Pátrúntachta	Bláthnaid Ní Ghréacháin	Gaelscoileanna
Deirbhile Nic Craith	INTO	Noeline Kavanagh	NABMSE
Deirdre O'Connor	RCB DUB		

Outline of meeting:

Harold Hislop provided an overview to the partners on:

- The Inspectorate engagements with schools between September and December 2020 as per Circular 41/2020
- Learning from the Advisory and Research work with Schools Sept-Dec 2020
- Supporting HSE School Support teams
- Helpline support for Curriculum implementation for Principals and Teachers
- Research and Evaluation work with schools Jan-June 2021
- Information on the range of ways in which inspectors are engaging with schools in Quarter 1, 2021

Questions, comments and discussion were invited from the partners and the topics covered included:

- Return to Schooling
- Empathy of Helpline
- SSE
- Pupil focus group discussions and reports of surveys
- Provision for SEN pupils
- Evaluation of online/remote learning and impact on the home

The meeting concluded at 3:50pm.