



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education

Meet the Inspector

A child's guide to inspection
in pre-school



A cartoon illustration of a woman with long brown hair, wearing glasses, a blue blazer, black pants, and high heels. She is waving with her right hand and holding a brown briefcase in her left. She stands on a sidewalk in front of a large, yellow brick school building with a clock tower. The building has a red roof, a central entrance with steps, and several windows. The background shows green grass and a blue sky.

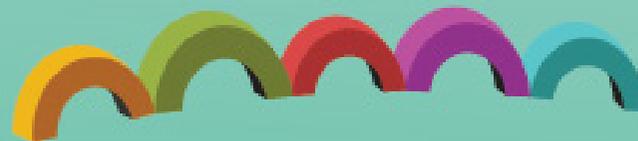
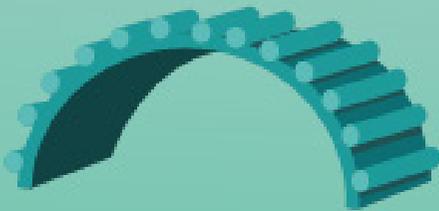
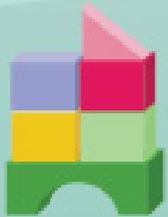
Hello everybody!

My name is Niamh
and I'm an inspector.

I am here to tell you that one of my inspector friends will visit your pre-school very soon.



The inspector wants to find out if your pre-school is a good place for all of the children to play and learn.



When the inspector arrives, she will say hello to the teachers and all the girls and boys.

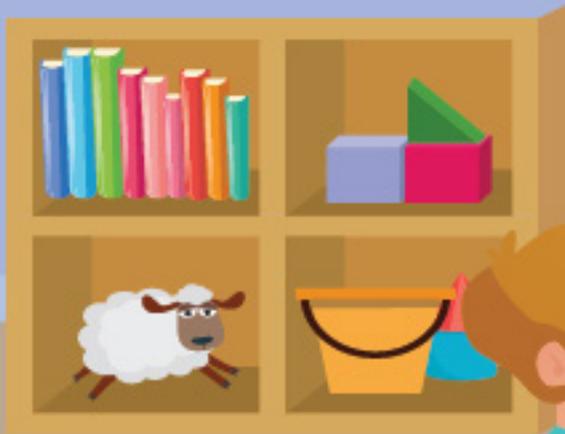
Hello!



The inspector will sit with you and your friends for a little while and watch you play.



She will talk to you about
all the nice things you
like to do in pre-school.



What do YOU like to do?



Do you like to have fun
dressing up ...



... singing songs ...



... playing with the sand ...



... or building big high
towers?



Do you like to go outside
to play?



The inspector will look at artwork and photographs and your learning journals or special books.

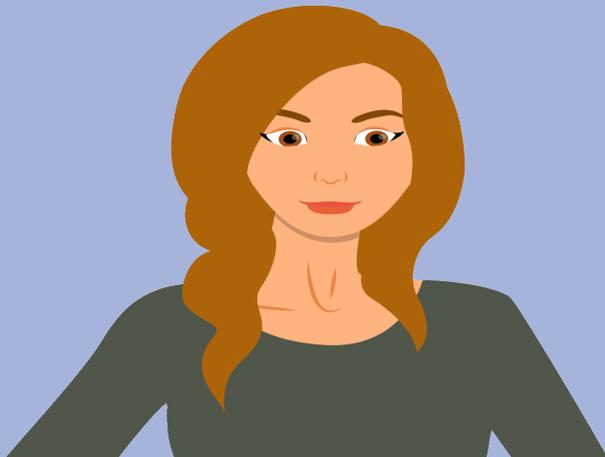
The inspector will look at how your teacher helps you to play and learn.



The inspector will often write notes so that she will remember what she saw.



She will talk to your teacher about all the nice things she saw. She will give your teacher some good ideas about how to help you learn and play.



Before the inspector leaves the pre-school, she will say goodbye to you, your friends and your teachers.

Goodbye!



Next, the inspector will go to her office and write a report about your pre-school.



She will write about all the good things she saw. She will also write down some ideas that could make your pre-school even better.

Your teacher, your parents and anyone else who wants to, will be able to read the report on the internet.



Before I say goodbye, I just want to say, the inspector is really looking forward to meeting you and hearing about all the exciting things you are doing and learning.

I hope that you will enjoy the inspector's visit to your pre-school!

Goodbye!



This booklet is an information resource for children in Early Learning and Care (ELC) settings about inspection and the work of Department of Education inspectors.

We want to help children to be better informed about inspection so that they may interact confidently with visiting inspectors.

We use the terms 'pre-school' and 'teacher' in this booklet – rather than 'early years educator/practitioner' and 'early learning and care setting' – as these terms are most commonly used by children in ELC settings.

You can also find a video and information leaflet for children in ELC settings about inspection [here](#)

This booklet may be used also by learners in other education settings as appropriate.

Information videos and information leaflets for children and young people attending primary and post-primary schools are available at:

gov.ie/en/publication/d3832-guide-to-inspection-for-children-and-young-people



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education