

CONFERENCE FACILITATOR

LOUISE TOBIN, IPPN DEPUTY PRESIDENT



Louise has been principal of St. Joseph's Primary School in Tipperary Town since 2009. She previously worked for a year with School Development Planning as a facilitator, and for a further year with the Primary Development Service for Teachers as an advisor, during which time she completed post-graduate studies in School Planning. Louise worked in Grange NS, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary for 20 years, and was Acting Principal there for 2 years. She has experience as both teaching and administrative principalship.

Louise was the Tipperary representative on the IPPN National Council since 2017 and is currently serving her second term on the Board of Directors. Louise is an active member of the local principals' support group in Tipperary Town and is also a member of the Principals of ASD Classes Network Group in Tipperary. Louise is a trained and active CSL mentor and is the Chairperson of the Cahir Branch of the INTO.

Louise has a strong interest in school planning as a powerful means of promoting school effectiveness and development. Louise has advocated strongly for the past 5 years on behalf of pupils living in areas of disadvantage, seeking extra resources under the DEIS scheme and has been successful in getting a package of interim measures for the children in Tipperary Town until the next rollout of DEIS.

Louise was elected IPPN Deputy President/President-elect in June 2021 and will serve as president from September 2023 to August 2025.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

PÁIRIC CLERKIN, IPPN CEO

Páirc is the Chief Executive Officer of IPPN. He was educated in St. Vincent's CBS Primary and Secondary Schools, Glasnevin, and obtained his teaching degree from St. Patrick's College. His first teaching post was in St. Francis Xavier SNS, Dublin 15. In 2001, Páirc was appointed as the founding Principal of St. Patrick's National School, Diswellstown in Dublin 15. He served initially as a teaching principal, and in 2003 became an administrative principal, following rapid expansion of the school. His sixteen years of experience as principal, close collaboration with his principal colleagues in Dublin 15 and his engagement with IPPN over a number of years heightened his appreciation and understanding of the complex challenges faced by school leaders in their diverse educational settings.



Páirc was an active member of IPPN Dublin for several years and served as chairperson from 2007 to 2010. In 2009, he was elected to the IPPN Board of Directors, and was appointed Treasurer in 2015. He presented a number of workshops at IPPN annual conferences and delivered CPD modules at IPPN County Network meetings, also representing IPPN on the 'Education Matters' editorial team. During his tenure on the Board, Páirc initiated a pilot project to ascertain the feasibility of remote full-time administrative support for a cluster of teaching principals of small schools. He has also contributed to IPPN publications and submissions to the DES and Joint Oireachtas Committee on Education and Social Protection on a number of topics.

Páirc was appointed as CEO of IPPN in 2017.

BRIAN O'DOHERTY, IPPN PRESIDENT



Brian qualified as a primary school teacher in 1988. He began his teaching career in St. Patrick's Loreto P.S. and served there as a mainstream class teacher for 13 years. He completed his M. Ed during this time, specialising in the areas of Education Management & Administration and Educational Psychology. He was appointed to his first principalship in 2001 in Loreto College Junior School where he worked for 5 years. He returned to St. Patrick's Loreto P.S. in 2006 as principal. The school currently has an enrolment of just under 800 pupils and has 63 members of staff.

Brian has been a member of IPPN since 2001 and is a former member of the National Council. He was elected to the Board of Directors in 2016 and has served as Treasurer of the organisation from 2017 to 2019. He was elected as IPPN Deputy President/President-elect in June 2019 and is currently serving as President from September 2021 to August 2023.

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION, NORMA FOLEY TD

Norma Foley is the Minister for Education. She was appointed to this role in June 2020. Norma was elected to represent the Kerry constituency in the 2020 general election.



She was previously a member of Kerry County Council for the Tralee area, serving from 1994 until her election to the Dáil in 2020. She also served as a member of Tralee Urban District Council until its abolition in 2014.

You can contact Ms Foley at norma.foley@oireachtas.ie

DR. HAROLD HISLOP, CHIEF INSPECTOR AT THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Dr Harold Hislop became Chief Inspector at the Department of Education and Skills in 2010. Prior to joining the Inspectorate, Harold taught at primary and university level and he worked as an education and development officer at the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment during the development of the *Primary School Curriculum*.

Since 2010, he has led a series of reforms in the inspection and evaluation of schools in Ireland and has lectured to international conferences on evaluation and inspection in France, Ireland, the UK, Malta and Abu Dhabi.

He is a member of the senior management team at the Department of Education and Skills and was closely involved in the development of the Department's Literacy and Numeracy Strategy 2011-2020, which includes a broad range of actions for system improvement in the early childhood, primary and post-primary sectors. He is a current member of the Governing Board of the Centre for Educational Research and Innovation at the OECD.

CIARA O'DONNELL, NATIONAL DIRECTOR, PDST

Ciara is a primary school teacher on secondment from Scoil Nano Nagle in Clondalkin, Dublin where she worked as a Home School Liaison Co-ordinator for six years. Initially, Ciara was seconded to the Primary Curriculum Support Programme (PCSP) as a trainer/cuiditheoir for the revised Primary Curriculum. Ciara was then appointed National Co-ordinator for History, Geography and Science with the PCSP, after which she was appointed Deputy Director for Curriculum and Development for the newly established Primary Professional Development Service (PPDS).



On the establishment of the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST), Ciara held the roles of National Co-ordinator for DEIS support and Regional Co-ordinator for Education Centre regions 1 and 2. Ciara became PDST's Deputy Director for Research and Design, before being appointed National Director of the service.

DR HARRY BARRY



Harry is a Drogheda-based practitioner who has almost 40 years' experience as a medical doctor with most of that spent as a full time GP. He has a long-standing interest in mental health and in improving our understanding of the role of neuroscience in both the cause and indeed the treatment of the main mental health illnesses such as major depression, anxiety disorders, addiction and indeed suicide itself. He has developed a holistic approach with an emphasis on the combination of combining Neuroscience concepts, lifestyle changes and where necessary drug therapy, with the application of simple CBT approaches to effectively manage these approaches. He retired from full time general practice in 2013 to focus on mental health. He now works on a consultancy basis combining clinical practice, writing, media and public information lectures as well as assisting fellow GPs, nurses and therapists and is also a member of an international group working on the importance of cognition in depression.

His last book *Self Acceptance* was an international number one bestseller. In it, Harry explores why the terms self-acceptance, self-respect and self-actualization are more helpful in developing positive mental health. His other books include:

- Embracing Change – How to build resilience and make change work for you
- Emotional Resilience: How to safeguard your mental health
- Emotional Healing: How To Put Yourself Back Together Again
- Toxic Stress: A step-by-step guide to managing stress
- Flagging the Problem: a new approach to mental health

<https://www.drharrybarry.com/> - You can follow Dr Harry Barry on Facebook, on Twitter and on YouTube