



Oide

Tacú leis an bhFoghlaim
Ghairmiúil i measc Ceannairí
Scoile agus Múinteoirí

Supporting the Professional
Learning of School Leaders
and Teachers

Primary Curriculum Framework

Day 1: The Big Picture

Facilitator:

Attendance



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Attendance

Quality Assurance



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Expectations



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Session 1

- Curriculum Redevelopment
- The Importance of School Context

Break: 11.00 - 11.15

Session 2

- The Vision of the Redeveloped Curriculum
- Principles of Learning, Teaching & Assessment

Lunch: 1.00 - 2.00

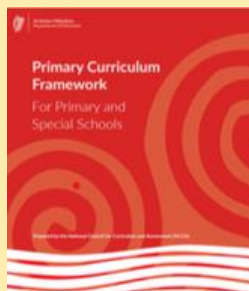
Session 3

- The Development of a Shared Understanding
- Key Learning and Next Steps



Key Messages

The Primary Curriculum Framework sets out a shared vision for high-quality learning, teaching and assessment for all children.



The 8 principles of learning, teaching and assessment act as a compass to guide professional decision making within our context.



Developing professional agency in a school's own context will play a pivotal role in helping every child to thrive and flourish.





What do you see?



(Banyai, 1998)

Interagency Video



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Post Video Discussion



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What resonated with you most from the video and why?



The Journey So Far



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Professional Learning Support this School Year



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2 Whole-school full day PLEs to support the introduction of the PCF



Online PLE for school leaders on the enactment of the redeveloped curriculum



In-school support for PMC continues



The Journey Ahead



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Session Overview and Outcomes



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Exploring Curriculum Redevelopment



Understanding Curriculum Enactment



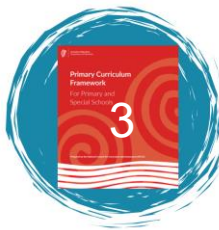
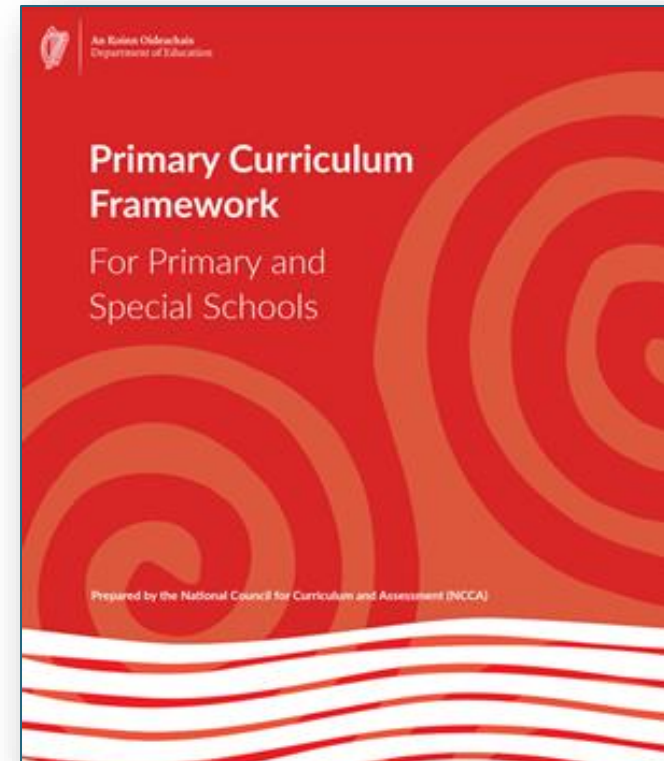
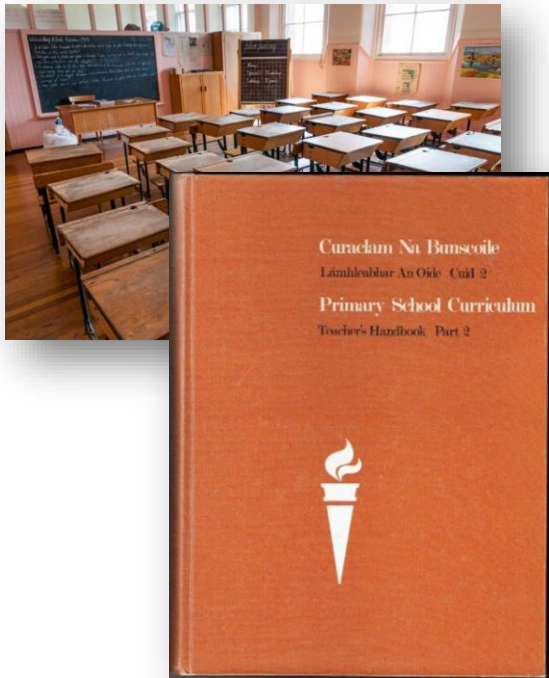
Investigating the Importance of
School Context

Curriculum Redevelopment



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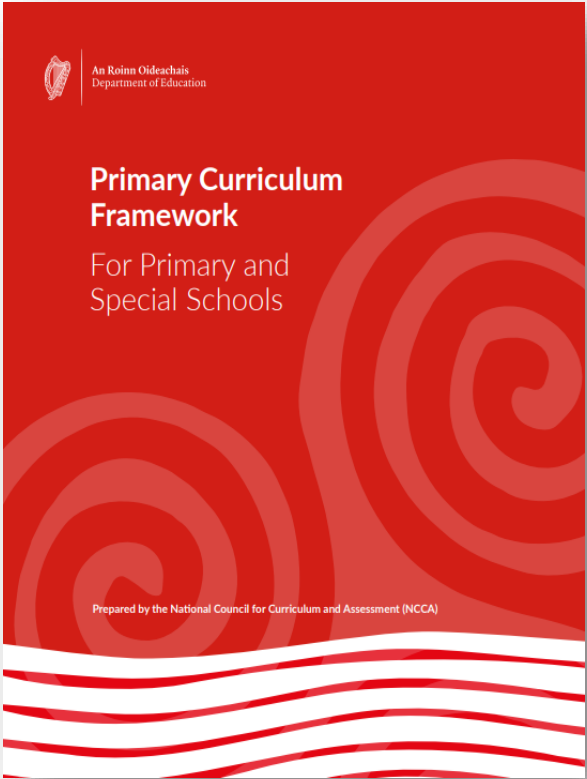
'A curriculum reflects educational priorities which society, at a point in time, deems important for its young citizens.' (DE, 2023, p.3)



Primary Curriculum Framework



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What is Curriculum?

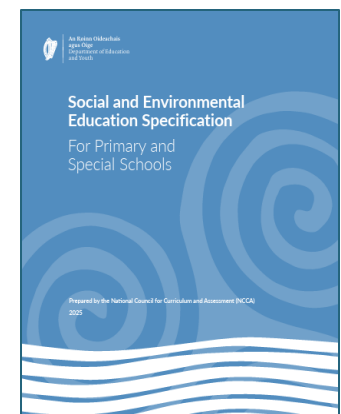
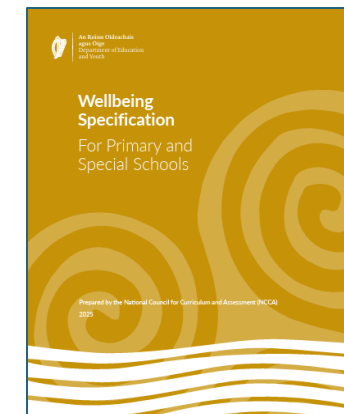
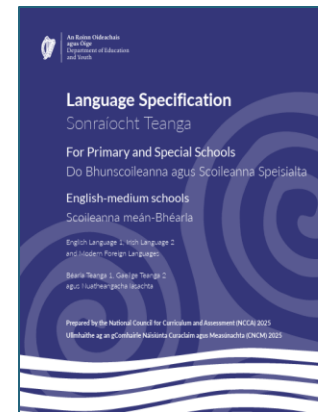
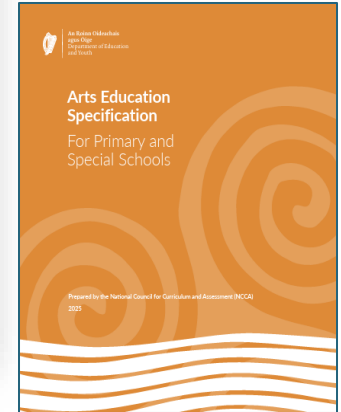
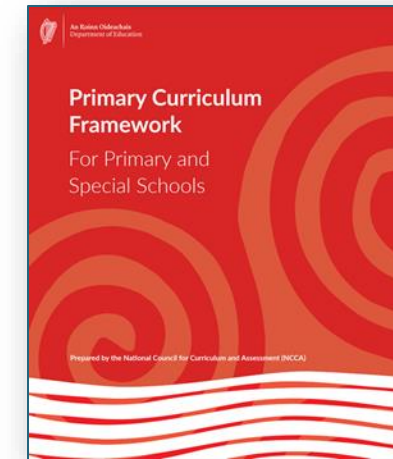
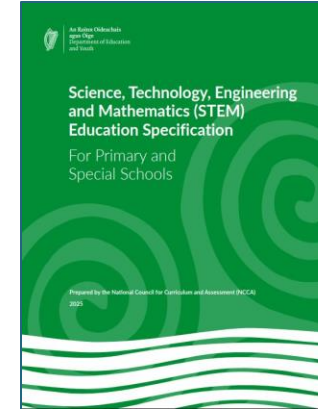
...the direction and destination for learning...

...knowledge, skills, concepts, dispositions, attitudes and values...

...the activities and tasks children will engage in as they work towards the learning outcome...



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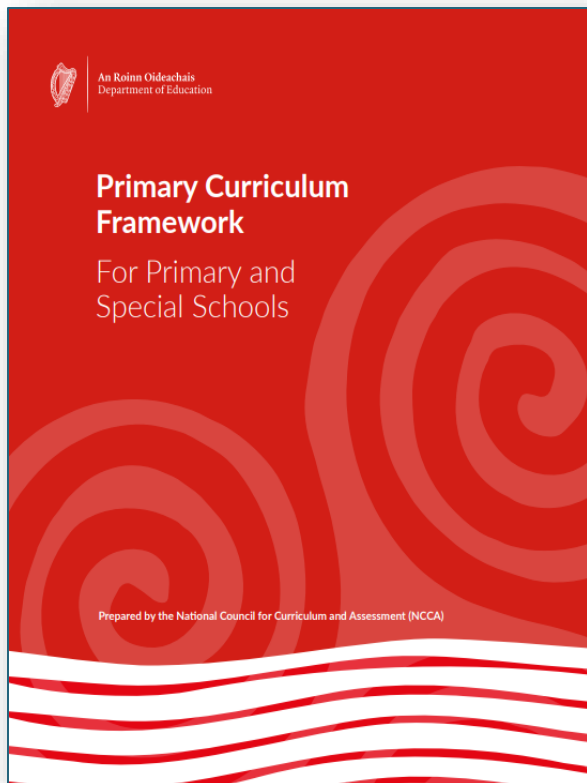


What is a Framework?



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'A framework is one of the most important and powerful instruments in improving the education system experienced by children.' (Stabback, 2016)



It supports a variety
of pedagogical
approaches.



'Enactment of the redeveloped Primary School Curriculum involves reimagining learning, teaching and assessment in light of the curriculum's principles.' (NCCA, 2025)

Reflection

Professional
Decision-Making

Bringing
Curriculum to Life

Flexibility

Understanding
Context

One Framework, Many Contexts



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'...and can take account of the particular needs and interests of children, their parents, the wider school community, and the characteristic spirit of the school.'

(Primary Curriculum Framework, p.3)



Pre Video Prompt



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What aspirations do these schools hold for the children in their care?



School Context Video (to be added)



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Post Video Discussion



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What is it about these contexts that support the realisation of their aspirations for the children in these schools?



Context



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What are your hopes and aspirations for the children in your school?

'...a strong foundation for every child to thrive and flourish, supporting them in realising their full potential...'

(Primary Curriculum Framework, p.5)

Context



How does your context support the realisation of your aspirations for the children in your school?

'Diversity of school type and context is one of the hallmarks of primary education in Ireland.'

(Primary Curriculum Framework, p.3)



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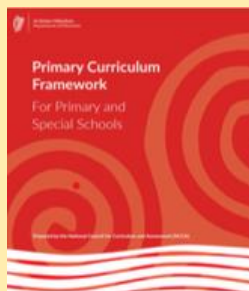
Supporting the Professional
Learning of School Leaders
and Teachers





Key Messages

The Primary Curriculum Framework sets out a shared vision for high-quality learning, teaching and assessment for all children.



The 8 principles of learning, teaching and assessment act as a compass to guide professional decision making within our context.



Developing professional agency in a school's own context will play a pivotal role in helping every child to thrive and flourish.



Session Overview and Outcomes



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Explore the Vision for the Redeveloped Curriculum



Investigate and Explore the 8 Principles of Learning, Teaching and Assessment



Reflect on Their Interconnected Nature and Where They are Visible in our Current Practice

Vision for the Redeveloped Curriculum

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Read and highlight the key words/phrases from the vision statement.



What is it about these words that stand out for you?



What implications does the inclusion of these words/phrases have for schools?



Vision For The Child



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The curriculum recognises *'the right of all children to make progress in all areas of their learning and development.'* (Primary Curriculum Framework, p.5)



*'unique,
competent, and
caring individuals'*



What does this look like?



What does this sound like?



What does this feel like?



Vision For The Teacher



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'An agentic teacher makes professional and informed decisions in response to the children's learning needs.' (Primary Curriculum Framework, p.5)



What does this look like?



What does this sound like?



What does this feel like?

*'committed, skillful
and agentic
professionals'*



What are the Principles of Learning, Teaching and Assessment?



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'The principles convey what is valued in primary and special education and what lies at the heart of high-quality learning, teaching, and assessment in the primary curriculum. They are broad in nature to reflect varied school contexts and children's different circumstances, experiences, and abilities.'

(Primary Curriculum Framework, p.6)



What is their Purpose?



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Junior Cycle

Primary Curriculum

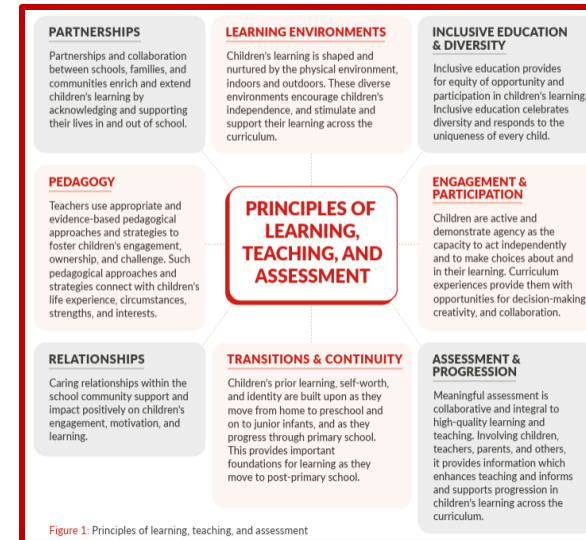


Figure 1: Principles of learning, teaching, and assessment

(DE, p.6)



(DE, p.11)

Future focused
Guide decision
making at whole
school and
classroom level
Provide
curriculum
coherence



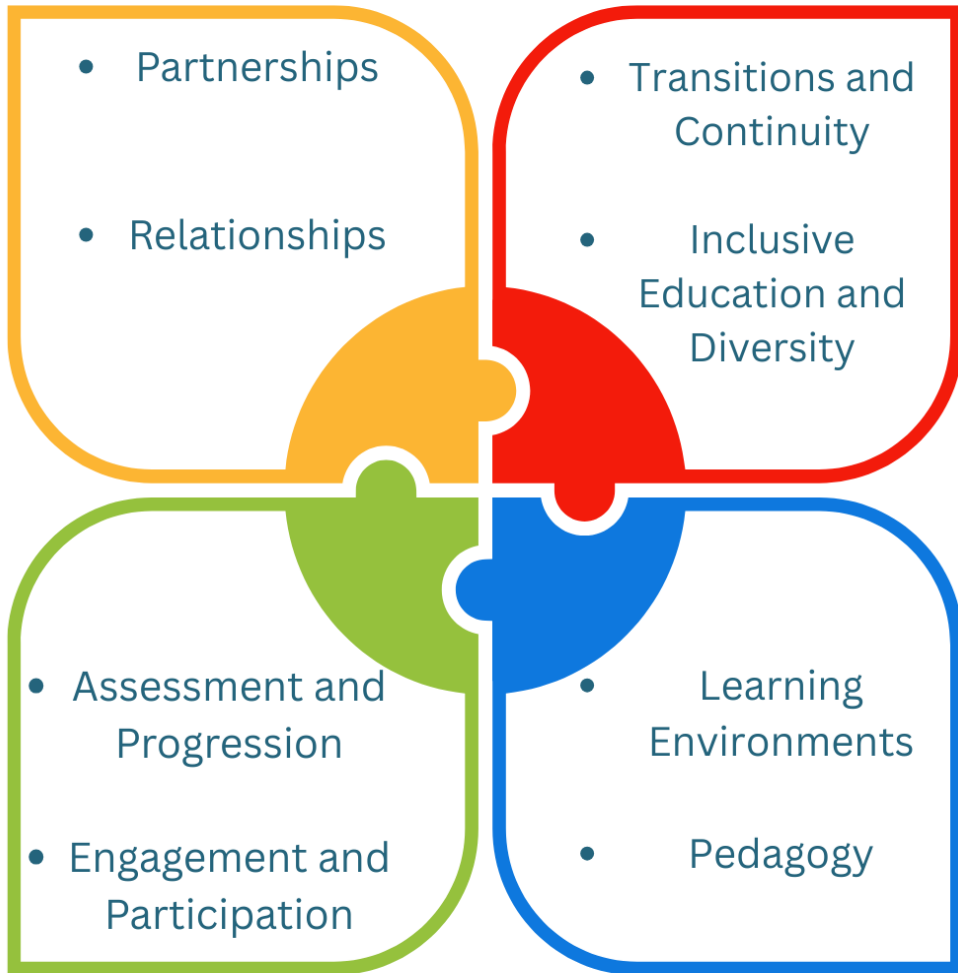
(DE, p.15)



Jigsaw Activity



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1. Read and highlight key words.

2. Explore the meaning and significance of the key words.

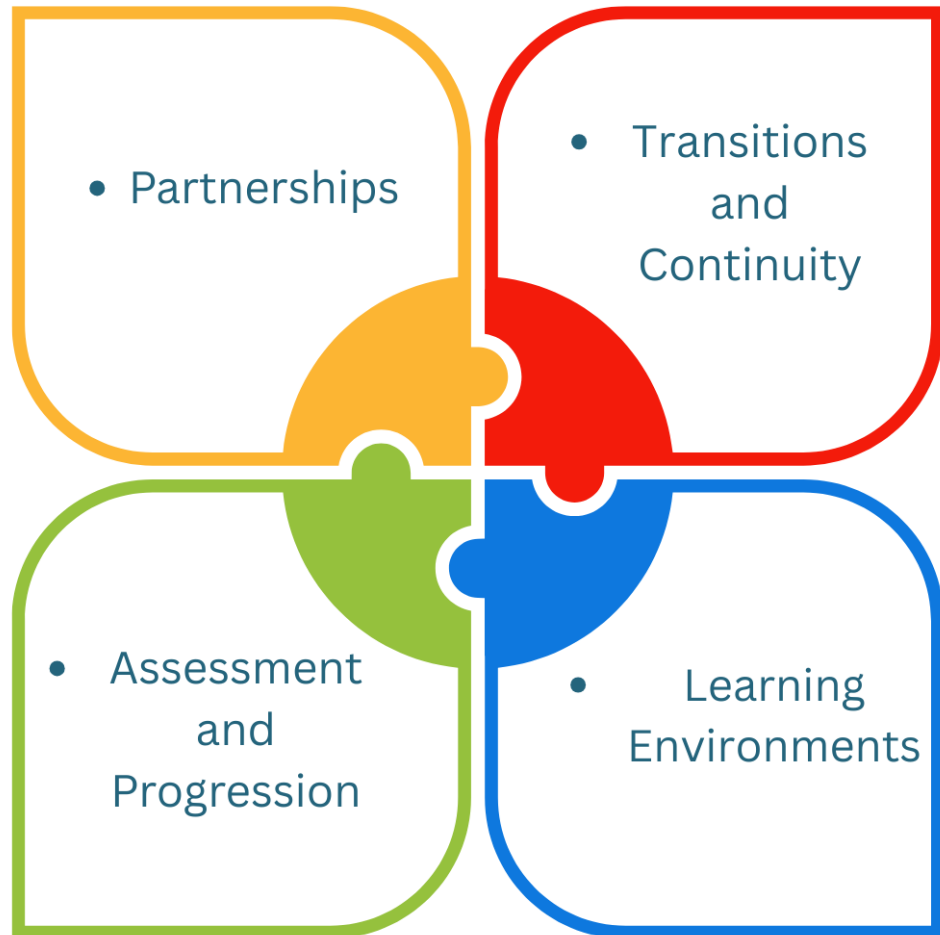
3. How is this evident in your current practice?

4. Feedback to group.

Jigsaw Activity



Oide



1. Read and highlight key words.

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3. How is this evident in your current practice?

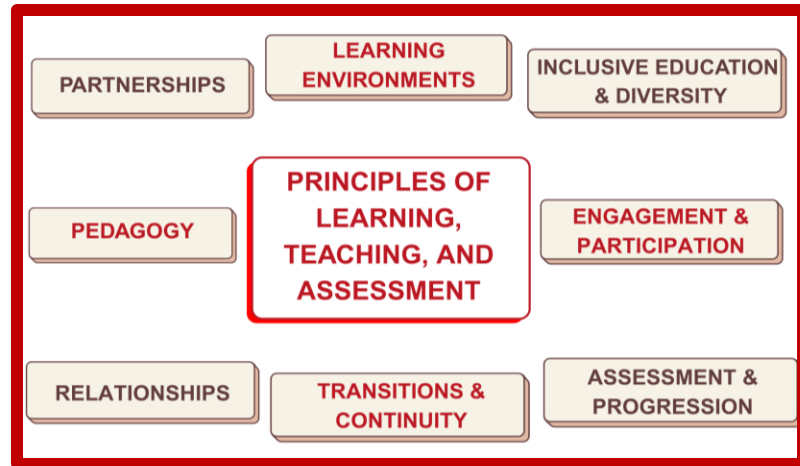
4. Feedback to group.



Balancing the Principles of Learning, Teaching and Assessment



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How can one Principle of Learning, Teaching and Assessment support another?

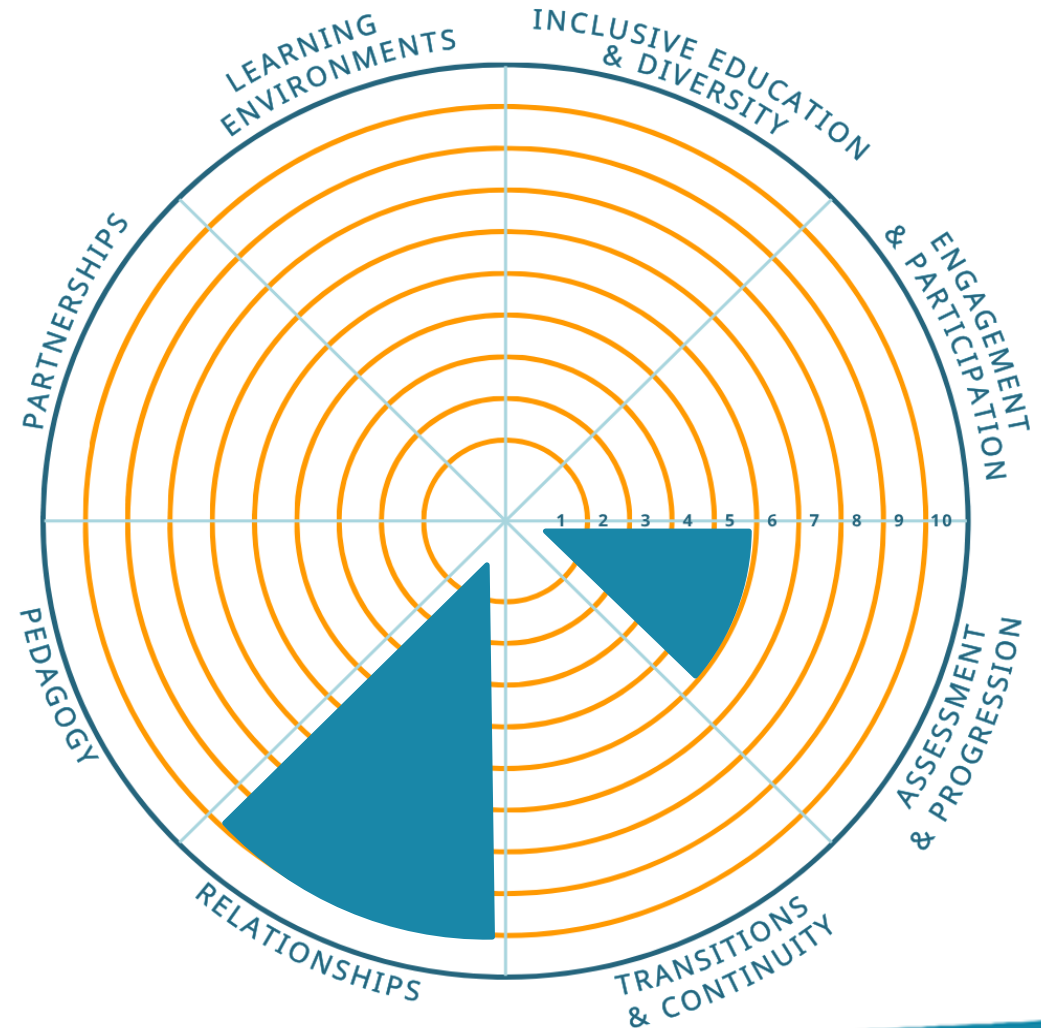
Where might we need to shift emphasis to create greater balance?

Self-Reflection on the Principles of Learning, Teaching and Assessment

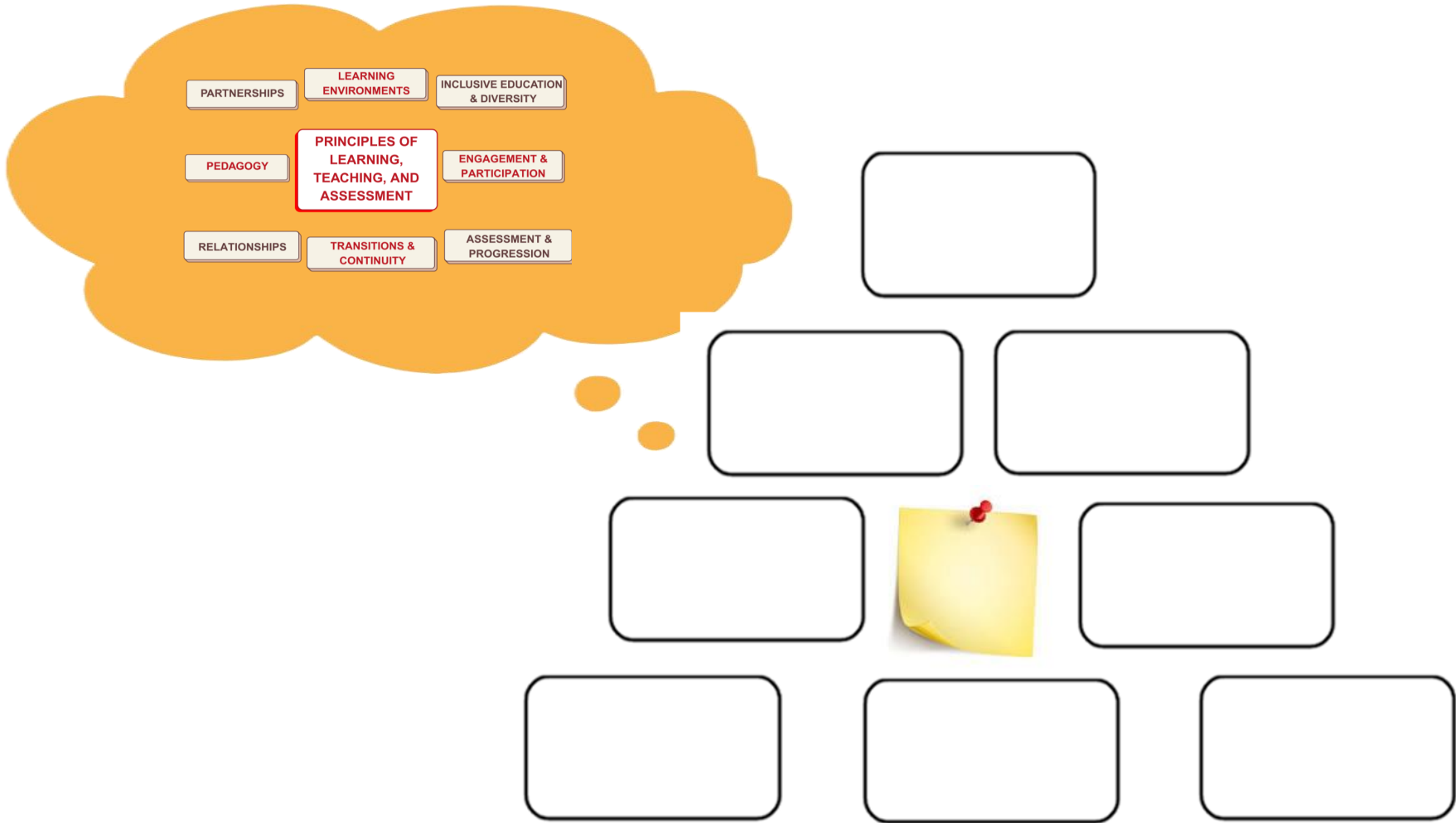


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How are these reflected in our own practice?



Apex Eight Activity



Well Developed

Less Developed



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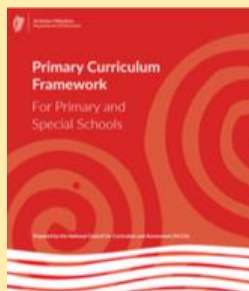
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Key Messages

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The 8 principles of learning, teaching and assessment act as a compass to guide professional decision making within our context.



Developing professional agency in a school's own context will play a pivotal role in helping every child to thrive and flourish.



Session Overview and Outcomes



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Gain a Shared Understanding of a Selected Principle of Learning, Teaching and Assessment



Critically Evaluate New Ideas and Reflect on Current Practice



Consider Key Learning and Next Steps

Enactment begins with Reflection



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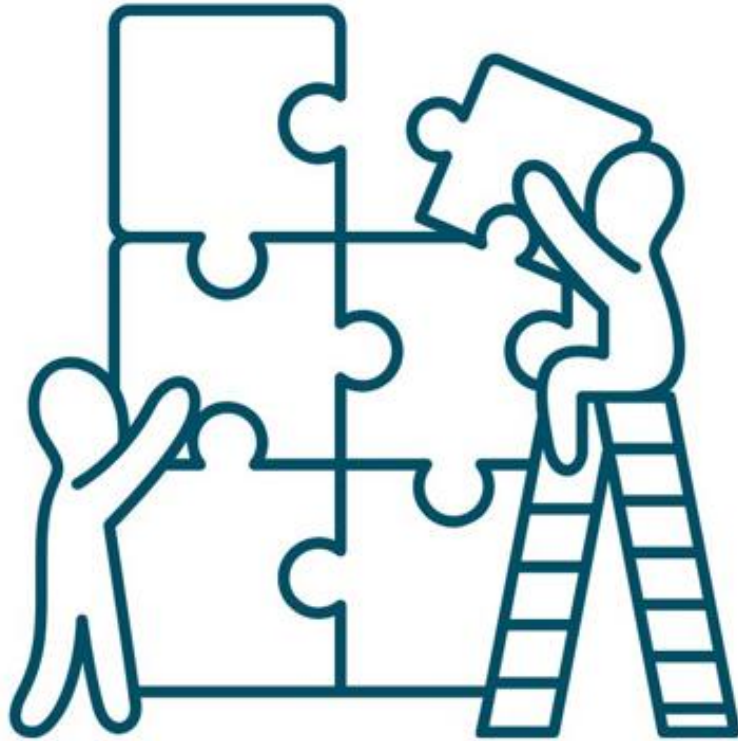


Professional conversations support and promote reflection on the principles of learning, teaching and assessment while considering school context

Developing a Shared Understanding



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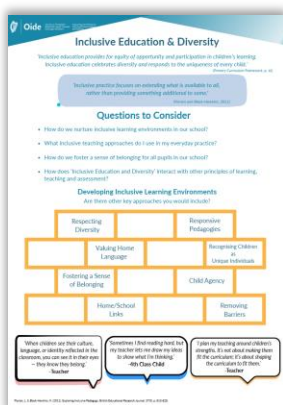
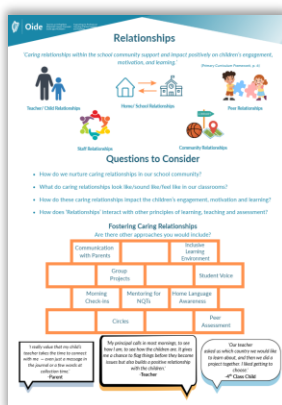
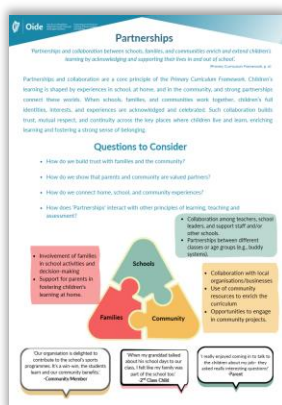


Helps to ensure consistent expectations and practices

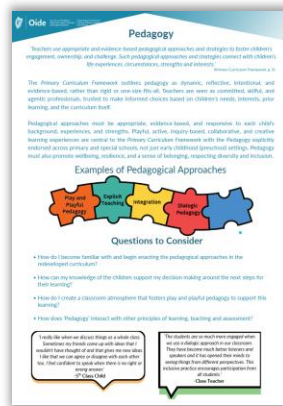
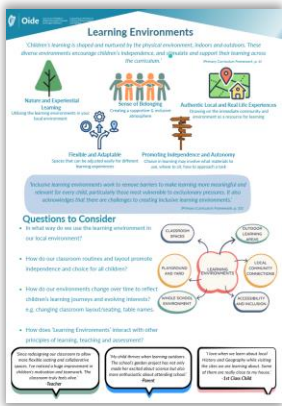
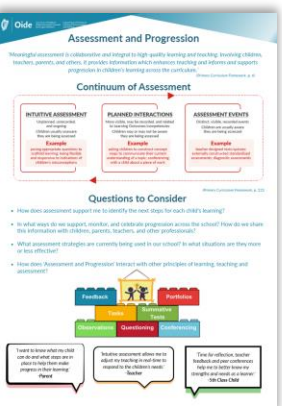
Strengthens teamwork and sharing of best practices

Aligns staff efforts toward achieving shared goals

Developing a Shared Understanding



Read p.7 PCF



Read support document

What is my key learning?

Did anything surprise me?





If Well Developed, What Might I Experience...



As a Child

What might it look like?



As a Teacher

What might it look like?



As a Parent

What might it look like?



As a School

What might it look like?





Reflecting on Our Current Context, What Do We Experience...



As a Child

What might it look like?



As a Teacher

What does it look like?



As a Parent

What might it look like?



As a School

What does it look like?



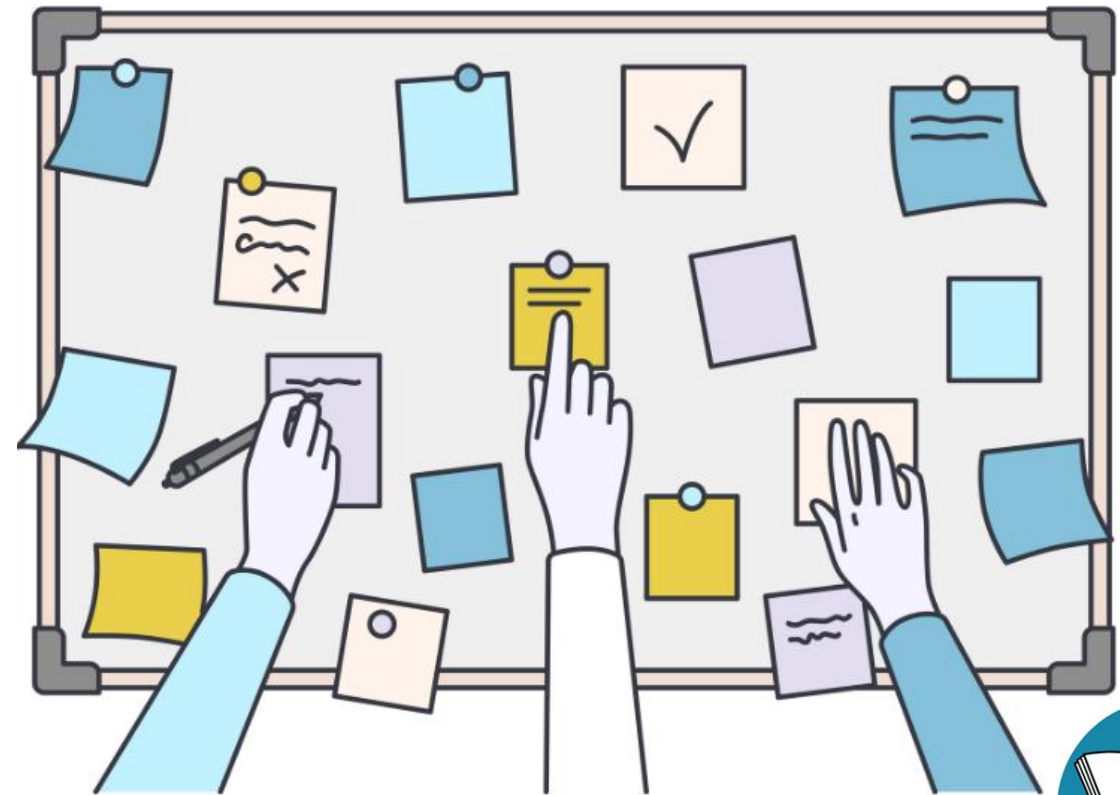
Identifying Opportunities



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What opportunities exist to build upon current practice?

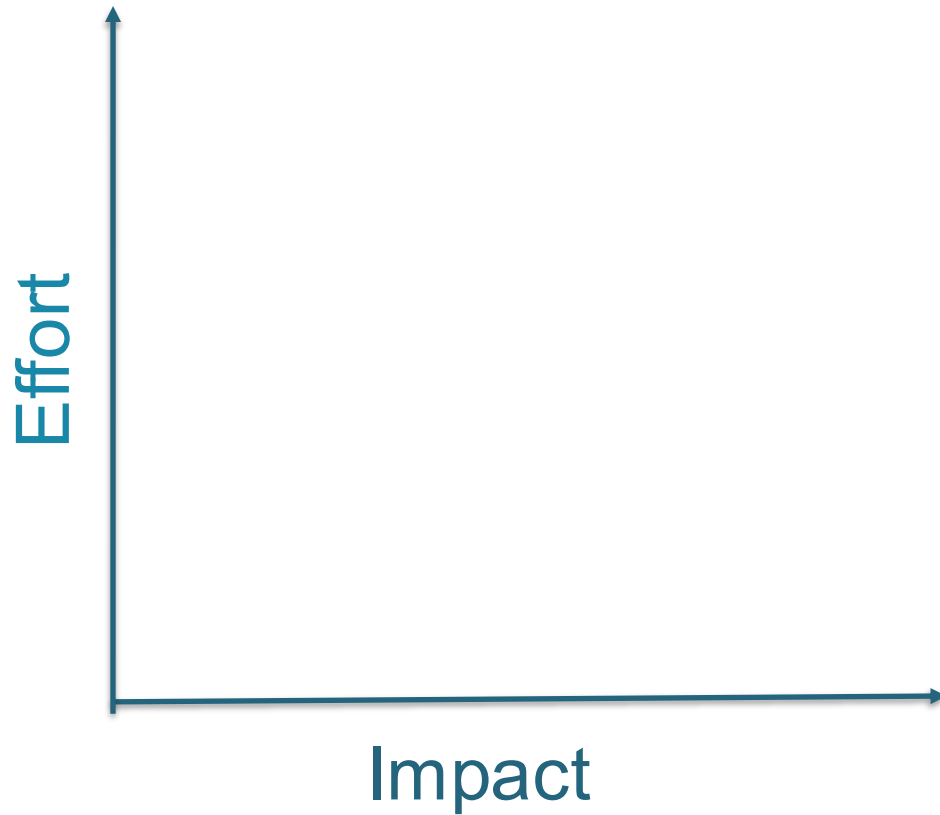
Select 3 possible actions for further consideration.



Impact, Effort and Balance



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What will be the **impact** on learning, teaching and assessment?

What will be the **effort** required from all to develop and maintain?

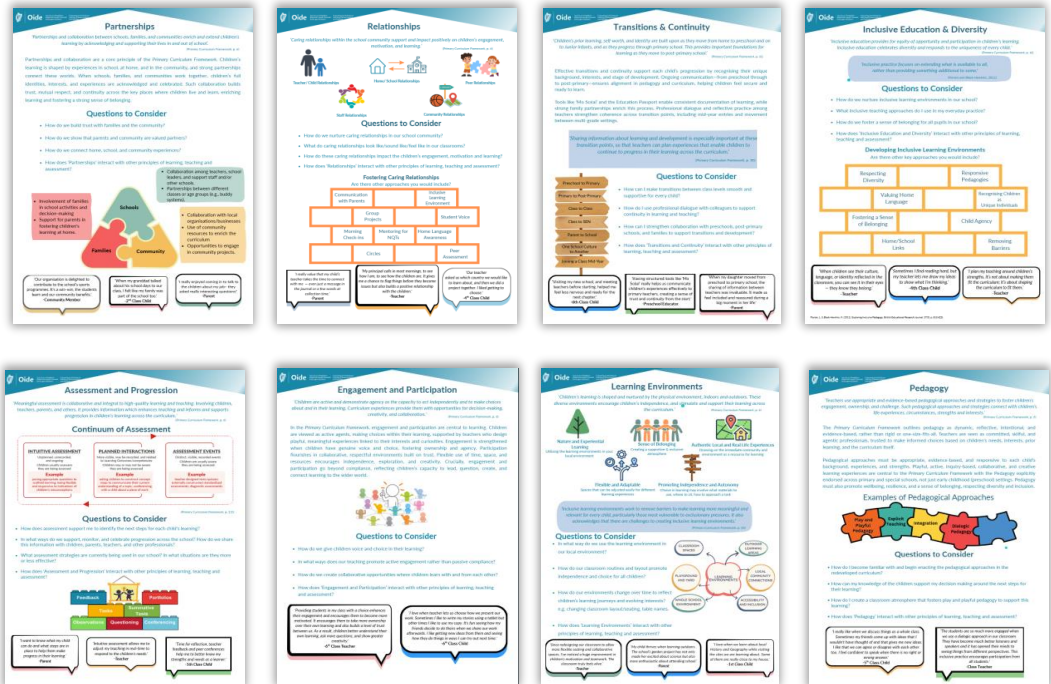
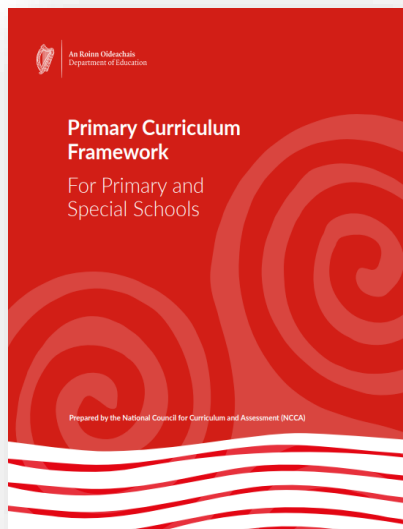
How does this interact with other aspects of curriculum and is **balance** present?



Developing Agency



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Impact

Effort

Balance


As a child


As a teacher


As a parent

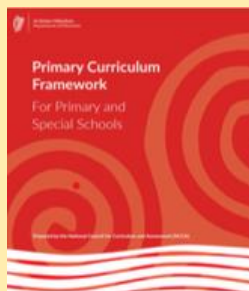

As a school





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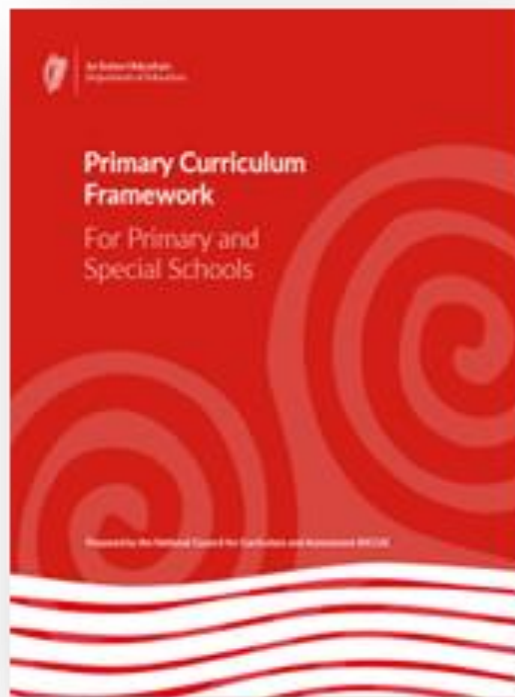




Key Learning & Next Steps

Key Learning

Next Steps



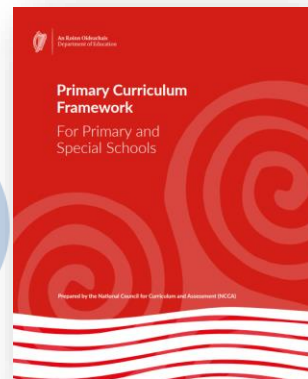
Further Supports



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www.curriculumonline.ie



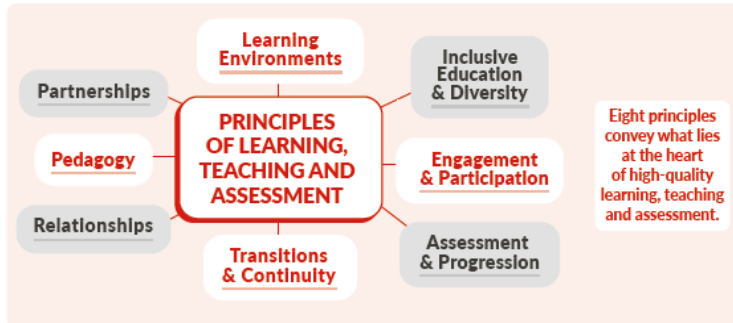
NCCA Podcast

The Redeveloped Primary School Curriculum



The curriculum:

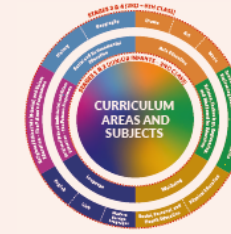
- aims to provide a strong foundation for every child to thrive and flourish
- views children as unique, competent and caring individuals
- recognises the right of all children to make progress in all areas of their learning
- views teachers as committed, skilful and agentic professionals
- supports continuity of learning from early childhood through primary and special education and into post-primary education



Seven key competencies are embedded to foster children's deep learning and contribute to their holistic development.



The Primary School Curriculum is presented in five broad curriculum areas.



Find out more about the Primary Curriculum Framework, Specifications and Toolkits at www.curriculumonline.ie



An Roinn Oideachais agus Oige
Department of Education and Youth



Online Leadership Support Clinics



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What?

Online leaders' clinics to support Primary Curriculum Framework discussion and enactment for your school's unique context

Who?

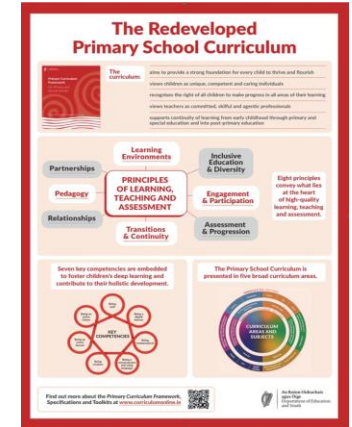
Principal or Deputy Principal / Assistant Principal meet online with an Oide Leadership Division Professional Learning Leader.

When?

On Thursdays, beginning February 12th – June 2026
Approximately 25 minutes duration

How?

Book in advance through the QR Code link here



PLE Feedback & Final Words



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We appreciate your feedback.

Please follow the link below and complete the feedback form

<https://registration.oide.ie/feedback>

Steps to complete. Select:

1. School Level
2. Category: Teaching Staff
3. Language
4. School roll number — type 1st 3 numbers for suggested roll numbers
5. Respond to questions
6. Submit





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Thank You