



An Roinn Oideachais
agus Scileanna
Department of
Education and Skills



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

Under Action 88 of DEIS Plan 2017 the Department of Education and Skills and TUSLA committed to review the current provision of out of school education to inform future supports in this area. This review will assist in the development of a plan for a successful interagency approach to supporting groups such as children who have disengaged or are at risk of disengaging from the mainstream education system. The review will also add to the policy impetus for cross departmental and inter-agency working to support children and families, already initiated by the publication of Better Outcomes Better Futures the National Policy Framework for Children and Young People, the establishment of TUSLA and DEIS Plan 2017.

The Department of Education and Skills and TUSLA Educational Welfare Services have jointly established a Working Group to carry out the review. The group will review the current out of school provision and make recommendations with a view to improving education provision in this area. The group contains representatives from education stakeholders including the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, Solas, Education and Training Boards Ireland and the National Educational Psychological Service.

The scope of the review is defined as:

Formal education provision in the State for children aged 6-16 (or who have received less than 3 years of post-primary education, whichever is the later) who have disengaged or are at risk of disengaging from mainstream education.

The scope does **not** extend to education provision for children in:

- independent fee charging schools
- all categories of Home Tuition
- home education

A separate review of the Youthreach programme has been commissioned by SOLAS and is currently underway. Therefore to avoid duplication, education provision in Youthreach is excluded from the scope of this review.

The Terms of Reference for the Review as agreed by the Working Group, having due regard to the level of provision in the sector, are;

- 1. What does current provision for out of school education look like?*
- 2. What should it look like?*
- 3. How can the state provide for it?*

The Working Group is now inviting written submissions from interested persons or parties for consideration in relation to its work. In making your submission you are asked to use the template (**insert template doc for download**).

The Working Group will undertake to give equal and fair consideration to all submissions received. However, the Working Group cannot undertake to agree with, approve of or act upon any recommendations made.

The closing date for the receipt of submissions is Friday 6th April, 2018. Submissions should be emailed to outofschoolreview@education.gov.ie on the template provided.