



ANNUAL REPORT 2021

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

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@ILProgramme

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National Steering Committee Members

Joan Russell, Education Research Officer (ETBI) (Chairperson)

Sarah Buckley, Graduate & Principal, Schull Community College, Cork

Sharon Coffey, Graduate & Principal, Coláiste Aindriú, Carlow

Gillian Doyle, Graduate & Teacher, St. Fiaccs National School, Carlow

Siobhain Grogan, Graduate & Teacher, Gael Choláiste Chill Dara, Naas

Anne Mc Hugh, Chief Executive, Donegal ETB

Gerry Maloney, Graduate & Retired Teacher, St. David's Holy Faith Secondary School, Greystones

Finn Ó Murchú, Head of Education Department, Mary Immaculate College

Gerard O' Sullivan, Graduate & Education Officer, NCCA

Eugene Power, Graduate & Retired Principal, St. Declan's Community College, Kilmacthomas

Niamh Broderick, Graduate & Principal, St. Leo's College, Carlow

Paula Fitzpatrick, IL Administrator, Education and Training Board Ireland

Introduction

The *Instructional Leadership Programme (ILP)*, facilitated by Professor Barrie Bennett through Education and Training Boards Ireland (ETBI), is a programme of professional learning aimed at enhancing teaching and learning at primary, post-primary, and further education levels.

In 2021, The IL Programme National Steering Committee published a strategic plan aimed at further developing the programme. The plan, 2021 – 2023, set out actions under four key priority areas:

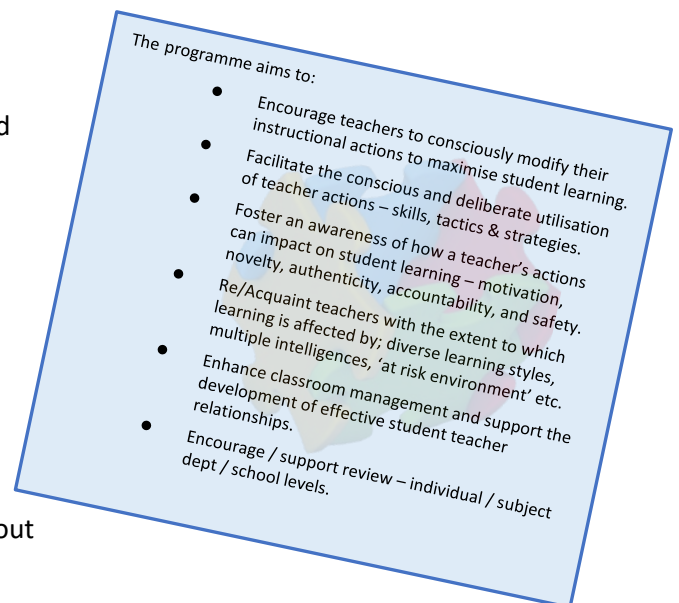
- Develop a plan for the sustainable delivery of the programme.
- Develop a support structure for graduate school leaders and graduate teachers.
- Facilitate and support Research and Evaluation.
- Develop partnerships at National and International levels.

While 2020 was a period of challenge due to COVID 19 and the subsequent curtailment of activities, members of the Steering Committee and the IL administrator worked tirelessly to support the programme development and delivery.

We are pleased to publish this report, which outlines the progress made for the actions set out under each of the priority areas.



Joan Russell
Chairperson
National Steering Committee
March 2022



Strategic Priorities 2021 – 2023



- **Develop a plan for the sustainable delivery of the programme.**

The targets set under this priority aim to identify actions that will enable the delivery of the programme, to meet the demand, across a range of scenarios, at primary, post-primary, and FET level.

- **Develop a support structure for graduate school leaders and graduate teachers.**

The targets set under this priority aim to identify actions, IT based and otherwise, to support graduates in the implementation and the sharing of their learning within their own context and across schools at regional and national level.

- **Facilitate and support Research and Evaluation.**

The targets set under this priority aim to identify actions that will inform the design and delivery of the programme.

- **Develop partnerships at National and International level.**

The targets set under this priority aim to identify and work with key partners across the education system to support schools; education partners; and policy development and implementation.


Action:	Year:	Outcome 2021:
Continue to work with Professor Barrie Bennett in the design and delivery of the Programme.	2021- 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1193 352 1632 703">• We held 3 online events for Cohort 12, on the 9th of March, Cohort 13 on the 22nd of March and Cohort 14 on the 24th of March 2021 The online events were facilitated by Professor Barrie Bennett and the topic was Leading Change in Teaching & Learning. Presentation <li data-bbox="1193 746 1632 1278">• An online event was held on Monday 10th May 2021 for participants of the Learner Voice Project. An invitation was issued to participants of the IL Programme to join the Webinar. The webinar was facilitated by Professor Barrie Bennett and Joan Russell on the topic of facilitating Learner Voice in the classroom to positively affect teaching and learning. Fireside Chat,



<p>Develop a <i>Programme Support Plan</i> for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The identification and training of graduates of the programme to support in the delivery of the programme. • Provide alternative modes of delivery for varying audiences. 	2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This action is still work in progress.
Commence the implementation of the <i>Programme Support Plan</i>	2022	
Further develop the programme for primary level.	2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We held a Teach Meet for Primary on Monday 15th November 2021. Teach Meet 15/11/21
Align the programme with Cosán – Framework for Teachers’ Learning	2021 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Project Plan is in place to work with the Teaching Council to embed Cosán as part of the IL Programme for Cohort 15. This was due to commence in 2021 but was deferred due to COVID 19. • Newsletter Issue 15 Yumpu Link IL Newsletter Issue 15
Seek the endorsement of CSL	2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Instructional Leadership Programme was endorsed on 18th June 2021 for a 3-year period. Confirmation Letter

Action:	Year:	Outcome 2021:
Further develop the website	2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The website was transferred to WordPress. It is regularly updated with notices and resources. <p>www.instructionalleadership.ie</p>
Create a greater presence on social media (Twitter & Instagram)	2021 - 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We created a Twitter plan for 2021 and uploaded tweets which included a copy of the Strategic Plan, Newsletters and posters for upcoming events and online webinars. We now have 1,568 followers, representing a 29% increase. Twitter Plan 2021 Feb, March, April, May, June, July, Aug, Sept, Oct, Nov and Dec.
Host an Annual Conference for Senior and Middle Leaders during June	2021 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference was deferred because of COVID-19 restrictions.
Host an Annual National Conference	2021 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference deferred due to COVID-19 restrictions.
Publish online newsletters	2021 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We designed and published 2 x Newsletters. The newsletters were



		<p>uploaded on the IL Website and a copies distributed to all schools.</p> <p>IL Newsletter issue 14.</p> <p>IL Newsletter issue 15.</p>
Establish regionally based support networks	2022	
Publish resources for schools	2021 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources and articles were created and uploaded to the IL website. <p>www.instructionalleadership.ie</p>
Explore the possibility of accrediting IL schools	2021 – 2023	
Establish an online forum to support teaching and learning conversations between teachers across schools.	2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We held 2 x Teach Meets for Post-Primary on Tuesday 9th November and Primary on Monday 15th November 2021.
Edit <i>Instructional Leadership – Building Instructional Expertise for the Classroom</i> for the Irish Context	2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The book was edited for the Irish context and includes photos and student work submitted from schools participating in the IL Programme. 

Action:	Year:	Outcome 2021:
Host a Research Conference	2022	
Invite graduates of the programme engaging in research to anchor their work in Instructional Leadership.	2021 - 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An invitation was issued to graduates of the IL programme.



Action:	Year:	Outcome 2021:
Establish partnerships with relevant organisations to support the development of the Programme and provide access to it by varying audiences.	2021 - 2023	Partnerships have been established with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NCCA • Teach Council • NAPD • Education Centres – Carrick-on-Shannon, Cork, Donegal, Kilkenny, and Limerick.
Explore the establishment of an International Partnership	2022 - 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have prepared an application for Léargas funding to support the development and implementation of a professional learning programme aimed at principals and deputy principals as leaders of learning.
Explore the establishment of a partnership with Northern Ireland	2021 – 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploratory communications are ongoing.

Further develop the IL Learner Voice Project in partnership with the NCCA	2021 - 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We held 4 online Cluster Meetings for participating schools. • An online Fireside Chat event was held on Monday 10th May 2021.
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