



## Assent Form for child/young person wishing to join a focus group during a Subject Inspection

An inspector from the Department of Education will visit your school to check the quality of learning and teaching in [SUBJECT]. This is known as a subject inspection.

The inspector will talk to a group of students about what it is like to study [SUBJECT]. This is called a focus group.

You will find a short information video about focus groups [here](#). If you want to be in the focus group, please fill out this form.

### Why participate?

The inspector wants to hear from young people about their learning. Students' views and ideas are important.

### Focus group details



Where: In your school



When: During the school day, for one class period



What: Discussion with the inspector about learning in the subject



Who: There will be up to ten students in the focus group. If more than ten students volunteer to take part, the inspector will make the final decision about who takes part.

Participation is voluntary, and it is okay to just listen

### The right to withdraw

You can leave the focus group at any time.

### Use of Information

The inspector will summarise key points from the focus group to share with the school. Participating students will not be named or identified in any record of the meeting or in the inspection report.

### Data protection

All data gathered will be processed in line with the Department's data protection procedures.

### Inspection report

The inspection report will be available on the Department of Education website available [here](#). The report will have a page for students.

### Please read and sign below:

- I want to join the focus group, and I know why I am joining.
- If more than ten students want to be involved, the inspector will choose who gets to be in the focus group, so I understand that I might not be selected.

- I do not have to answer any questions if I do not want to, and it is okay to just listen.
- I can leave the focus group anytime without explaining why.
- I will talk about my own experiences in learning the subject. I know that this is not a test.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Consent Form to be signed by parent/guardian in the case of children/young people under 18 years of age who wish to take part in a focus group

The Department of Education Inspectorate evaluates the quality of education in schools. Your child's school will have a subject inspection in [SUBJECT].

The inspection will focus on:

- Learning, teaching, and assessment
- Provision and whole-school support
- Planning and preparation

Activities during the inspection include:

- Meetings with the principal and subject teachers
- Reviewing planning documents and school policies
- Evaluating classroom learning and teaching, including student engagement and work



During the inspection, the inspector will meet with a group of students to learn about their experiences in the subject. This is called a focus group. Your child is invited to volunteer for this.

### Focus Group Details

**Purpose:** To hear about students' learning experiences.

**Participation:** This is voluntary. The focus group will take place during one class period with up to ten students participating. If more than ten students volunteer, the inspector will select the participants from those who volunteered.

**Right to Withdraw:** Students can withdraw from the focus group at any time without consequences.

**Usage of Information:** General notes about the discussion may be included in the inspection report on the Department's website. The inspection report, which includes a page for students, will be published on the Department of Education website available [here](#).

**Confidentiality:** Students will not be identified in any discussion with the school, records or reports.

**Data protection:** All data gathered will be processed in line with the Department's data protection procedure.



More information for parents/guardians is available [here](#) on the Department of Education website.

### Consent:

Please sign below if your child wishes to volunteer:

- I give permission for my child to take part in the focus group.
- I understand that selection may be necessary if more than ten students volunteer.
- I understand there will be suitable supervision during the focus group.
- I know my child's participation is voluntary and they can withdraw at any time without giving a reason.
- I am aware my child will not be identified in any records, discussions with the school, or reports.

**Child's name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed (Parent/Guardian):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_