

# The National Focus Areas for 2012 are:

## 1. School Self Review Processes:

We will be looking for areas of good practice around school based policy and programme review as well as how you set and monitor achievement towards school goals. What is your school's vision? How long has that been your vision statement? Is it still what your staff, students and community want?

## 2. Early Childhood Education:

Over recent times we have been very impressed with Early Childhood classrooms and programmes. ECE teachers are doing a great job in an area that the rest of us are probably only just starting to understand properly in terms of the different approaches and pedagogy to ECE. In this focus area we will be looking particularly at the resourcing of ECE – staffing and operational resources as well as the way in which ECE is integrated into school management documents such as policies and budgets etc.

## 3. Student Assessment Information:

Increasingly, schools are strengthening their data collection methods and most now have very good assessment information on students. In this focus area we will be looking at how schools use this information to make decisions about programmes and resource distribution.

## 4. "Student Tracking":

Our students are quite mobile. Most will change school at some time of their student life. The current School Manual has all sorts of forms and templates that are supposed to be used to track the movement of students and their records when they change school. We feel that the current system, when it is used, is quite cumbersome and through this National Focus Area we will work with schools to try and find an easier, streamlined method for this process.

