



**An Chomhairle Náisiúnta
um Oideachas Speisialta**
National Council
for Special Education



February 2026 Newsletter:

Welcome to our latest issue of the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) Newsletter.

Our newsletter aims to keep you updated on the NCSE's latest news, projects, and professional learning opportunities. If you would like to continue receiving this newsletter, [sign up here](#).

July 17 Our 2025/2026 Teacher Professional Learning (TPL) calendar is available!

[Visit our calendar](#) to secure your spot!

Our TPL calendar is packed with enriching sessions, practical workshops and opportunities to support your professional journey.

School Calendar





European Agency for Special Needs and Inclusive Education.




Ireland is participating in the EU's Technical Support Instrument (TSI), which supports Member States in implementing reforms. This project aims to strengthen inclusive education systems in Ireland and Finland by promoting equitable learning opportunities and access to mainstream education.


Key activities include:

- Reviews of inclusive and special education
- Stakeholder engagement and workshops
- Development of reform roadmaps with goals and timelines
- Webinars, training, and study visits to Lithuania and Portugal
- Reports on legislation and teacher professional learning in both countries

Delegates from Ireland and Finland also took part in a peer-learning visit to Portugal in October 2025.

 **EASNIE marks 30 years of collaboration** towards a shared vision for inclusive education. To celebrate, they are hosting **Inclusion Talks** – a webinar series exploring current themes and challenges across Europe. A leaflet of seminars is available, and reminders will be shared on social media.

More resources:

 [EASNIE – Updates – National Council for Special Education – Working to deliver a better special education service](#)

Supporting Practice Education for Occupational Therapy students in the NCSE

➡ Practice education is a core part of occupational therapy (OT) training, with students completing over 1000 placement hours before qualification. In consultation with specialist leads and therapy management, the NCSE committed to supporting student placements as a meaningful investment in service development and future workforce planning. Since 2023, the East OT Team has hosted 10 students from the four Irish OT universities.


Facilitating placements has been a positive and rewarding development for the NCSE.

◆ **Being a Practice Educator** offers valuable opportunities to develop mentoring, delegation, assessment, reflection, professional modelling and bridging theory to practice. Students gain rich experience applying OT models to the NCSE




SUPPORTING PRACTICE
EDUCATION FOR
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY
STUDENTS IN THE NCSE

continuum of support. Their contributions have included co-facilitating teacher professional learning, supporting interventions like sensory circuits, conducting environmental audits, presenting at journal clubs and completing literature reviews to support resource development. They also **shadow OTs and speech and language therapists**, gaining insight into multidisciplinary school-based support.

 **From 2026, one placement from each university will be supported across the East and West OT teams**, strengthening practice education within the NCSE.


NCSE Inclusion

Cafes

 Unlock a year of meaningful professional growth with the NCSE School Support Programme—your pathway to tailored, practical, and collaborative learning designed to enhance inclusive teaching.

➡ From August to May, school leaders and teachers can access a clear, supportive process that connects them with expert guidance, timely communication, proactive resources, and reflective learning opportunities.







◆ Whether through whole-staff sessions, bespoke professional learning, or relaxed conversations at our Inclusion Cafés, the NCSE is here to empower schools to build confidence, strengthen practice, and improve outcomes for all learners.




TACAÍOCHT SCOILE AN CNOS
Iarratais ar Thacaíocht Scoile d'Fhoghlaim
Ghairmiúil Múinteoirí
Ó Lúnasa go Bealtaine

BEALÁI CHUN FÁS GAIRMIÚIL

Fiosraigh an próiseas agus an méid ar féidir leat
súil a bheith agat leis ar gach bealach.

<p>1 Iarratas a dhéanamh </p> <p>Seolann ceannairí scoile iarratais ar thacaíocht ar Thairseach Scoileanna an CNOS ó dheidreath Lúnasa go tráth luath i mBealtaine.</p>	<p>2 Tráthúil </p> <p>Déanfaimid cumarsáid leat agus freagróidid d'iarraidh gan mhoill.</p>
<p>3 Réamhghníomhach </p> <p>Déanfaimid beagmhúil leis an gcomhairleoir atá sannta duit nó cuirfidimid na hacmhainní, na seimíneáir, na seimíneáir ghréasáin agus na seisiúin foirne tionsaíne in iúl duit atá deartha nó sceidéalaithe againn cheana féin.</p>	<p>4 Tacúil </p> <p>Tacóimid leat ar líne nó i bpearsan ag ar gcaiféanna lonchúimsithe. Tugtar an tsoláraitheacht don scoil chun coime a chur in áiríte a oireann dóibh. Cuirfear seisiúin mhachnaimh ar súil ina dhiaidh sin.</p>
<p>5 Freagrúil </p> <p>Chun cleachtas a leabú níos mó i scoileanna áirithe, tabharfaimid cuireadh duit freastal ar TPI sainchaptha bunaithe ar a mhacasamhail de riaschtanais atá ag múinteoirí ó scoileanna éagsúla nó socróimid tacaíocht bhreise a thabhairt duit le himeacht ama.</p>	<p>6 Machnamh </p> <p>Cuirfidimid deiseanna ar fáil i rith gach bealaigh chun machnamh a dhéanamh agus fíoróidid tionchar an chleachtas múinteoirreachta agus na foghlama scoláirí.</p>

Caiféanna lonchúimsithe an CNOS



- Titeann iad seo amach in ionaid, cosúil le hionaid Oideachais ar a laghad uair sa mhí
- Tugtar tacaíocht agus óltar cupán tae nó caife
- Maireann seisiúin uair an chloig
- Cuirfear seisiúin leantacha mhachnaimh ar fáil.

Take our feedback Survey!

Complete our very short survey below to assist us in making our Newsletters more engaging and useful to you.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8VZBGCY>



Don't miss out on future updates, events, and professional learning opportunities from the NCSE

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