



FORBAIRT 2026/27

PRIMARY

WHAT IS FORBAIRT?

Forbairt is a professional learning programme which provides school leadership teams with an opportunity to reflect upon and improve their ways of working together.

The programme encourages participants to deeply consider their current practice, both individually and as part of a school leadership team. Over the course of one school year, participants attend a number of professional learning experiences (PLEs) exploring and discussing leadership theory, as it relates to current Department of Education and Youth requirements for schools.

WHAT IS REQUIRED?

- An enthusiasm for and commitment to professional learning about leadership
- Each participant is required to attend and fully engage in all Forbairt programme PLEs.
- Participants are expected to share and discuss their learning at residential PLEs with all ISL team members.
- Each school team must conduct a school-based leadership learning skills project, focused on improving an aspect of their leadership teamwork, aligned to the Looking At Our School 2022 Quality Framework.
- Upon completion, schools submit a brief report on their leadership learning skills project.
- Each school team will make a short presentation on their learning at a shared learning celebration, upon completion of the programme

WHAT IS INVOLVED?

Over the course of the academic year, school-based Forbairt teams are supported through a comprehensive programme. This consists of a number of elements:

- Face-to-face PLEs
- Online PLEs
- Leading and implementing a school leadership skills improvement project
- Provision of in-school leadership support from an Oide Professional Learning Leader (PLL)

WHO?

Forbairt is open to school leadership teams comprising of the experienced school principal (who will have completed 5 or more years in their role), a deputy principal, and one other school leader*.

**(Smaller school settings are accommodated by the inclusion of a teacher leader who may not have a formal leadership/assistant principal role in the school)*

WHERE?

The face-to-face element of Forbairt for the 2026/27 school year will take place in **Ennis, Sligo and Navan Education Support Centres**. Other education support centres will be chosen for subsequent years.

HOW TO APPLY

[The Forbairt application form can be accessed by clicking here.](#)