



The Education and Training Inspectorate
Promoting Improvement

Providing inspection services for:
Department of Education
Department for the Economy



Department of
Education
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Mr Gerry Murphy
Northern Secretary INTO
Chairperson NITC

19 May 2022

Dear Gerry

Thank you for your letter dated 4 May 2022. Please pass on my thanks to your NITC counterparts for the recognition in your letter of the improved working relationships and as you rightly point out the potential benefits for all, and most importantly for children and young people. I can provide unreserved assurance to the members of INTO, UTU, NEU and NAHT that ETI has no intention of varying our planned work as a result of the NASUWT action; normal industrial action protocols for trade unions will be respected fully.

An update of ETI's planned work for the current term was published on 29 April 2022, and is available [here](#). As outlined in the update, inspection of individual organisations for the most part remains paused. In going about our work, we will respect the right of the members of the NASUWT to take legitimate industrial action. In addition, as stated above, there will be no expectation for members of INTO, UTU, NEU and NAHT to assume additional responsibilities or others' workloads on behalf of NASUWT members during an inspection or evaluation visit. To date, all planned follow-up inspections have proceeded as planned.

As the last of the Empowering Improvement sessions come to a close, I want to express my appreciation for the NITC's support and advice throughout this Project. We will continue to engage with you on the development of the quality improvement strategy, along with the groups of middle leaders who have expressed an interest in follow-on engagement from the Empowering Improvement project. We are confident that the quality improvement strategy will be all the better as a consequence of this engagement.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should any of your members have any concerns or issues, as early communication will allow me to address any issues and resolve any difficulties in a timely manner.

Yours sincerely,

Faustina Graham
Chief Inspector

