

## **DE/2026-070– Freedom of Information Request**

### **Request:**

Please can I make a FOI request in relation to the ETI contact with schools between full inspections, through visits by the school's district inspector, and other types of inspection activity, such as evaluations and specialist inspections which look at a particular area of a school's provision.

### **Department Response:**

Thank you for your email dated 15 April 2026 to the Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI), in which you requested the following information, further to your original request of 13 April 2026:

*“Please can I make a FOI request in relation to the ETI contact with schools between full inspections, through visits by the school's district inspector, and other types of inspection activity, such as evaluations and specialist inspections which look at a particular area of a school's provision.”*

In respect of Section 1(1)(a) of the act I can confirm that the Education and Training Inspectorate holds the information requested and I provide it below.

ETI maintains contact with schools between full inspections through visits by the school's district inspector and through other inspection activity, including evaluations and specialist inspections/visits that focus on specific aspects of a school's provision. There is no prescribed or fixed pattern of contact with schools. For thematic evaluations, a selection of schools is chosen based on factors such as geography and size; schools are generally visited no more than once a year for this type of activity.

Each district inspector decides annually which schools to visit. Decisions are professional judgements, informed by the inspector's ongoing knowledge of schools. There is no set rotation or timetable for district visits. Schools are prioritised based on a range of variables, rather than a fixed pattern of contact.