

**DEEPEN**

# Droichead: Exploring and Eliciting Perspectives, Experiences and Narratives

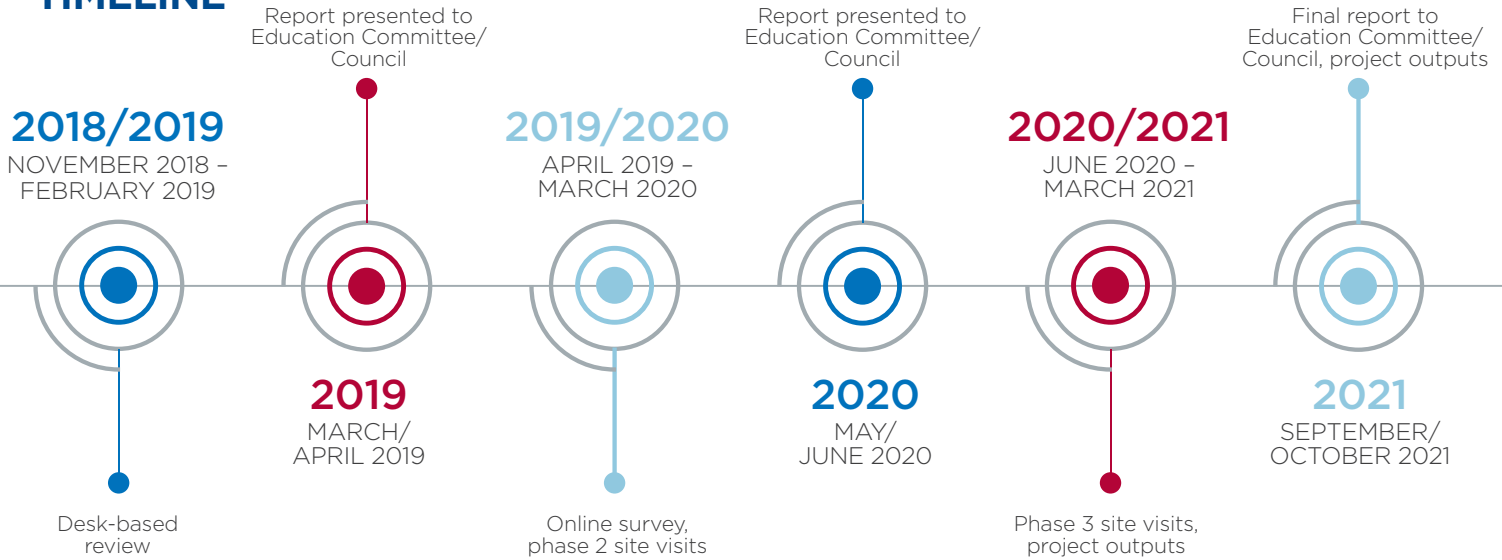
Induction can bring together all who have an interest in teacher quality (Bartell, 2005). This MIE/TCD consortium brings together the shared knowledge and expertise of two institutions who have long histories in Initial Teacher Education at both primary and post-primary level, documented excellence in research in education nationally and internationally and a shared vision for a quality continuum of education in Ireland.

The researchers will use a Case Study approach as the overarching research methodology in this research. In summary, this will involve the use of *online questionnaires* to construct an overall profile of the Newly Qualified Teachers (NQTs), Professional Support Team (PST) personnel and Whole School personnel. The data from the online questionnaires will also be used to form the sub-samples for the *NQT focus groups*, the *PST focus groups*, the *Whole School focus groups* and researcher – and participant-generated *visual diaries*.

## METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW



## TIMELINE



## PERSONNEL

### Field Research Team

#### Primary Team:

- Dr Julie Uí Choistealbha (*Principal Investigator and Primary team lead researcher*)
- Dr Anne Ryan (*DEIS Lead*)
- Deirdre Murphy (*SEN lead*)
- Sinéad Lambe (*Research assistant*)

#### Post-Primary team:

- Dr Melanie Ní Dhuinn (*Post-Primary team lead researcher*)
- Prof Michael Shevlin (*SEN lead*)
- Dr Mark Prendergast (*DEIS lead*)
- Shelli Garland (*Research Assistant*)

#### Cross-sector members:

- Dr Jennifer Liston (*Logistics coordinator*)
- Dr Claire Dunne (*Gaelscoileanna/Scoileanna Gaeltachta lead*)
- Dr Andrew Loxley (*Visual data collection lead*)
- Shanna Ní Rabhartaigh (*Research assistant & translator Gaelscoileanna/Scoileanna Gaeltachta*)

### Research Advisory Team

**Independent chair:** Mary Burke

#### MIE representatives: SoE TCD representatives:

- Dr Seán Delaney
- Dr Colleen Horn
- Ena Morley
- Prof Michael Shevlin
- Carol Ann Ó Síoráin

#### International advisors

- Dr A. Lin Goodwin (*Hong Kong*)
- Dr John Marvelle (*Massachusetts, USA*)
- Dr Robert Macmillan (*Massachusetts, USA*)
- Dr Jean Ware (*Wales*)
- Suvi-Marja Holkeri-Salmesvuori (*Finland*)
- Dr Brahm Norwich (*United Kingdom*)

*National Body Consultative Forums will be held during the research project*

## ETHICS

Full ethical approval will be sought from the MIE Ethics in Research Committee and the SoE TCD Ethics Committee.

# METHODOLOGY - PHASE BREAKDOWN & OUTPUTS

## PHASE

## EXEMPLARS OF GOOD PRACTICE

## OUTPUTS

**PHASE 3**  
Final reporting

To focus on:

- *Taisce* (which supports the process of portfolio-based learning);
- the format for observations, professional conversations, recording data;
- the innovative and effective use of allocated resources including release time, shared learning bursary, etc.;
- the NQTs' contribution to enhancing their own *Droichead* experience;
- the development of school-based resources and templates;
- the formation of shared learning networks across schools;
- the innovative use of the Council's Shared Learning Bursary, etc.

- Final report
- Exemplars of best practice (national)
- ebook/video for Teaching Council website
- International conference
- Online sharing space

**PHASE 3**  
Small schools

### Differences and similarities between primary and post primary

#### Primary

- teachers' experience of the *Droichead* professional induction process
- its contribution to their **professional learning**
- its impact on **school culture**

#### Post Primary

- teachers' experience of the *Droichead* professional induction process
- its contribution to their **professional learning**
- its impact on **school culture**

- Qualitative data from site visits to proportional sample of SEN, DEIS, Gaelscoileanna/*Scoileanna Gaeltachta*, small schools
- Visual data from each school (images)
- Written report for Phase 2

**PHASE 2**  
DEIS, SEN, GS

## DROICHEAD

- The **duration** of the *Droichead* process
- The **standards** underpinning *Droichead*
- **Challenges and opportunities** for schools and NQTs, with a particular focus on the identified settings
- The **impact** of *Droichead* on teachers' learning and on school culture
- *Droichead* **quality assurance** process
- Interface between **ITE** and *Droichead*
- **Resources** and support for *Droichead*
- The role of **school leadership** in directly and/or indirectly supporting the *Droichead* process.

- Survey results from all schools implementing *Droichead* process (>1000 schools)
- Data Analysis
- Written report

**PHASE 2**  
Survey of all *Droichead* schools

## DESK BASED REVIEW

+ International good practice in specific settings

Research Advisory Team

- Comprehensive review of national and international literature on induction/probation
- Exemplars of best practice (international)

**PHASE 1**

## Dr Julie Uí Choistealbha

*Marino Institute of Education*



**Dr Julie Uí Choistealbha** is a Senior Lecturer and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Marino Institute of Education. Her areas of responsibility include the Bachelor in Education (Primary Teaching) course, School Placement and undergraduate programmes in Marino. Julie teaches on the Professional Studies and Advanced Professional Studies modules for B.Ed. and PME students and on the Work Placement, Transitioning to Higher Education and Internship modules for B.Sc. in Education Studies students. She is a placement tutor on the B.Ed. and PME programmes and is involved in the supervision of students on Erasmus+/ study abroad programmes. She is also a dissertation supervisor for students on undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.

Julie's research interests include work-based learning for undergraduate and postgraduate students of education (initial teacher education and education studies), the Irish language, the use of ePortfolios in competency-based assessment, programme design, school/university partnership and the role attitudes, perceptions and motivation play in the teaching and learning processes. She is the Irish lead in the Erasmus+ funded Empowering ePortfolios Process project with colleagues from Finland, Denmark, Belgium and Portugal. Julie is a Trinity College Research Fellow in the School of Education's Research in School Education (RISE) research group, a member of the TCD Associated Colleges Degree Committee and sits on the steering committee of the Post Primary Languages Initiative (PPLI). She previously worked as a primary school teacher, an induction coordinator for newly qualified teachers and as an Irish language teacher.

### Contact details:

[julie.uichoistealbha@mie.ie](mailto:julie.uichoistealbha@mie.ie)

01 805 7723

## Dr Melanie Ní Dhuinn

*Trinity College Dublin*



**Dr. Melanie Ní Dhuinn** is Assistant Professor of Teacher Education in the School of Education, Trinity College, Dublin. She is course coordinator of the Professional Master of Education (PME) post-primary initial teacher education programme. Melanie works across Teacher Education (B.Mus Ed and PME), Master of Education (M.Ed) and Doctorate (D.Ed and PhD) courses in the School of Education and is a research supervisor and examiner for PME, M.Ed, Ph. D and D.Ed candidates. She is also a School Placement tutor across various strands of the PME. Melanie lectures in Teaching Pedagogies, School Placement, Research Methods and in the Sociology of Education. She is module coordinator for the Academic Literacy and Research Methods (ALRM)

module on the M.Ed course. Her research interests include Teacher Education, Technology in Education, Assessment, Curriculum design, Teaching Pedagogy, An Ghaeilge Mar Mheán Teagaisc, and Research Methodology. She is also a member of the Research Ethics Committee and a member of the Executive Committee of the School of Education. Prior to working in Teacher Education Melanie worked as a Teacher of Physical Education and Gaeilge before being seconded by the Department of Education and Skills. Melanie is an invited conference speaker at national and international education and education technology conferences and is a published author nationally and internationally. She is currently Cathaoirleach ar Bhord Bainistíochta Gaelscoil Moshíológ, Guaire and is a representative of An Foras Patrúnachta on the Board of Management Creagh College, Gorey.

### Contact details:

[mnidhuin@tcd.ie](mailto:mnidhuin@tcd.ie)

01 896 3488