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Fostering Belonging in the Art Classroom



In this Session we will

In session three we will…

Collaboratively plan a unit of learning, through the lenses of diversity, inclusion and belonging

Identify key areas and actions to strengthen practices within art departmental planning



Meet Yvonne Condon…











Image sources: Arts and Disability Ireland, Crawford Support Studio, and Cork Beo

To access and watch the video use the link provided within the professional learning materials



Video Source: Yvonne Condon, 2016
https://vimeo.com/180526004

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What thoughts came to mind?



Inclusion Guidelines for Post-Primary Schools

‘An inclusive school culture enables all young people, including those with special educational needs, to experience a sense of being valued members of the school community, and **to experience belonging, connectedness and success in their learning.’**

Department of Education, 2025, Guidelines for Post-Primary Schools p.10



Accommodating Diversity

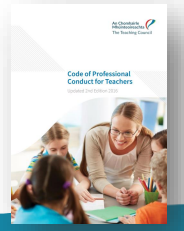


Example collected from professional learning experience, 2026

'Teachers should:

1.3 be committed to equality and inclusion and to respecting and accommodating diversity including those differences arising from gender, civil status, family status, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability, race, ethnicity, membership of the Traveller community and socio-economic status.'

Teaching Council, Code of Professional Conduct for Teachers updated 2nd edition, 2016, p.7



Creating a Class Profile

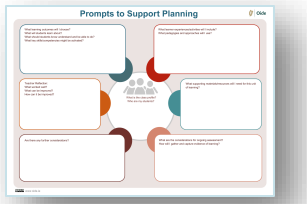
Step 1: Reflect on the student context of your classroom to create a 5th Year class profile using the following prompts

What is the school context?

How many students are in the class?

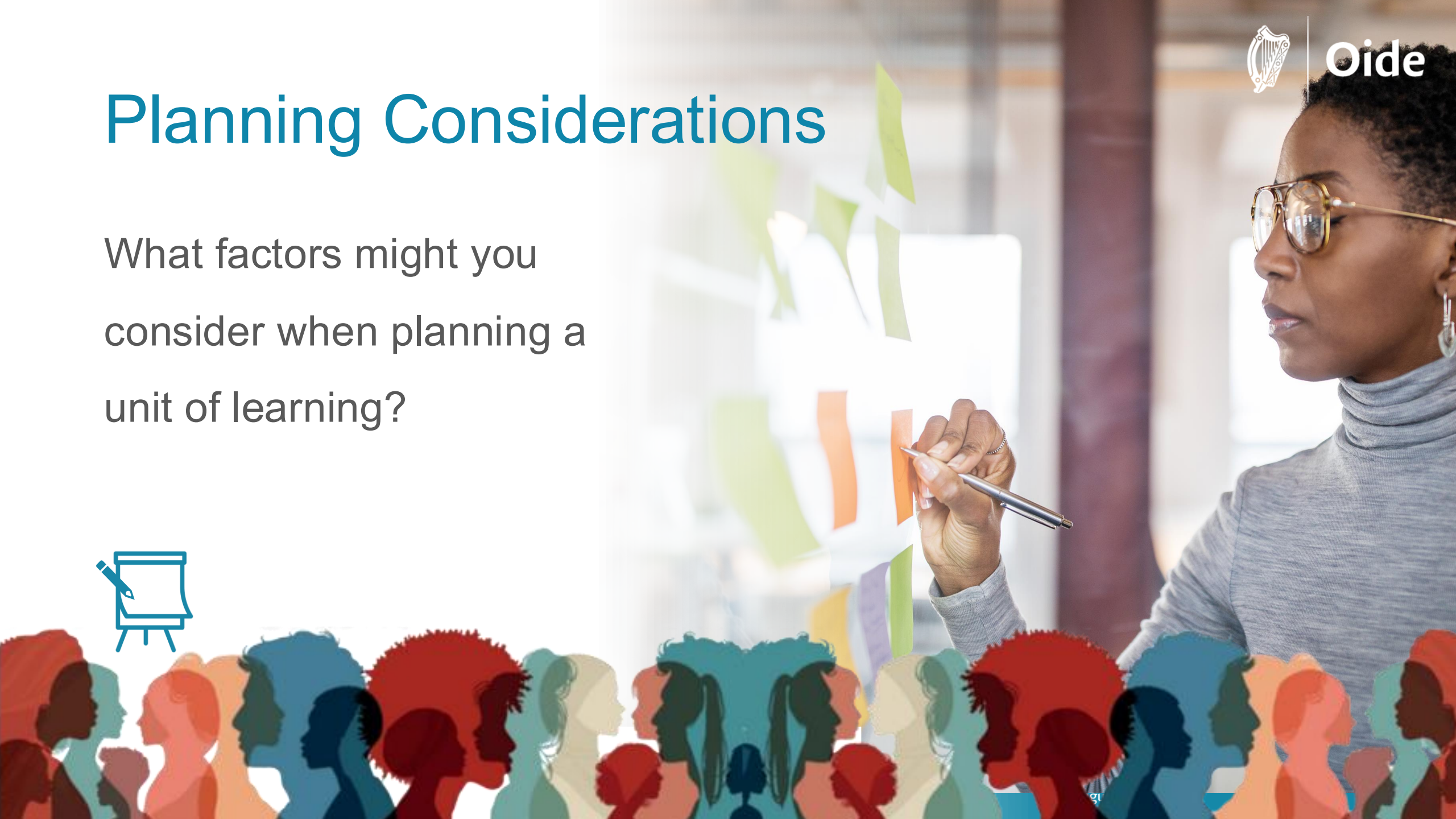
What prior experience of Art do the students have?

What are the students' strengths, needs and interests?



Planning Considerations

What factors might you consider when planning a unit of learning?

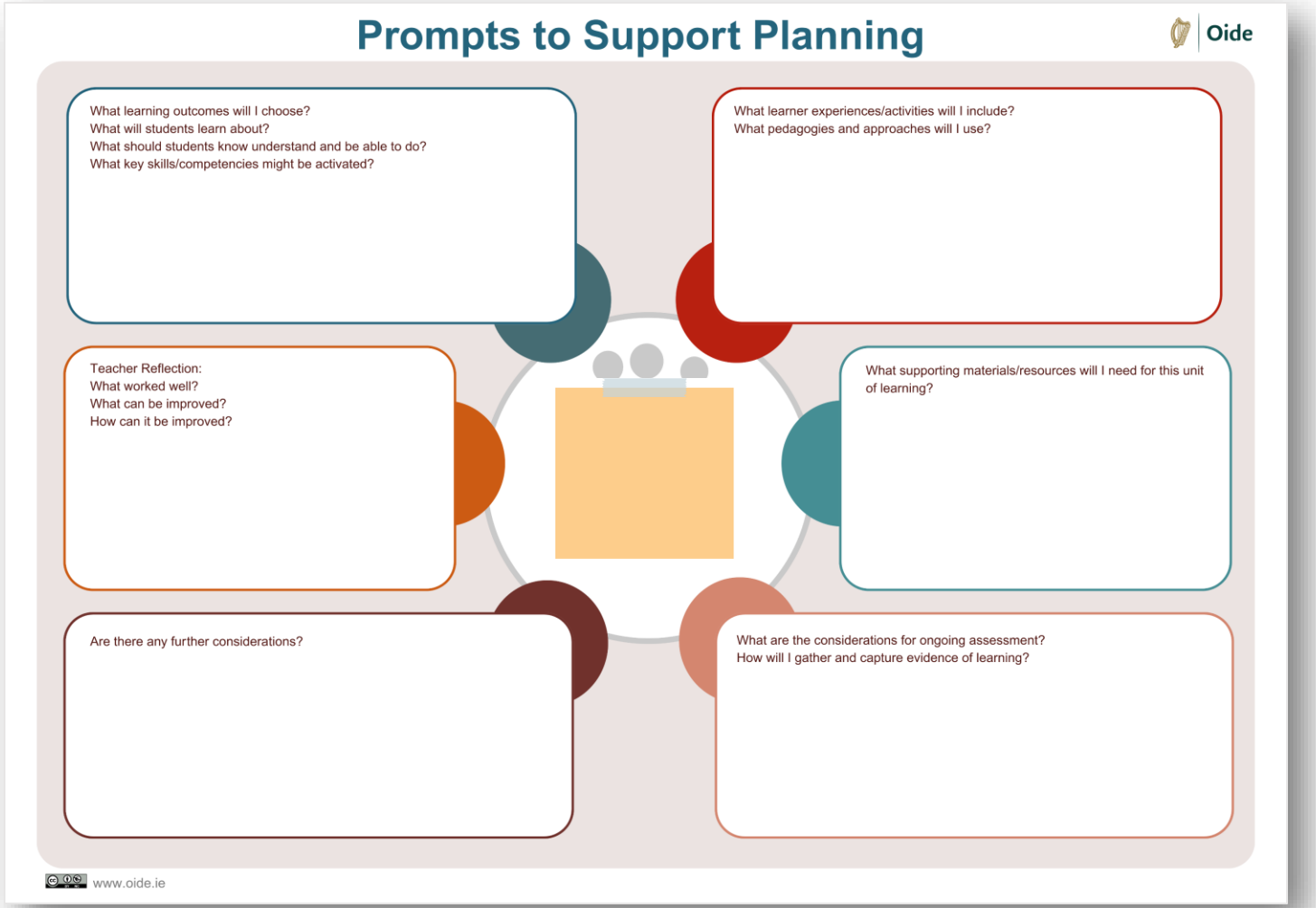


Prompts to Support Planning

Step 2: Collaboratively plan a unit of learning that reflects the content or approaches of the day.

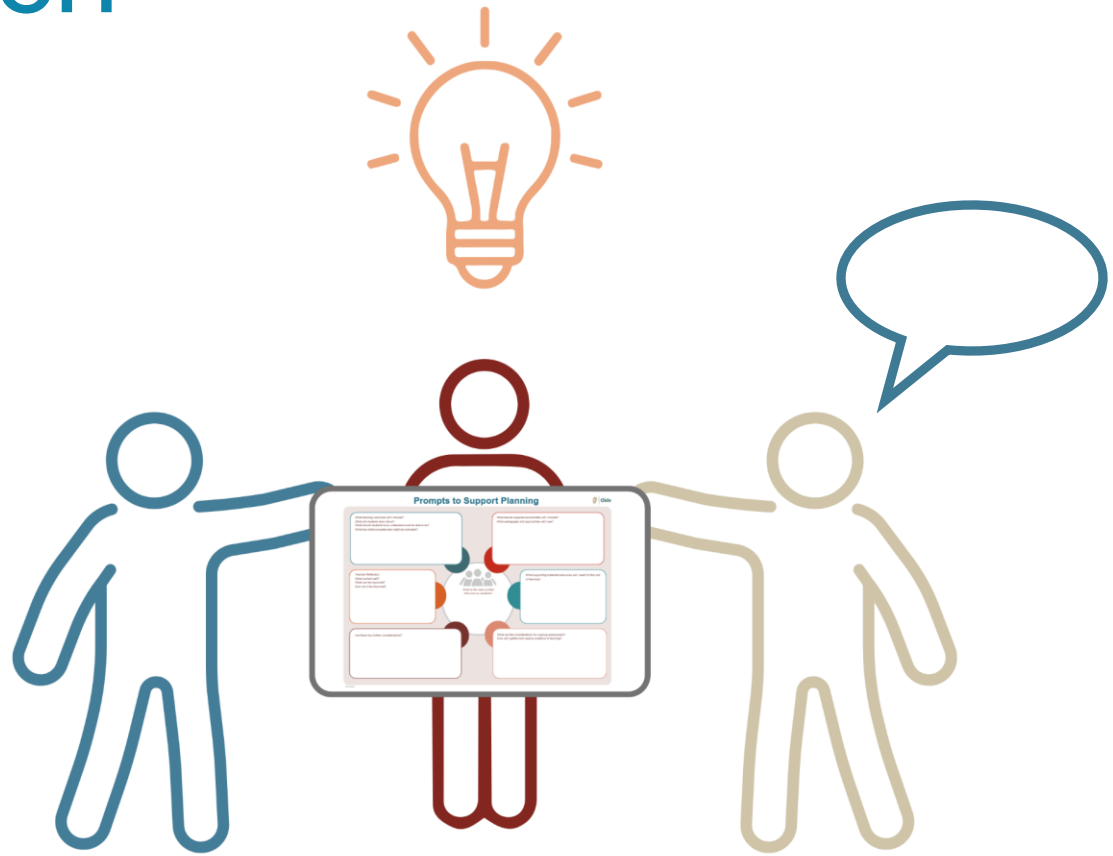
Record your responses

Nominate a speaker.



Unit of Learning Pitch

Step 3: Pitch your unit of learning to the wider group





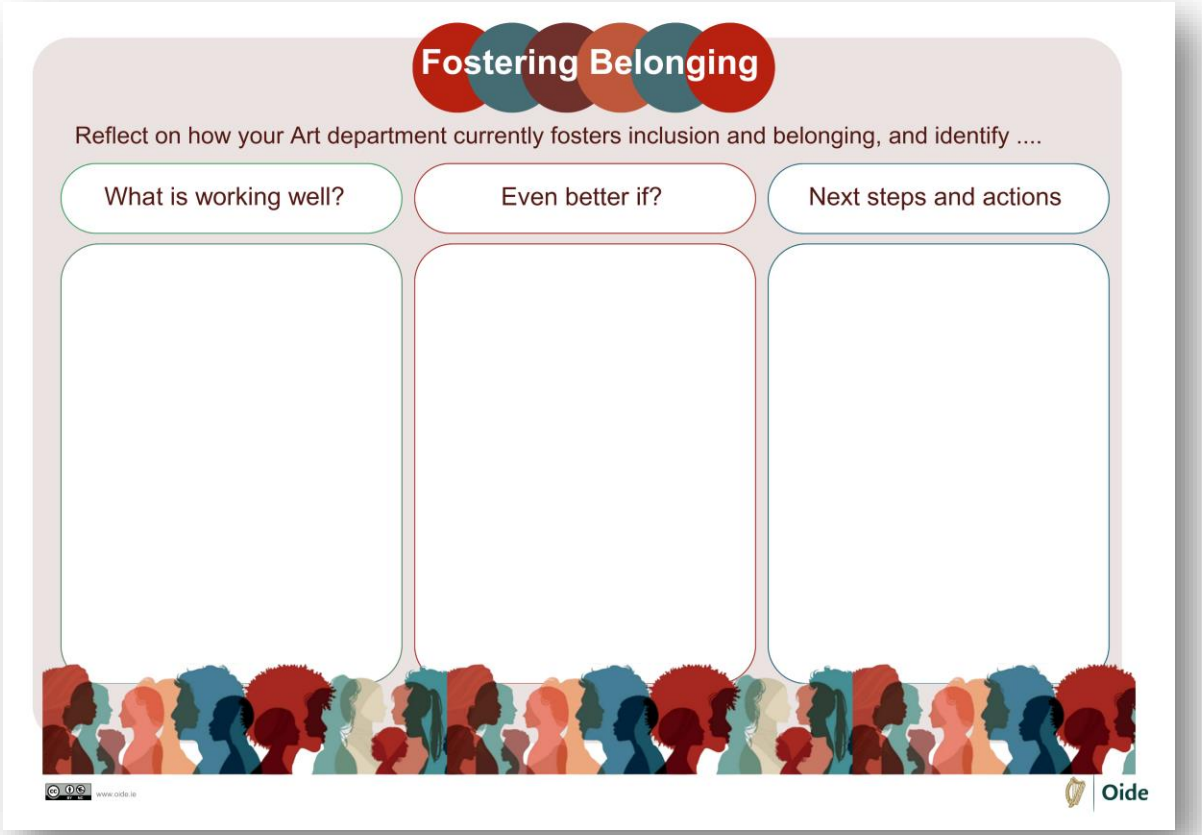
Departmental Planning

As a department…

Step 1: Consider the reflection prompt

Step 2: Identify what's working well and even better if…

Step 3: Agree next steps and actions to further foster belonging the art classroom.



Fostering Belonging

What is essential for some,

is, indeed, often good for **all.**

Andy Hargreaves



A. Hargreaves, 2025, Leading for All, p.13
Image source: IMBD, Inclusion makes the world more vibrant, 2018

Today we have...

Deepened our understanding of learner diversity, inclusion, belonging and reflective practice

Developed an understanding of the Senior Cycle Level 2 Learning Programme Visual Art Elective Module

Collaboratively designed a unit of learning and identified actions to enhance inclusive art department practices.

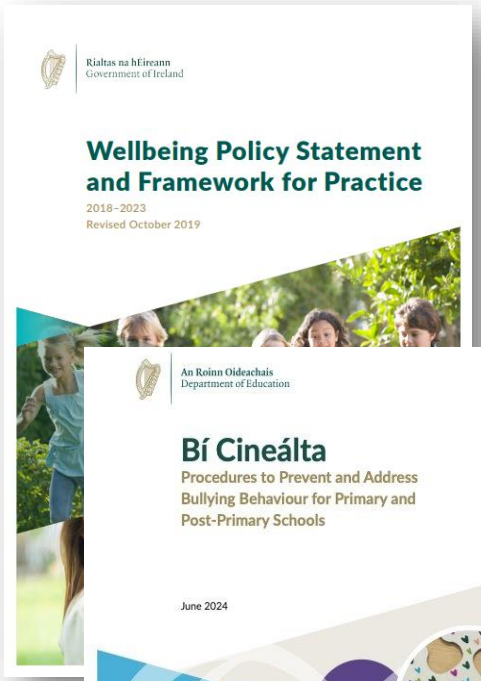


Key Documents

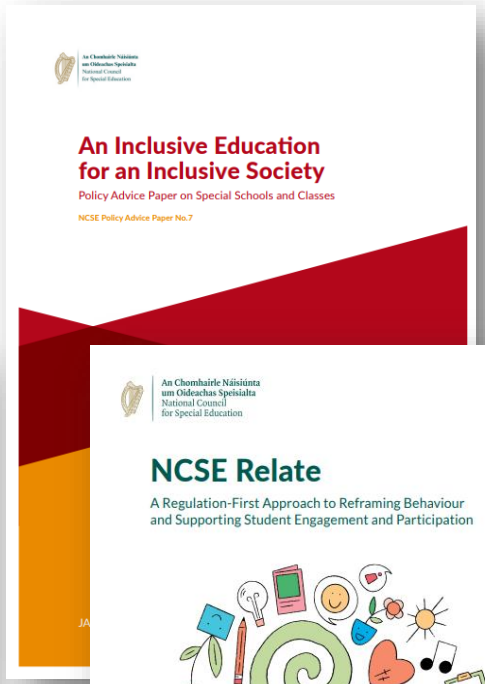


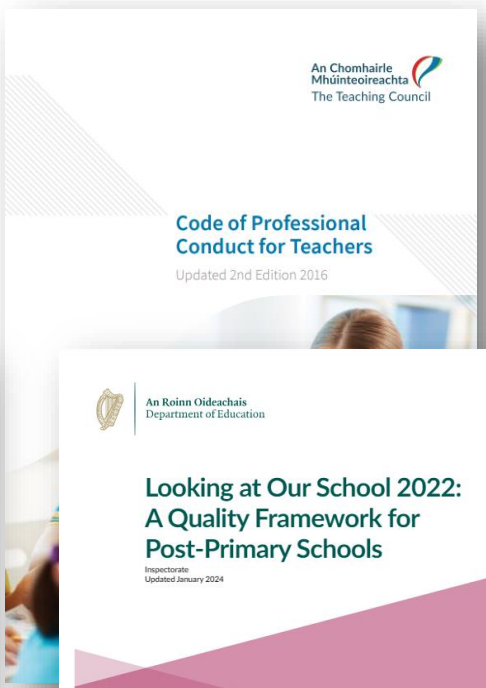
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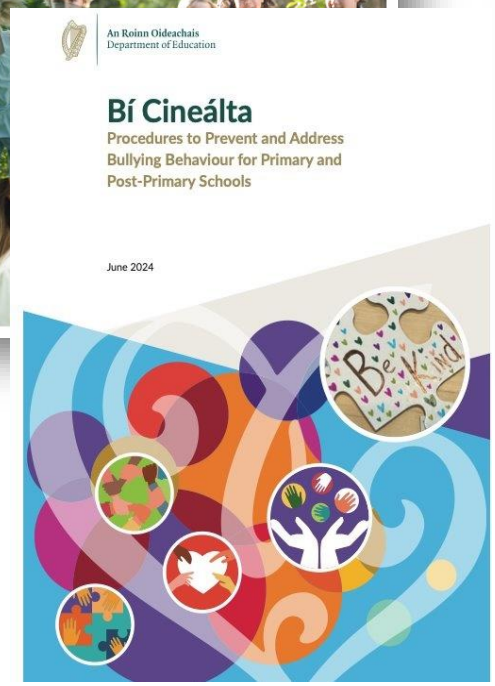
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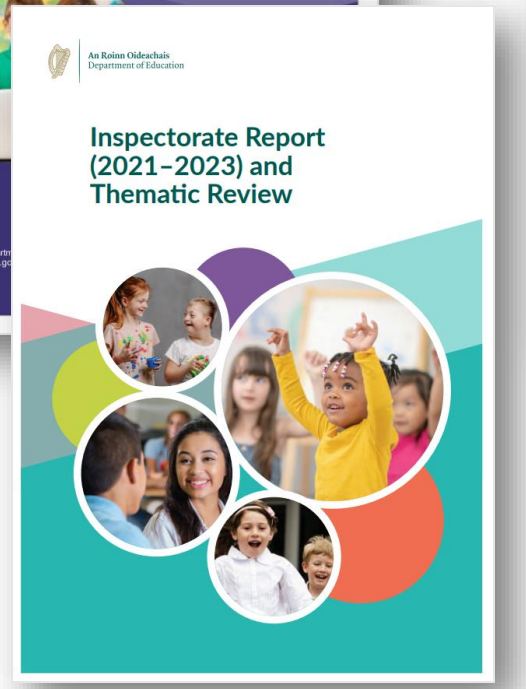


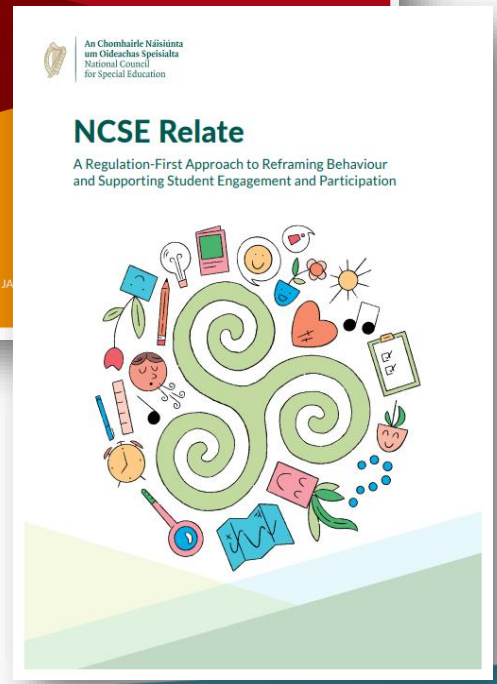














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Thank you

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