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**Collaborative professionalism: an exploration of the role and professional learning needs of the Treoraí in supporting a student teacher during the practicum experience of an Initial Teacher Education programme in Ireland**

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# *Collaborative professionalism; An exploration of the role and professional learning needs of the Treoraí in supporting a student teacher during the practicum experience of an Initial Teacher Education programme in Ireland.*

## AIM

To explore the role and the professional learning needs of the Treoraí in supporting student teachers during this practicum element of the Professional Master of Education (PME) programme.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To examine the views of the Treoraí regarding their role in working with student teachers during school placement.
2. To understand the professional learning needs of the Treoraí to support student teachers during school placement.

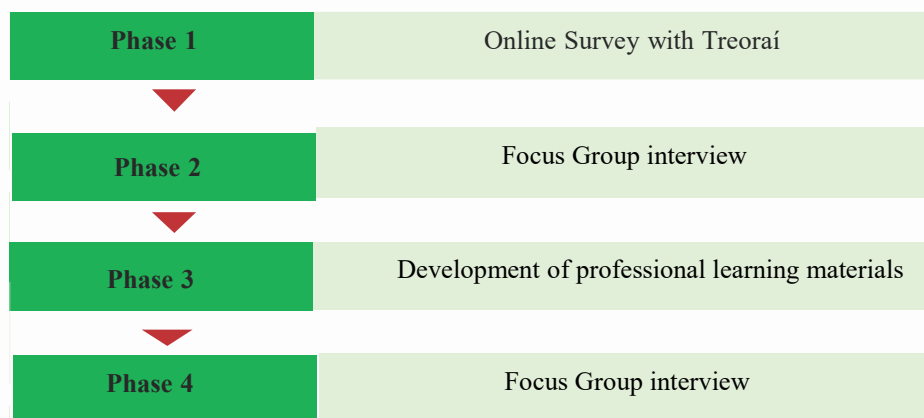
## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- A. How do Treoraithe perceive their role in working with student teachers during school placement?
- B. How do Treoraithe describe their professional learning needs so that they may support student teachers during school placement?

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## RESEARCH DESIGN: METHODOLOGY

An **action research methodology** is being employed to investigate the professional learning needs of the Treoraí. A mixed methods approach will be adopted which is both quantitative and qualitative, and situated within a pragmatic paradigm.



“If cooperating teachers are to be effective supporters of student teachers on placement, they need appropriate training and ongoing opportunities to share their practice in this regard.”

Hall, K. Murphy, R. Rutherford, V. Ní Áingléis, B. (2018) *School Placement in Initial Teacher Education*, UCC DCU

## PARTICIPANTS

Treoraithe working with student teachers (n=230) on school placement in February 2024.



The term **Treoraí**, the Irish word for guide, replaces the term Co-operating Teacher and more accurately reflects the nature of the role of a teacher who supports and guides the student teacher during his/her school placement experience.

Céim: Standards for Initial Teacher Education In accordance with Section 38 of the Teaching Council Acts, 2001-2015 October 2020