

Inez Bailey has been the Director of the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) since 1997. NALA is a non-profit membership organisation concerned with national co-ordination, training and policy development in adult literacy work in Ireland.

Inez joined NALA in 1995 as Programme Manager of a research and development project, funded under the EU EMPLOYMENT initiative. She co-authored the resulting research publication *Access and Participation in Adult Literacy Schemes* in 1998 whose recommendations formed key elements of first state policy on adult literacy.

As Director of NALA, Inez has been responsible for initiating the development of the first national quality and assessment frameworks for the adult literacy service, devising a nationally accredited online and distance learning service, using TV to significantly increase participation rates in adult learning and mainstreaming workplace literacy programmes. Current work includes advising on the implementation of the first strategy for further education and training in Ireland.

A graduate of NUI Maynooth, Inez completed a Bachelor of Arts in English, History and Sociology in 1990. She then went on to complete a Masters in History and a Higher Diploma in Adult and Community Education and is currently studying with the University of Sheffield towards an Education Doctorate.

Inez is chair of the Southside Partnership, Mounttown Neighbourhood Youth and Family Project and Rockford Manor Board of Management, a board member of CORU, the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs and a member of the Healthy Ireland Council.