




## RESEARCH PLAN 2022 - 2026

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP

PROGRAMME [www.instructionalleadership.ie](http://www.instructionalleadership.ie)  @ILProgramme

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## *National Steering Committee Members*

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

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

Ms. Sarah Buckley, Graduate & Principal, Shull Community College, Co. Cork

Dr Sharon Coffey, Graduate & Principal, Coláiste Aindriú, Co. Carlow

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

Ms. Siobhain Grogan, Graduate & Teacher, Gael Choláiste Chill Dara, Naas, Co. Kildare

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

Dr Finn Ó Murchú, Head of Education Department, Mary Immaculate College, Thurles Campus

Mr. Gerard O' Sullivan, Graduate & Education Officer, NCCA

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

Dr Rebecca Saunders, Assistant Professor in Education, Mary Immaculate College, Thurles

Ms. Veronica Walsh, Deputy Principal, Coláiste Treasa, Kanturk, Co. Cork

Ms. Paula Fitzpatrick, IL Administrator, Education and Training Board Ireland

## ***Research Sub-Committee***

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

Dr Sharon Coffey, Graduate & Principal, Coláiste Aindriú, Co. Carlow

Dr Finn Ó Murchú, Head of Education Department, Mary Immaculate College, Thurles Campus

Dr Rebecca Saunders, Lecturer, Mary Immaculate College, Thurles Campus

Ms. Paula Fitzpatrick, IL Administrator, Education and Training Board Ireland

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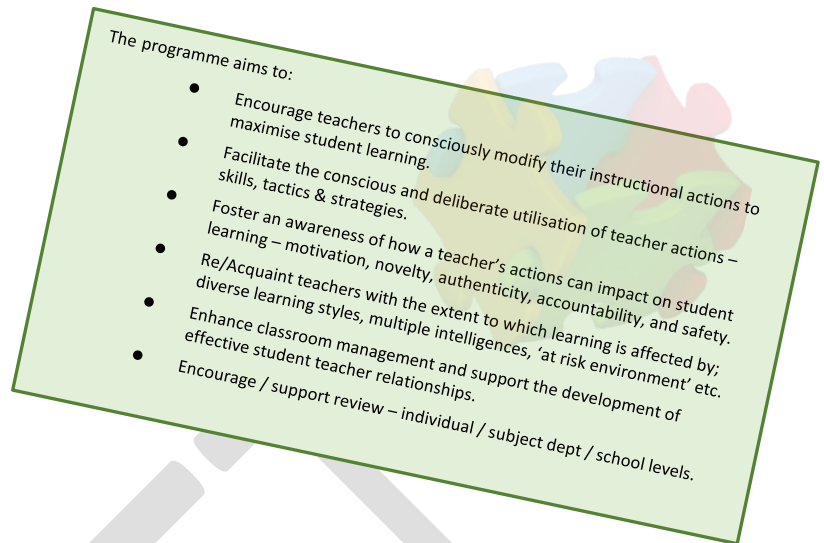
This Research Plan was approved by the Instructional Leadership National Steering Committee at the meeting of 19/01/2023 and published on [www.instructionalleadership.ie](http://www.instructionalleadership.ie) thereafter.

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## 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.

Engaging with research is instrumental in the furthering the development the Instructional Leadership Programme as a programme responsive to the needs of all school leaders. Research will provide us with evidence to inform our future actions and contribute to the development of knowledge around instructional leadership. In 2021, the Centre for School Leadership (CSL) endorsed the ILP and as part of that endorsement they recommended that a research plan be put in place. We thank CSL for their advice, in response we established a Research sub-Committee and are pleased to publish this Research Plan, which sets out the proposals to conduct research across a range of areas over the period 2022 – 2026.



Joan Russell  
Chairperson  
National Steering Committee

## *ILP 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.

## Master Research Plan 2022 – 2026

Research Priority Area:	Aim of Research:	Researcher:	Research Method(s):	Timeline:	Presentation of Findings:
<b>Professional Reflection &amp; Collaborative Practice in the Instructional Leadership Programme.</b>	This research aims to measure the impact of the Professional and Collaborative Reflection Module of IL Programme on teacher learning and reflective practice.	Dr Rebecca Saunders & Dr Sharon Coffey	This research will be conducted using a mixed methods approach.	Q3 2022 – Q3 2024	Q1 2025
<b>Developing and Supporting Principals and Deputy Principals as Instructional Leaders</b>	This research aims to track the impact of a new programme, designed through an international partnership, to develop and support Principals and Deputy Principals as Instructional Leaders.	Dr Sharon Coffey & Ms. Joan Russell	This research will be conducted using a mixed methods approach.	Q3 2023 – Q2 2024	Q 1 2025
<b>Explore teachers' experiences of engaging in the ILP.</b>	Doctoral thesis complete, papers to be published.	Dr. Sharon Coffey		Q3 2023 – Q3 2024	Q4 2024
<b>Conduct an evaluation of the impact of the Instructional Leadership Programme on Irish post-primary education.</b>	A tender process will be commenced by Q4 2023				



<b>Explore the experiences of primary school teachers who have completed the ILP and the impact it has had on their classroom practice.</b>	This research aims to measure the impact of the ILP on their classroom practice		This research will be conducted using a qualitative approach	Q 2 2023	Q4 2024
<b>Explore the perspectives of post-primary school teachers' perception of the factors that contribute to effective professional learning experiences.</b>	One of the aims of this research is to inform the design and future delivery of the ILP and associated programmes for teacher professional learning.	Joan Russell	This research will be conducted using a mixed methods approach.	Q4 2022	Q1 2025

## ***Instructional Leadership Research Conference 2025***

**Q 1 2025**

**Aims:**

The Conference aims to create space for:

- The presentation of current results of research conducted in the Instructional Leadership Programme (Ireland).
- Creating collaborative links between academics and school personnel, aimed at the sharing of knowledge and the development of research practices at school level.
- Professional reflection and collaborative practice.

Instructional Leadership Programme  
Research Plan 2022 - 2025



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