



MINUTES OF LIMERICK AND CLARE EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

**COVID-19 - LCETB BOARD MEETING WAS CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM AND WAS
NOT A FACE TO FACE MEETING**

on Tuesday, 23rd February, 2021, at 4 p.m.

Present: Cllr. Kieran O'Hanlon, Chairperson
Cllr. Clare Colleran Molloy
Mr. Michael Cregan
Cllr. Michael Donegan
Ms. Elaina Fitzgerald
Cllr. Liam Galvin
Mr. Michael Guilfoyle
Ms. Sheila Hickey
Cllr. Gabriel Keating
Cllr. Sarah Kiely
Cllr. Joe Killeen
Mr. Sean McMahon
Cllr. Paul Murphy
Cllr. Ann Norton
Mr. Mark O'Dea
Mr. Donal ÓhAiniféin
Cllr. John Sheahan
Cllr. Elena Secas
Cllr. Brigid Teeffy

In attendance: Mr. George O'Callaghan, Chief Executive
Ms. Shelagh Graham, Director of Organisation Support and
Development
Mr. Paul Patton, Director of Further Education and
Training
Mr. Donncha O'Treasaigh, Director of Schools
Mr. Denis O'Brien, Head of Corporate Services and ICT
Ms. Joanne O'Brien, Recording Secretary, Corporate
Services

1. For Consideration; Apologies/Condolences

Apologies: Ms. Catherine Hehir

Condolences:

A Vote of Sympathy was passed to the following:

Ms. Patricia Kennedy (Further Education and Training
Department) on the death of her mother, Ms. Mary Kennedy.

Ms. Bernie Pearse (retired Marshal House) on the death of her mother in law, Ms. Kathy (Catherine) Pearse.

Mr Michael Carmody, (Caretaker Kilkee), on the death of his brother, Mr Damien Carmody.

Mr. Alan Hogan (FET, Ennis Campus) on the death of his sister in law, Ms. Fiona Hanrahan.

Mr. James Blackwell (Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh) on the death of his grandmother, Ms. Brigid Carey.

Mr. Sean Carmody (LCFE) on the death of his sister, Ms. Marian Carmody.

Ms. Lisa O'Connor (Shannon Town Campus) on the death of her husband, Mr. Mike O'Connor

The family of Late Ms. Margaret Cunningham (Shannon Town Campus).

The family of the late Ms. Tracey Quinn (former teacher, St. Nessian's (Thomond Community College).

Ms. Anne O'Donnell Smiddy (LCFE) on the death of her sister, Ms. Mary O'Donnell.

Ms. Fiona Mann (Ennistymon Vocational School) on the death of her mother, Ms. Mary Mann.

Ms. Anne O'Sullivan (Ennistymon Vocational School) on the death of her father, Mr. Frank Hillary.

To the Family and the Presentation Order on the death of Sr. Claude Meagher.

Ms. Theresa McGoldrick, (Ennis Adult Education), on the death of her mother, Ms. Bridget McGoldrick.

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interests

All Board Members confirmed no conflict of interest with any Agenda item.

3. For Adoption;

Minutes of Meeting of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, held on 19th January, 2021, were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Ann Norton, seconded by Cllr. Michael Donegan.

4. For Consideration; Matters arising from the Minutes

None

5. Governance:

a. Business Continuity Plan incorporating COVID-19 Update

The Chief Executive briefed Member on the measures and supports to date within the organisation.

The Board noted that there was no change nationally since last meeting but that guidance on reopening of schools was imminent.

The CE advised Members that assessments in the FET area had to be postponed but that discussions were ongoing with stakeholders in relation to same. The CE advised that there would be challenges in relation to assessment in relation to time constraints.

The Board noted that remote working was labour intensive on staff and there were significant challenges and stated that tremendous credit was due to all staff working across the organisation.

The CE advised the Board that engagement was extremely high and that devices were accessible for all learners. The Board paid tribute to the LCETB in relation to the provision of devices for students and learners and paid tribute to staff across the organisation in ensuring services were ongoing during the pandemic.

The Board noted that special classes has resumed and resumption of classes had been very successful.

b. Strategy Statement 2022-2026

Ms. Shelagh Graham briefed the Board on preparations for the 2022-2026 Strategy Statement. The Board noted that the current plan was coming to conclusion at the end of 2021 and that the process was now beginning for the next Strategy Statement. The Board noted that the CE had appointed an Internal Strategy Development Team and this will be headed up by Ms. Graham, Director of Organisation, Support and Development. Ms. Graham advised the Board that the Strategy Statement must have regard to policy directions of the Minister and must have regard to the financial resources that are likely to be available to give effect to the strategy statement.

Ms. Graham outlined the consultative process which will incorporate online questionnaires, focus groups and senior management. She advised Members that a questionnaire would be issuing to them for completion. The Board noted that a final draft would be completed by November.

6. Correspondence

Department Correspondence

CL 0002/2021

26th January,
2021

Re: Arrangements for Inspectorate Engagement with
Post-Primary Schools and Centres for Education
January - June 2021.

- CL 0003/2021** Re: Waiver of Abatement of Public Sector
29th
January,
2021 Pensions.
- CL 0004/2021** Re: Prescribed Material for the Leaving
29th
January,
2021 Certificate English Examination in 2023.
- CL 0008/21** Re: Graduate Certificate in the Education of
11th
February,
2021 Pupils on the Autism Spectrum (AS) for teachers working with Pupils on the AS in Special Schools, Special Classes or as Special Education Teachers in mainstream Primary and Post-Primary Schools, 2021/2022.
- CL 0009/2021** Re: Post-Graduate Diploma Programme of Continuing
11th
February,
2021 Professional Development for Special Education Teachers, 2021/2022.
- CL 0010/2021** Re: Teacher Fee Refund Scheme 2020.
January,
2021
- CL 0011/2021** Re: Post-Graduate Certificate/Diploma Programme
of Continuing Professional Development for
Teachers working with Students with Special
Educational Needs (Autism Spectrum Disorder).

**7. For Consideration; Chief Executive's Report Incorporating;
Schools and Youth Work**

**Post Primary Schools
Supporting students with Additional Education Needs**

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board has responded to the need for increased provision and care for students with Additional Education Needs (AEN) and their parents and guardians with the considerable expansion of special classes and Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Units over the last two years. Our ETB is aiming to provide a special class or ASD Unit in every school across Limerick and Clare over the next five years. All of our new schools include provision for two ASD Units. Our ETB is working very closely with Deirdre Bourke, Area Manager with the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) to improve access to special classes and ASD Units in Limerick and Clare.

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board & NCSE Policy

Students with special educational needs should, where possible, be educated in mainstream classes along with their peers, with additional support provided as necessary. Special classes (Schools are requested to use the term 'special class' in preference to the term 'unit' which has medical rather than educational connotations) are part of a continuum of educational provision that enables students who present with complex special educational needs to be educated, in smaller class groups, within their local mainstream schools. They offer a supportive learning environment to students who are unable to access the curriculum in a mainstream class, even with support, for most or all of their school day. Students enrolled in special classes should be included in mainstream classes to the greatest extent possible, in line with their abilities.

What is an ASD Special Class?

In order to access a special class a student must have a report from a relevant professional or team of professionals (for example, psychologist, psychiatrist, school based intervention team) stating that:

1. S/he has a disability (in line with the designation of the special class in question)
2. S/he has complex or severe learning needs that require the support of a special class setting and the reasons why this is the case.

The professional report must meet Department of Education requirements for the particular disability in question. Under no circumstances should a school place a student in a special class without such a professional report.

An ASD Class is provided for

- Six pupils for 1.5 teachers (33 hours)
- Two SNA's
- One SNA per 3 pupils, 2nd SNA when 4th pupil enrolls
- For a child with a diagnosis of ASD and a recommendation for a special class place (usually from HSE team: Blackberry, St Gabriel's [Treehouse], East Limerick, West Limerick, Clare Children's Services)

Current & Planned provision for students with Additional Education Needs in Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board schools

The Director of Schools briefed the Board on provision of supports for students with additional needs in Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Schools.

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board schools have increased the number of special classes from five in 2019 to fifteen special classes for September 2021. This is a significant increase to cater for the needs of students in our communities. We are working closely with NCSE to review the projected need for additional classes in schools across the region.

The table below outlines the provision of Special Classes throughout the network of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board post primary schools from September 2021.

County	Special Class / ASD Unit
Clare	4 Classes
Limerick City	2 Classes
County Limerick	9 Classes
Total	15 Classes

Supports for Schools

Schools have been supported in the development of inclusive school practices including ongoing support of Special Education Needs Coordinators (SENCOs), Additional Education Needs Teams in schools, Boards of Management, school leaders, teachers and Special Needs Assistants (SNAs). All Admissions Policies for Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board schools include very clear information for parents/guardians on admissions of students with Additional Education Needs.

The Schools Division Support Team liaise closely with National Council for Special Education (NCSE), Deirdre Bourke, Area Manager with the NCSE, Dr. Johanna Fitzgerald, Head of SEN in Mary Immaculate College, Limerick and Dr. Jenny McMahon, University of Limerick.

Staff Development and ongoing supports:

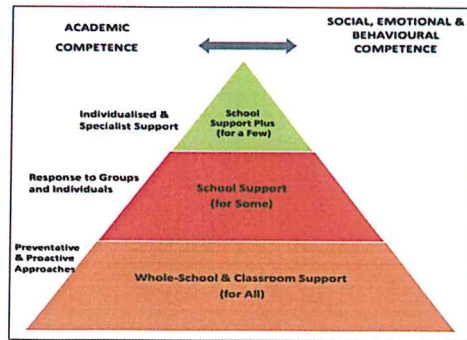
Students in special classes require experienced teachers with appropriate qualifications and, wherever possible, a background in working with students with special educational needs. Schools are very proactive in meeting the continuing professional development needs of their special class teachers, in addition to developing and reviewing their whole school policies in relation to the education and inclusion of students with special educational needs.

Continuum of support

- A significant resource for schools
- Teacher allocation model - Special Education Teacher (SET)
- To support inclusion
- To ensure that the resources are allocated to the students with the greatest needs
- Hours based on the school profile

Continuum of Support

- For Few: 1-2% of students with complex needs
- For Some 10-20% of students in-class, team teaching, group withdrawal
- For All: 100% whole school inclusive approaches



1. Resources provided to support students with special educational needs should be used to facilitate the development of truly inclusive schools.
2. Supports provided to students with special educational needs should be based on identified needs (no reports required) and be informed by regular reviews of progress (in consultation with parents and students).
3. Mainstream teacher has primary responsibility for the progress and care of all students in the classroom and to differentiate and deploy whole school approaches.
4. Hours to be used solely for the support of students with identified special educational needs, including English as a Language (EAL). These cannot be used to reduce the student-teacher ratio for general subject teaching or to provide additional subject options for students.
5. Students with the greatest levels of need should have access to the greatest level of support, and whenever possible, these students should be supported by teachers with relevant expertise.
6. A Student Support File is maintained by all schools for each student receiving support, this includes a support plan for each student.
7. Schools should establish and maintain a core team of teachers to meet the needs of students with special educational needs.

The Board thanked Mr. Donncha O'Treasaigh, Director of Schools for the comprehensive briefing provided to them.

Following a frank discussion on the provision of ASD units for children who require additional learning supports, it was agreed by the Board that the ETB should be seen as the lead in the provision for same in the region but this would be done in partnership with other patrons.

Members expressed their concern at the lack of units in some schools and that all schools should be in a position to provide for same.

It was agreed that a consultative forum, spearheaded by Limerick and Clare ETB, would be convened with all patrons, to ensure the needs of all children were catered for in all schools across the region.

Community National Schools

Mol an Óige CNS, Ennistymon, Co. Clare

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board welcomes the news that the Department of Education has approved the development of a new 8 classroom Primary School with Special Education Needs provision for Mol an Óige Community National School. The new school will be at a greenfield site at Sroohil, Ennistymon, Co. Clare. The ETB will now proceed to tender for a design team for the project.

Principals Meetings

Regular meetings via Zoom have been ongoing with the Principals of our three Community National Schools in order to fully support the schools with Remote Learning and continuous development and enhancement of services to students and parents.

Post Primary Schools

Covid-19 Level 5 Restrictions - Remote Learning - 11 January to 12 February 2021

All schools commenced with Remote Learning on 11 January 2021. Schools have managed teaching and learning, continuous assessment, student support, guidance counselling and assemblies via combinations of Microsoft Teams, Zoom or Google Meets.

Parent Information evenings and Parent Teacher meetings have been organised via Zoom to enable important school business in relation to liaising effectively with parents/guardians on the progress of their child/children. Reports from parents/guardians on Parent Teacher meetings via Zoom have been extremely impressive.

All schools have or are in the process of surveying all parents/guardians, students and staff in relation to the use of digital technologies for the period of Remote Learning that commenced on 11 January 2021.

One uplifting Story!

The Director of Schools requested all schools to submit one uplifting story or news from the last five weeks. In spite of the challenges Covid-19 has presented, schools have been extremely creative on a range of fronts to encourage innovation and connection amongst the school community.

Mol an Óige, Community National School, Ennistymon

As we take a pause in the term, all at Mol an Óige CNS are grateful that we are safe and sound and as connected with our children and our school community as we possibly can be. Since January, we have been engaging with our pupils via Aladdin, Zoom, Whatsapp, email, An Post, telephone, pre-recorded videos and newsletters.

Our spirits were lifted recently with the news that the ETB would be proceeding to tender for a design team for our new school. We are thrilled!

With a lot of outdoor activities, especially in the Infant classroom, we were delighted in January to take delivery of a boot drying rack with space for twenty pairs of wellies. No more damp feet!

If you go to our Facebook page, you can see a couple of video tutorials made by our new social media stars - one showing how to make St. Brigid Crosses and the other how to make scones. You won't be disappointed!

Glenroe Community National School

Glenroe Community National School and its pupils have actively participated and engaged in a wide range of educational activities during the recent period of remote learning. With wellbeing and creativity in mind, pupils took part in a Photo of the Day Challenge, an Active Week Challenge and a Fancy Dress Assembly.

We are using 3 online platforms to inform our schools remote learning plan; Padlet, See Saw and Zoom. During a recent Live Zoom Session, Múinteoir Julie was invited "virtually" to one pupil's piano performance from her sitting room.

Zoom has proved to be the most popular platform as it allows for more personal daily interactions with pupils, their families and even younger siblings who are always keen to join in our activities and fun.

Raheenwood Community National School

Staff and students at **Raheenwood Community National School** have been **very busy since January with the compilation of its very own School Recipe Book**. Students, parents/guardians and staff have all been enjoying some of the recipes from the school recipe book. Students also took time to carve some beautiful creations from the recent snow falls incorporating the theme of the Vikings which students are currently learning about.

Thomond Community College

Live Kidney Transplant Surgery - Thomond Community College students

Students from Thomond Community College who are interested in a career in Medicine enjoyed a fantastic opportunity to view live kidney transplant surgery and interact with Operating Room staff at Saint Barnabas Medical Center, in Livingston, New Jersey on February 9th. This exceptional opportunity was provided by Junior Achievement & the Johnson & Johnson Bridge to Employment programme.

The students watched the living donor transplant surgery from start to finish with close-up camerawork showing the intricate procedure. The chief surgeon gave a running commentary on what he was doing and also answered questions from the virtual audience. Students heard about organ donor awareness, organ procurement and surgical procedures. Kidneys for transplantation can come from either deceased or living donors. At Liberty Science Center, the case the students viewed featured living organ donation which has a higher success rate. Seeing

the kidney producing urine within minutes of the final stitching of the blood vessels was truly amazing.

St Anne's Community College, Killaloe

Our main focus is always on Wellbeing, and to turn "the Me to the We". We have been running our 5 Weeks to Wellbeing, and for Connect week, our Chaplain sent a small care package to each member of staff including a magnet, chocolate and a card to keep spirits up. We continued with our S.O.S. initiative which we have been running since September, much like D.E.A.R, our S.O.S. means Step Outside; physically, outside our comfort zone and outside our subject. Our 6th years had a full S.O.S. day last week when they had a Tech free day from their classes, and attended a wellbeing workshop online with Brainbox.ie. Our last day of school before the Mid Term break will see each year group enjoy an S.O.S. class when all will attend The Big School Quiz, staff and students will compete to be the virtual table quiz champions!

Scariff Community College

Home Economics Dept. held a 'Great Valentines Bake Off' competition this week. Our first years and TY students took to the challenge with great enthusiasm and skill under the guidance and scrutiny of Mary Berry & Paul Hollywood (aka Ms. Newell & Ms. Keating !!!) With such talented students producing such amazing creations we will certainly be having the bake off in school next year with Ms. Russell & Ms McNamara already volunteered as chief tasters!

Kilkee Community College

We celebrated the great news and achievement of our senior cycle students getting 2nd place at the BTYSE Biological and Ecological category in early January. The three students, Ciarán Bonfil, Fionn Doherty and Fergal Keane with their teacher Ms Egan continue to be in much demand for interviews showcasing their eco friendly project. Next up is a presentation at the 'Science for Development ' event on 24 March.

Together online, the school commemorated the sad passing of loved members of our school community.

Attempting to get the school/work-life balance right, students and teachers took to pounding the pavements, pathways, bogs, beaches, roads and treadmills of West Clare to clock up the steps and the kilometres. This was a fitness challenge for students organized by their teacher and a fundraiser /wellbeing drive for teachers for the month of February.

Coláiste Chiaráin

BT Young Scientist and Technology Awards

Two of our 2nd Year students, Seán O'Sullivan and Taha Nije have claimed 2 top prizes at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition.

Their project entitled "Shining a Light on School Coronavirus Cleaning Protocols", focussed on the effectiveness of the cleaning strategies implemented in light of the coronavirus in schools.

Seán and Taha were winners of the Junior Chemical, Physical and Mathematical Group Award and were also awarded the Irish Research Council Award. Their project has since featured in the [Irish Research Council Blog](#).

All Ireland Linguistic Olympiad Preliminary Round 2021

Congratulations to Dmitri Salyshka, 6th Year, who has qualified for the All Ireland Linguistic Olympiad Final which will take place virtually on March 10th.

Ennistymon Vocational School

Our Online Experience since January

Our experience has been hugely positive where we used the School Self-Evaluation (SSE) process to engage with parents, students and staff to evaluate baseline data on what their current context was. We sent a survey to key stakeholders to identify their priority needs, we analysed this data and shared key information with our staff. Leaders decided on a course of action by identifying priority learning needs of students, staff and parents and we created resources, contacted parents and put supports in place to meet those needs. As a result of our survey and communication with parents, students and staff we have ensured that engagement of all key stakeholders has been high and the satisfaction rate of parents and students has exceeded our expectations.

Classroom Activities

Our online activities have been extensive and delivering highly effective teaching and learning has been our main focus. Resulting from evidence gathered with parents, staff and students we have utilised this data to ensure that students have a very positive experience in the online forum. We have compiled a structured timetable for all students to follow each day which gives them a consistent routine, we have ensured that all children are being taught in an inclusive way. Consistency was key for all classes and teachers ensure that some of the completion of work is integrated into class time to ensure that students feel supported and scaffolded in their learning.

Children who have additional needs and need extra support are getting targeted support from our very experienced Special Education Teachers. Our online inclusive teaching and learning programmes address all learning needs of students some of which are social and emotional, accessing the curriculum, behaviour management, etc. Individual support is also continuing.

Our Transition Year programme continues to thrive in the online forum and especially in their mentoring approach with Junior Cycle Students. Students are focusing on key skills by being trained in the Lift Student Leadership Programme which in the coming weeks they will facilitate and hold round table discussion with our second-year

students. The Business in the Community initiative is taking place with 2nd year students being very engaged online and this has strong cross curricular links to other subjects.

Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh

The spirit of the entire community of Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh was hugely uplifted with the news that current Sixth Year student Leah Mae Keogh has been awarded a Scholarship from Jones Community College in Mississippi, USA. Leah is a highly talented soccer player and her commitment to her sport has been justly rewarded with this two-year scholarship.

Leah is an exemplary student and will be a fantastic ambassador for Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh and her native Limerick when she travels stateside in July. Leah lined out in the Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh colours on numerous occasions over the past six years and truly is a gifted sports person. We are hugely proud of Leah's incredible achievement.

Guímid gach rath ar Leah agus beimid ag súil go mór leis na deá-scéalta a chloisteáil uaithi sa toadhcháil.

Mungret Community College

We have been very lucky in Mungret that our Google platform has allowed us to meet the challenge of Remote Learning. All our teachers have been able to engage students through live classes, recorded classes, sticking to a formal timetable for google meets and the use of google classroom/email for the submission of work and facilitating formative feedback to be given to our students.

Our Year Heads have held online assemblies for each year group on Mondays to give everyone a focus for the week and to allow students to ask questions about any issues they are experiencing with remote learning.

There has been regular contact with our parents through VShare and school reports, telephone calls from subject teachers, Yearheads and School Management. Parents are also kept up to date with weekly emails providing updates on remote learning, school development and planning. All parents have recently completed a Parent Survey on Remote Learning and we really appreciate the feedback and support from parents.

Our students have been involved in a steps challenge to keep their activity levels up, this has been coordinated by our PE department. Our SPHE teachers are regularly posting resources on line to help students to look after their own mental well-being.

Coláiste Íde & Iosef - Abbeyfeale

A virtual exhibition of students' artwork from Coláiste Íde agus Iosef ranging from 1st year to senior cycle has been published on-line. In collaboration with the Newcastle West Librarians Helena Falivan, Pat Galvin and our school, we created a short video of the creative endeavours of these students. Students were asked to submit their favourite artworks that were made as a result of the virtual learning experience in art during the lockdown of 2020/21.

In this work there is an emphasis on portraiture, still life and the use of mixed media. Some assignments were thematic for example a view through a window, which in particular captures an individual student's perspective of the lockdown. We also studied on-line galleries ranging from the Centre Pompidou in Paris to Kilkenny's Butler Gallery and we took inspiration from the animation "The Wolf Walkers" produced in association with the Butler Gallery.

[You can view the exhibition here.](#)

Coláiste Iosaef - Kilmallock

'Covid Child'

One of our students has created a beautiful piece which depicts the impact Covid-19 has had on all of us but particularly children and how the pandemic has turned their lives upside down.

The piece was created by Claire McNamara a sixth year art student.

Claire hopes to study art in Limerick School of Art and Design and has a passion for art.

The piece recently won a competition held by Holding it Together Apart who are a community development project supported by Dublin City Council.

Claire's piece will feature as the book cover for their upcoming publication. Claire has also allowed the school to retain the piece and in the coming weeks, we will hopefully be able to place it in the school building and it will act as a reminder of this difficult period of time but will also show us the resilience and creativity that all our students harbour inside them.

Desmond College - Newcastlewest

In the midst of a difficult and unsettled school year, the arrival of Desmond Radio has been a bright spot on our Monday mornings. It brings the school together at a time when we are furthest apart and gives us a much needed sense of the strength and unity of our school community. Overseen by our music teacher Ms. Jude Keane; it is presented by 6th year student Oisín O'Sullivan and produced by 6th year student Fiona Kelly, who have both kept the show on the road during this lockdown. They are ably assisted by a number of reporters and contributors in each year group. It brings us school news, riddles, chat and has been a revelation in showcasing the outstanding creative and musical talent among our student body.

Our student voice is to the fore during this current lockdown with Student Council meetings, coordinated by Ms. Elaine O'Leary, taking place virtually through Zoom. Regular feedback is encouraged from our Student Council Reps, feedback which outlines for us the student view of remote teaching and learning and gives us opportunities to adjust and adapt to best suit our students. Desmond Radio has helped encourage our students to stay in touch with their Student Council Reps.

GAA Going Well & Michael Cusack Centre

Clare County Council, Limerick and Clare Education Training Board and the Michael Cusack GAA Centre have commenced with an exciting new Wellbeing initiative called the 'Going Well Clare: Schools Programme'.

'Going WeLL Clare: Schools Programme' is a unique initiative that is configured to confer human growth and social development on foot of a sustained process of Wellbeing & Lifelong Learning (WeLL). In this context, the programme can also serve - on an 'all of school' basis - to ensure that "Everybody Is Going WeLL" or to deliver on the commonly espoused educational aspiration that "Nobody Is Left Behind".

It has been developed by people with experience and expertise, and fulfils the obligations of the Department of Education's 'Wellbeing Policy Statement and Framework for Practice'. Trials in 20+ schools around the Country in the past year have confirmed how the featured themes and lessons can have a powerful impact - on a class, year group or specific cohort - within the Post-Primary sector.

Based on the World Health Organisation's understanding of the multi-dimensional nature of the 'Human Operating System', the featured lesson content and resources have been designed to nurture a sense of: 'Me', We, Us & Our Power' in a manner that nourishes a universal source of meaning & purpose. In this regard, participants are encouraged to activate and integrate their Biological, Psychological, Social, Intellectual and Ethical 'Energies' ('Enerethics') on the basis that this facilitates transition from the 'Me' (Self) to 'We' (Team or Class), 'Us' (School or Community), 'Our' (Society) and, in doing so, unleashes the transformational 'Power' of (Humanity).

With a goal of 'Cultivating Better Humans', the programme fosters character-building behaviours and instils shared values, by harnessing Activity, Positivity, Collegiality, Rationality and Morality in the most holistic and eco-friendly manner possible. In doing so, it embraces a diverse range of topics that include: Personal Values, Self-Realisation, Resilience, Mindfulness, Critical Thinking, Gratitude, Digital Savviness and Teamwork in everyday life so that participants - both teachers and students - are provided with the wherewithal required to cope with day-to-day challenges of life in the 21st century.

'WeQ' (Wellbeing Quotient) provides a ground-breaking mechanism for evaluating impact and tracking the extent to which 'Going WeLL' becomes a lived reality. It also traces the extent to which Humanistic Capacities provides a bedrock and building blocks for this. These 10 (10-letter) Capacities are as follows: Competence, Confidence, Commitment, Conviction & Connection, Management & Leadership Capability, Experience & Reflection.

This "Enerethics" Video link: <https://vimeo.com/491623034/6cfe1760e3> provides a short overview on the underlying concepts and constructs. Cuirfear béim faoi leith ar úsáid na Gaeilge mar teanga labhartha. (A specific emphasis will be placed on Irish as a spoken language).

'Going WeLL Clare: Schools Programme' includes extensive Resources, with Slide Decks available for each of its' 10 Themes and 30 Lessons, as well as a host of companion Videos and Computer Games. These are

available free to participating schools, while printed 'Reflective Diaries' can also be purchased for individual Learners.

Half of all post primary schools in Co. Clare are now delivering the Schools Going WeLL Programme.

UL Health Sciences & Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Joint Schools Event

The Schools Division of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board has worked closely with the Head of UL Health Sciences and the UL Hospitals Group to organise the Junior Health Sciences Academy 'Early Careers' event which will be held on 2 and 3 March 2021 via Zoom. This is a virtual event, hosted by the Health Sciences Academy together with Limerick & Clare Education and Training Board and Limerick Education Centre, to provide information on careers and programmes of study in health. The Health Sciences Academy is a partnership between the University of Limerick, UL Hospitals Group and Mid-West Community Healthcare. The Junior Health Sciences Academy is part of this partnership, aiming to support students in early careers, health promotion and leadership in health. We realise that Transition Year students cannot come to hospitals or other clinical settings for work experience. We have created this event to be as informative and interactive as possible, showcasing healthcare as an option for further study and career.

What will students learn?

Students will hear from healthcare staff who are working in hospital and community settings describing their working day, their career journey and advice for anyone interested in pursuing healthcare as a career.

Students will also hear from students in University of Limerick who are studying health sciences programmes, including nursing, midwifery, medicine, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, human nutrition and dietetics, occupational therapy, psychology and paramedic studies.

University of Limerick staff will also be on hand to give advice on programmes and entry requirements.

On the event day, there will be opportunities to ask speakers questions through the Q&A function and other interactive tools. Information on the event is also available on <https://www.ul.ie/hsa/>

Date	Venue	Topic	Duration
2 or 3 February 2021 7.00 pm to 8.30 pm	On-line via Zoom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code of Behaviour - Suspensions & Expulsions • Admission to Schools Act, Admissions Notice & Reviews/Appeals • Special Educational Needs & the Board of Management 	30 minutes (7.30 pm - 8.30 pm)

The evaluations from the training were very positive and attendees were very happy with the use of Zoom to deliver the training. Resources from all of the Board of Management training events have been emailed to all members of school Boards of Management.

Local Creative Youth Partnership (LCYP)

A meeting of the members of the steering group, the coordinator and Director of Schools took place on 25 November 2020 via Zoom.

The coordinator provided an update and information on the latest projects that the LCYP is offering in Limerick and Clare.

Programmes enabled by the Government July Stimulus package:

1. Creative Youth Art Clubs in collaboration with Schools Completion - Rathkeale and Kiltrush were unable to go ahead however, activity packs were distributed to Kiltrush with an overwhelmingly positive response. This programme will run in controlled physical spaces in Weston and in an online capacity in Ennis.
2. Nine Residencies in place with support from the July Stimulus package.

The Chairperson suggested video footage be taken for the purpose of documentation of the intensive range of work being carried out in the late months of 2020 which is happening with the support from the July Stimulus package.

Creativity Packs ranging from acrylics to drawing materials distributed across region including a direct provision centre.

Recruitment of a panel of tutors from a range of disciplines in drama, music and multi-disciplinary arts has been completed.

The Department of Education has confirmed funding of €100,000 for 2021 and the LCYP will be prioritising young people in the following categories:

- Young people living with a disability
- Young people living in Direct Provision
- Young people living in small rural communities with scouting groups to be specifically targeted

Upcoming Projects

- Youthreach Clare scheduled to exhibit in glór, Ennis in June of 2021.
- Art clubs to be completed and evaluated, with the possibility of extending into 2021
- Scairt na hÓige or similar youth festival is dependent on Covid-19 restrictions but may run on a smaller scale.
- Burren Wellness programme with Outdoor Education Centre and Michael Cusack Centre provisionally scheduled for February.
- Dance in Limerick City
- Rural area - scouts and youth clubs

The website which has been designed to support LCYP - www.lcyp.ie contains some wonderful videos of the inspiring work which is underway as part of this exciting initiative.

- **Creative Youth Art Clubs**
 - Link: <https://vimeo.com/509787484/bbec2535a1>
- **Foróige Croom**
 - Link: <https://vimeo.com/509790693/e7123a6ce8>
- **Residencies and Projects 2020**
 - Link: <https://vimeo.com/509814543/99381b263f>
- **East Limerick Multidisciplinary Arts Residency**
 - Link: <https://vimeo.com/509816869/7b4155652f>

Youthwork

A meeting of the Youthwork Committee took place on 21 January 2021 via Zoom. The Youthwork Team presented the committee with an overview of work and the continuous development of relations with services and groups and clarified questions from committee members. The ongoing impact of Covid-19 on young people and staff and organisations was acknowledged. The role of staff, organisations and volunteers in ensuring that innovative and high-quality supports were delivered to vulnerable young people across the region during the crisis, was acknowledged.

Summer Youth Work Programme - The importance and benefit of the scheme was highlighted in feedback from organisations, who were strongly supportive of a similar initiative in 2021. All recipients of the grant have completed an evaluation and this will be compiled and circulated. News of a substantial allocation for ICT Grant was welcomed broadly.

A list of proposed dates of meetings of the Youth Work Committee for 2021 has been circulated to all members.

Section 29 Appeals since the last meeting of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board

- A Section 29 Appeal regarding suspension of students for not complying with requests to wear face-coverings in Ennis Community College was heard by the Department of Education in November 2020. The Department of Education's Appeal Hearing Committee did not uphold the appeal disallowed the same.

FET Division - CE Report

Full-Time Provision

PLC, VTOS; Apprenticeship; Traineeship; Youth Education & Training
PLC

Several learners completed patient and manual handling in the newly established Health Care facilities before Christmas at Ennis Campus. This supports their nursing and community health service programmes and preparation for work placement.

The PLC classes have moved to online with Level 5 restrictions. Many learners have been supported by AISS with technology and learning support. Generally, learning practitioners and learners are coping well with the

change. During Level 5 lockdown, the PLC team are doing a weekly online 'Catch Up' on Wednesdays at lunchtime to enjoy a chat, build comradery and support wellbeing.

VTOS

A workshop at Kilmallock Campus was held in December on Christmas flower arranging. FIT Tutor (Fast track Information Technology) facilitated VTOS learners with online mock interviews workshop on January 14th.

Level 5 Major Award in Office Administration started online at Scarriff Campus on January 18th. Full-time online learning taking place with Ennis and Scariff learners. QA Centre Quality Improvement Plan completed for both Ennis and Scariff.

Apprenticeships/Traineeships

There is a proposal developed to increase Electrical Phase 2 provision in Shannon with an additional four new courses. These courses will take place at the College of FET, Ennis Campus. Consultation is taking place in the development of a new traineeship in Automated Processing of Repetitive Administration to be done in conjunction with School of Automation.

Specific Skills Training

A new SST course is to be developed in online Bicycle Maintenance at an introductory level provided via Shannon Campus.

Youthreach

Facilitated evaluation of Youthreach and completion of annual reports are near completion stage for 2020. All annual CEIP reports detailing centre developments towards enhancement of quality provision continue to follow formal review and approval process.

Capital Grant Application submitted to LCETB for relocation of existing Playgroup and replace with Astro turf playing areas for Youthreach learners and FET learners at Kilrush Campus.

Remote flexible timetable in place at Tuamgraney Campus. All learners and staff embracing working remotely. Laptops are allocated to all learners. Upgrade of facilities at Hospital Campus ongoing including catering kitchen and new course - Motor Technology Programme. Continuum of support for learners via learning devices, telephone contact, counselling on-site support and support agency engagement.

Amber Flag - Tutors & Learners are participating in the Amber Flag Initiative at Ennis Campus where short cookery classes are being streamed by tutors for learners & staff.

Hospitality & Tourism

Hospitality will lead out February 11th with the new National Course 'Developing Leaders for Hospitality/Tourism'. There will be 30 employees from hotels in Limerick and Clare. Given the significant demand, a second iteration is planned for the end of February. This is a new course in response to the IHF and SOLAS.

Part-Time Provision

Core Skills; Vocational & Employee Skills Development, Community Education & Training

Core Skills

A tutor has created a step-by-step guide to help parents to log in and how to use Seesaw, Aladdin and IXL on <http://www.familylearning.ie>

A tutor has created short videos for parents with unmet literacy skills to show the key stages of child development for 0-2 years and from 2-3 years. These are available on <http://www.familylearning.ie>

Four new online courses are being offered through <http://www.learningandskills.ie> to help people get work, improve their confidence and well-being, leading to other progression/accredited routes:

- Social Media Boot Camp course - examine different online platforms, how to create interesting content, photo and video editing;
- Communication for Customer Care course - to improve their communication skills and enhance the service they provide customers in the workplace;
- Thinking of Self-employment course - a guide through the stages in starting a business and business planning, and to identify the next stages in a step-by-step approach;
- Building your Confidence post COVID-19 to get to work course - boost your confidence & build self-esteem. Includes behavioural styles, communicating more assertively, performing in interviews & developing a positive mind set.

Vocational & Employee Skills Development

Online delivery is ongoing and engagement has been maintained. A number of Skills to Advance courses have commenced online.

Support Services

Active Inclusion

- Single point registration for Learner Supports has had a total of 1,088 registrations between 1/09/2020 and 05/02/2020;
- During this period, the ETB have loaned 830 devices to learners to support their engagement with provision;
- AISS are working with TEL to develop an online Moodle space and three courses have been put in place which learners can access including Study Skills, Digital Skills and Health and Wellbeing.

Information, Recruitment & Guidance

- Specific emphasis was placed on clients who had lost jobs due to the pandemic. IRG Facebook and social media ran campaigns to engage clients with the range of services available to them. Online Guidance and Information was offered to all inquirers;
- IRGSS delivered an information seminar on LCETB and FET to Coláiste Nano Nagle;
- Participants on Skills to Advance programmes have attended Guidance and Information sessions with the Guidance Counsellor. These webinars are aimed at providing STA learners with information on further pathways within FET.

Enterprise Engagement

- EESS in collaboration with the Mid-West Regional Skills Fora and Limerick for IT skills cluster have developed a Diploma in Software Development aimed at attracting women to work in IT. The programme involves collaboration with six IT companies (Dell, Action Point, Transact, Becton Dickinson, HRLocker, General Motors) who will deliver mentoring and work placement as part of the training. This innovative LCETB course will commence on April 12th;
- EESS have linked with Shannon Group to provide a number of Skills to Advance training programmes for workers in the region. This campaign was run through social media advertisements and learningandskills.ie;
- EESS is currently working on the design of a traineeship in Logistics, following requests from transport companies in the region.

8. For Adoption;

a. Finance Report

Adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Michael Donegan, seconded by Cllr. Paul Murphy.

b. 2021 Service Plan

On the proposal of Cllr. Elena Secas, seconded by Cllr. Ann Norton.

9. For Approval:

c. Lease Renewal - Shannon Town Campus

Adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Paul Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Gabriel Keating.

10. AOB

The CE informed the Board that, due to COVID, decisions on building projects with the Department were delayed.

The Board congratulated its colleague, Ms. Kate Hehir, on the recent birth of her baby daughter.

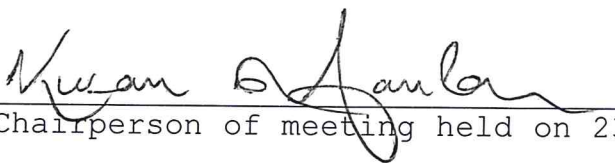
Ms. Elaina Fitzgerald paid tribute to the College of Further Education and Training, Hospitality Campus in Limerick on the recent launch of the New National Leadership Training Initiative in Hospitality and Tourism. Ms. Fitzgerald stated that this was a very challenging time for the hospitality sector and that this was a timely and welcome initiative.

Cllr. Gabriel Keating requested the organisation to submit a Sports Capital Application for the Burren Outdoor Education Centre.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, 23rd March, 2021, at 4 p.m.

George O'Callaghan
Chief Executive.

Signed:



Chairperson of meeting held on 23rd March,
2021.