



**Minutes of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board  
held in Marshal House, Dooradoyle Road, Limerick (Hybrid)**

**16<sup>th</sup> January, 2024**

**Present:** Cllr. Kieran O’Hanlon, Chairperson  
Cllr. Clare Colleran Molloy  
Cllr. Michael Donegan  
Ms. Elaina Fitzgerald  
Cllr. Liam Galvin  
Ms. Catherine Hehir  
Ms. Sheila Hickey  
Cllr. Gabriel Keating  
Cllr. Sarah Kiely  
Cllr. Joe Killeen  
Mr. Paul Moroney  
Mr. Sean McMahan  
Cllr. Paul Murphy  
Cllr. Ann Norton  
Mr. Mark O’Dea  
Cllr. Brigid Teefy

**In attendance:** Mr. George O’Callaghan, Chief Executive  
Ms. Eamon Murphy, Director of Organisation Support and Development  
Mr. Donncha O’Treasagh, Director of Schools  
Mr. Denis O’Brien, Head of Corporate Services & IT  
Ms. Joanne O’Brien, Corporate Services  
Ms. Caroline Hayes, Recording Secretary, Corporate Services

**1. For Consideration;**

**Apologies/Condolences**

**Apologies:** Mr. Michael Guilfoyle  
Mr. Michael Cregan  
Ms. Marian Petty  
Cllr. Elena Secas  
Mr. Paul Patton, Director of Further Education and Training

**In Absentia:** Cllr. John Sheahan

Mr. Paul Moroney was welcomed to the Board as the Parent Representative and the Chairperson wished him well for his term on the Board.

**A Vote of Sympathy was passed to the following:**

- Mr. Conor Power (Coláiste Chiaráin, Croom) on the death of his mother, Mrs. Frances Power.
- Ms Fidelma Power (Coláiste Chiaráin Croom) on the death of her mother in law, Mrs. Frances Power.

- Ms Ciara Power (Coláiste Chiaráin Croom) on the death of her mother, Mrs. Frances Power.
- Mr. Tomás Óige Ó Céilleachair (Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh) on the death of his father, Mr. Tomás Ó'Céilleachair.
- Ms. Rachel Dempsey (Marshal House) on the death of her Uncle, Mr. Andy Toomey.
- Mr. Thomas Downes, (Raheen Training Centre) on the death of his father, Mr. William Downes.
- Ms. Maria Pinder (Thomond Community College) on the death of her mother.
- The Family of the Late Mr. Michael Casey, Station Road, Caretaker.
- Ms. Olive Magner (College of FET, O'Connell Avenue Campus) on the death of her mother, Ms. Mary Teresa Magner.

## 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 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2023, were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Gabriel Keating, seconded by Mr. Sean McMahon.

## 4. For Consideration; Matters arising from the Minutes

None.

## 5. Governance:

- a) Risk Management  
No matter raised.

## 6. Correspondence

### Department Correspondence

CL 0057/2023  
16 November 2023

Re: Panel access for fixed-term/temporary (this includes substitute) and part-time teachers to the Supplementary Redeployment Panel for the 2024/25 school year.

CL 0062/2023  
30 November 2023

Re: Payment of Tool Allowance to Craft Workers – 2023.

CL 0063/2023;  
13 December 2023

Re: Domestic Violence Leave for staff other than persons employed as Teachers and Special Needs Assistants employed in Education and Training Boards.

CL 0064/2023;  
December 2023

Re: Revised Domestic Subsistence Allowances effective from 14th December 2023 payable to Staff in Education and Training Boards (ETBs) and Members of ETBs and of ETB Statutory Committees.

CL 0001/2024  
02 January 2024

Re: Cost of living measure to support increased school running costs in 2024.

CL 0005/2024  
January 2024

Re: Teacher Fee Refund Scheme 2024.

For Consideration; Chief Executive's Report Incorporating;

## **Schools, Youth Affairs, Local Creative Youth & REALT**

### **BT Young Scientist Competition**

The BT Young Scientist & Technologist of the Year 2024 was awarded to Sean O'Sullivan for his project, Verify Me: A new approach to authorship attribution in the post-ChatGPT era. Making Colaiste Chiarán the 60th Recipient of the award, Sean also received a Special award - The Atlantic Technological University Award for his project. The CE and Board paid fulsome tribute to Sean on his outstanding achievement and to his Parents, Principal, Ger O'Sullivan, who is also Sean's father, to his teacher, Ms. Edel Farrell and all the teaching staff in the College.

The Chairperson advised that he would discuss with the CE in relation to marking this momentous occasion.

The Board also paid tribute to the Director of Schools and the Communications Team on the coverage to the school and the organisation. Members noted that this was a remarkable achievement and was an excellent reflection on Limerick and Clare ETB.

It was also noted that Colaiste Chiarán picked up awards for the Best School in the Republic of Ireland, winning the Analog Devices Technology Award and winning the 1st Senior Group Project for Portanos Portable, Extensible, Modular, Open Source Medical Device by students, Aiden Oscar, Taha Njie. In the Technology Display Awards, Miles Bueno, won an award for his project, Teaching AI to recognise bacterial cultures on agar plates.

Other successful schools that picked up Awards were as follows;

St Joseph's Community College, Kilkee:

- The WILLIAMS LEA Ireland Award for their group Project "Sea the Smell is Gone" with Bio-Liser: A Seaweed-Derived Pyrogenic Biochar for Enhanced Soil Stability, Reduced Nutrient Loss, Emission Control and Odor Mitigation by Caragh Killeen, Cian McInerney.

Castletroy College:

- Orlaith Lynch and Salva Rezaeizadeh were highly commended for their project Investigating sensory factors to make our school more inclusive in the Health & Wellbeing category.

Desmond College, Newcastlewest:

- Display awards for Projects in the Chemical, Physical & Mathematical Sciences category for "Tribology" Understanding its potential to reduce CO2 emissions, by student, Dumitras Mocanu
- Life in Plastic, it's NOT Fantastic! By students, Kinga Tobianska, Paulina Varuyeva.

### **Establishment of a new Special School for Limerick**

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board welcomes the announcement by Minister for Education, Norma Foley TD, and the Minister of State with responsibility for Special Education and Inclusion, Josepha Madigan TD, confirming the establishment of a new community special school in Limerick. The new school will operate under the patronage of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and will open in September 2024. It will provide for children with a moderate general learning disability and complex needs up to eighteen years of age, with an initial focus on those children who do not yet have an offer of a special school place for September 2024.

The Department of Education, together with the National Council for Special Education (NCSE), has been working with Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board and other stakeholders to provide additional specialist school placements for children with special educational needs in the Limerick area. Further details in relation to the location of the new school, the admission process and the number of places to be offered for the 2024/25 school year will be confirmed shortly. Planning for the establishment of the new special school between Department officials, the ETB and the NCSE will commence immediately.



Ministers Foley and Madigan both complimented Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board on its significant commitment in the establishment of special classes in all its Community National Schools, Community Colleges and Community Schools across the region. The ETB is fulfilling its duty to the community in providing inclusive education for families in Limerick and Clare and this new school builds on that strong reputation.

Recruitment for the post of principal and deputy principal (administrative) will commence in mid-January 2024. An information evening will be organised prior to the February midterm break.

Following query from Chairperson, school predominantly for students progressing from primary to post-primary and Level 2 courses.

Chairperson thanked the Director of Schools for sitting on a sub-committee under Limerick City and County Council to promote Limerick as all-inclusive and for his valuable input.

Details about the location of the school will be announced shortly. Additional information about the new community special school is available at [www.limerickcss.ie](http://www.limerickcss.ie).

### **REALT (Regional Education and Language Team) - Supporting Ukrainian Children in Limerick and Clare**

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board was selected for a key review of the operation of the Regional Education and Language Team on 13 January 2023. The Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform, acting on behalf of the EU Commission engaged KPMG to examine the factors that contributed to the success of six case study projects across the Irish government and public sector. The Regional Education and Language Teams project is being used as a Case-study shortlisted for the review. KPMG are undertaking the review to discover changes in the ways of working and crisis response approaches, initiated by the Ukraine crisis, which made the projects a success. Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board was represented at this review by the Director of Schools.

The Department of Education can confirm that 17,880 Ukrainian pupils have been enrolled in schools across Ireland as of 30th November 2023. Out of that figure, 11,097 of these pupils have been accommodated in primary schools while 6,783 pupils have enrolled in post-primary schools.

This data indicates an enrolment rate of 88.4% among Ukrainian children aged 5-18.

The department wishes to thank school communities and stakeholders at a local and national level across Ireland for their engagement, collaboration and support in accommodating Ukrainian pupils in Irish primary and post-primary schools.

To assist with the transition of Ukrainian students and their families into Irish schools, Regional Education and Language Teams (REALT) continue to operate. These are hosted by the 16 regional education and training boards around Ireland and staffed by regionally-based education support personnel.

These teams continue to make sure that clear, accessible information flows are in place between schools, local education support services and national support structures in relation to people arriving from Ukraine.

Information for parents in Ukrainian and Russian on accessing school places is available on [www.LCETB.ie](http://www.LCETB.ie).

The breakdown per county is as follows:

County	Primary	Post Primary	Total
Clare	589	340	929
Limerick	330	299	629
			1558

To date, all children arriving in the region have been enrolled. The emergence of the 'pressure-belt' corridor stretching from North Clare to Limerick city continues to be a challenge and proving extremely difficult to enrol newly arriving students in the following areas: North Clare, Ennis area, Shannon/Bunratty and Limerick city.

Excellent progress has been made regarding the temporary measures to enable pupils to get transport to the school they are enrolled in, and we are very grateful to Bus Éireann for its efforts in assisting with this, such as the recognition of school bus tickets on regular NTA buses and the use of prepaid LEAP cards along urban and rural school transport routes.

The REALT team and the LCETB provide the following supports to schools with Ukrainian pupils:

- Community of Practice for EAL teachers, facilitated through the Clare Education Centre (1 COP for primary teachers and 1 COP for secondary teachers)
- Extra EAL classes through the PATHWAYS programme
- Mentoring service for secondary teachers who are teaching EAL for the first time.
- Workshops by request in primary and secondary schools for EAL teachers



- Workshops by request in primary and secondary schools for mainstream teachers with EAL learners in their classes.
- Provision of EAL tutors from the LCETB panel to fulfil EAL hours in secondary schools.

### **Community National Schools**

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board has completed the process to nominate new Boards of Management for its two Community National Schools – Mol an Oige Community National School and Raheenwood Community National School in accordance with the Department of Education Circular Letter Circular 0049/2023 (published on 21 September 2023). The Department of Education circular informed patron bodies of the updated Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2023 – 2027 which was published following consultation with the education partners.

The Governance Manual for Primary Schools 2023 - 2027 contains an overview of the role of the board and the various rules regarding the composition and operation of boards.

The Director of Schools is extremely grateful to all school principals, the staff and parents/guardians of the schools for their valued cooperation with the process to nominate new board members.

A Management Board exists for Glenroe Community National School and there are no changes to this Board given its pilot status as a Department of Education policy intent to reopen some schools in rural areas that had been closed for a number of years.

Training for the new Board of Management personnel will be progressing in late January.

### **Schools Reconfiguration for Diversity process**

The Department of Education is working on a new school divestment strategy in a bid to make the education system more diverse to achieve the Programme for Government commitment to have 400 multi-denominational primary schools by 2030.

There are currently 168 multi-denominational schools at primary level, but this number is due largely to the construction of new schools, with the number of schools divested from the Church remaining relatively low.

A number of patronage transfers have taken place in recent years, resulting in the provision of 14 multi-denominational community national schools.

The Programme for Government refers to the reconfiguration of schools to Community National School (CNS) which are under the patronage of Education and Training Boards (ETBs).

Regarding the reconfiguration pilot underway in Limerick City, the Department of Education facilitator's engagement with the relevant school communities remains ongoing and is in relatively early stages.

Primary school principals or school communities in Limerick and Clare who are interested in further information should contact Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board – [schools@lcetb.ie](mailto:schools@lcetb.ie).

### **ETB Supports Jigsaw in Honouring 17 Limerick Schools on 'One Good School' Programme Completion**

Jigsaw, the youth mental health charity, honoured the remarkable achievements of 17 Limerick schools that successfully completed the One Good School programme at an event sponsored by Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board at Thomond Park on Tuesday, 5th December. The event celebrated the dedication and commitment of the entire school community, including school leadership, staff, parents, and above all, the students, who worked together to achieve their One Good School award.

Castletroy College was one of 17 Limerick schools honoured at the Jigsaw awards event.

School teams, made up of representatives from across the whole school community, attended a series of online and face-to-face workshops, and engaged in various school programmes focused on mental health issues. One Good School in Limerick saw 993 staff members, 138 school leaders, 6,146 students, and 189 parents taking part in the programme.

Speaking at the event, Aoife Walsh, Youth and Community Engagement Worker, Jigsaw Limerick, said: "We are extremely grateful to Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board. Their commitment to Jigsaw's mission and this vital cause is commendable, and we deeply appreciate their active participation and contribution. This celebration serves as a testament to the collaborative efforts of Limerick's educational institutions, fostering a



culture of understanding, empathy, and awareness surrounding youth mental health. The collective impact of these schools in driving positive change is truly remarkable, and Jigsaw is delighted to celebrate them!”

Limerick schools who completed the programme this year included: Castletroy College; Coláiste Chiaráin, Croom; Coláiste Íde & Iosef, Abbeyfeale; Coláiste Íosaef, Kilmallock; Laurel Hill Coláiste FCJ; Coláiste Mhichíl, Sexton St; Coláiste na Trócaire, Rathkeale; Coláiste Nano Nagle, Sexton St; Crescent College Comprehensive; Desmond College, Newcastle West; Limerick Educate Together Secondary School; Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh; Mungret Community College; Scoil Pól, Kilfinane; St John the Baptist Community School, Hospital; Thomond Community College; and Villiers School, Limerick.

Also speaking at the event, Donncha Ó Treasaigh, Director of Schools, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, praised: “The outstanding supports that Jigsaw have developed for schools based on its extensive consultation and research-based best practice in the area of mental health. Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board is delighted to work closely with Jigsaw, and we are particularly proud of the very impressive number of our Community Colleges who have achieved the One Good School award.”

### **ETB Schools Division Holds Annual Student Support Team Conference**

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Schools Division held its annual Student Support Team Conference recently in Co. Clare. Conference attendees included school principals, deputy principals, student support team coordinators, and a range of supporting agencies including the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Youth Work Team, REALT, HSE, TUSLA, UL, and NEPS. This made for a truly multidisciplinary, collaborative event featuring relevant stakeholders who work closely on supporting young people in Limerick and Clare.

The theme of this year’s conference was “Trauma Responsive Education” and Marie Delaney of TraumaResponsiveEducation.ie was the distinguished guest speaker at the conference, guiding participants through an insightful exploration of trauma’s impact on education and the people engaging it.

During the conference Marie covered areas such as:

- Defining trauma in the context of school and education
- Recognising indicators of trauma in school
- Understanding the effects of trauma and poor attachment on teaching, learning, and behavior
- Recognising the importance of self-care and self-regulation, including signs of secondary trauma
- Identifying ways to create emotional and physical safety in schools
- Implementing trauma-responsive techniques for all pupils
- Using positive language to help pupils settle, de-escalate conflict, and repair relationships to facilitate optimal learning environments

Thank you to all who attended the conference and made it such a success, in particular, the committed and hardworking Support Team of John Kelly, Aine Meehan Galvin, Grainne Dennison and Gina O’ Connor.”

### **Muintearas in ár Scoileanna - Connection in our Schools Webinar for all Staff in Schools**

The Schools Division held its annual school-wide winter webinar on Thursday, 30 November 2023. This significant gathering brought together educators from diverse schools and Dr. Colman Noctor, an esteemed psychotherapist renowned nationally for his expertise in supporting organisations with inspirational keynotes in promoting effective cultures of psychological safety. Professor Patricia Mannix McNamara, Head of the School of Education at University of Limerick moderated the webinar which saw in excess of 1,600 school-based staff across Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Community National Schools, Community Colleges and Community Schools. Teachers, SNAs, PMEs/Teachers on Co-op, and school leaders gleaned invaluable insights from this webinar, which also featured Mr. George O’Callaghan, Chief Executive and Donncha Ó Treasaigh, Director of Schools.

Donncha Ó Treasaigh thanked all who assisted with the hosting of this ETB-wide webinar. He underscored the significance of tapping into the expertise of both speakers to elevate educational standards, ensuring a more personalized benefit for young learners.

George O’Callaghan, the Chief Executive, took the opportunity to acknowledge the unwavering commitment of our diligent educators, administrative staff, and school leaders in supporting communities across Limerick and Clare. The Chief Executive emphasised the pivotal role played by the webinar in nurturing a robust inter-school connection across the region.



**Partnership with Health Sciences Academy & Clinical Education & Research Centre, University Hospital Limerick**  
Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board schools will support a virtual interactive webinar to educate TY Students on the roles, career paths, subjects, study and days in the lives of Health Care Workers (HCWs) across clinical areas. This will be rolled out to TY students across Ireland in collaboration with the UL Health Sciences Academy project team, clinical staff, students and teachers. A new website has been developed by the Schools Division of Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board to promote this event for Transition Year students and school leavers – [www.healthcareers.ie](http://www.healthcareers.ie).

The areas to be included in this interactive webinar are; Clinical Care and delivery, GP, Speech Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Physio, Nursing, Lab, X-Ray, social worker and psychiatry. Health care attendants who may have progressed in their career showing career progression.

#### **Midwest Academic Health Science Systems conference**

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board Schools Division were invited to contribute to the recent Midwest Academic Health Science Systems conference - “The Power of Collaboration: Building an Academic Health Science System in the Midwest”. It featured a range of experts from the Midwest speaking across the topics of population health, education and innovation and research impacting clinical practice along with executive staff from UL Hospital Group (ULHG), University of Limerick (UL), Midwest Community Healthcare, Department of Public Health and the Technological University of Shannon (TUS).

Through structured sessions and panel discussion, it showcased the benefits of collaboration and explore how we can progress this locally.

The Keynote Speaker was Professor David Burn, Director of Newcastle Health Innovation Partners (NHIP), Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Professor of Movement Disorders Neurology, Newcastle University, UK.

#### **Meetings, Training and Supports for post-primary schools**

Support seminars and training were provided to post-primary personnel in the following areas:

- Student Support Team Coordinators meeting
- Meeting of Transition Year Coordinators
- Student Support Team training
- Meeting of Guidance Counsellors
- SENCo Forum meeting
- Student Voice Training for schools
- Leading Inclusive Learning, Teaching and Assessment (LILTA) Cluster Day
- Leading School Improvement (LSI) - a School Self Evaluation initiative to support SSE coordinators
- Digital Leaders
- DEIS School Coordinators

#### **Local Creative Youth Partnership (LCYP)**

The final quarter of 2023 saw a very busy number of months with continued activity through Call & Response and Future Film Makers as well as intensifying work in Kilkee and West Limerick. We are also glad to report the commencement of work with a group of young people living with a disability through Brothers of Charity in Ennis.

<b>Programme Element</b>	<b>Location/Dates</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Participant Numbers</b>
<b>Youth Theatre</b>	<b>Kilkee Youth Theatre comprises a total of 48 members in December 2023</b>		
<b>Kilkee Youth Theatre/Ukrainian Community</b>	The Hysterical History of the Trojan War has been performed four times in Cultúrlann Sweeney by 16 Ukrainian teenagers. The show has been a great success.	<b>Year round programme</b>	<b>18</b>  <b>22</b>

<p>St. Mary's,</p> <p>Thomond Youth Theatre</p>	<p><b>Kilkee Youth Theatre 9- to 12-year-olds</b> resumed their weekly workshops and a second critical engagement trip is planned for December 10<sup>th</sup> to the Irish Aerial Creation Centre in Gillogue.</p> <p><b>A regular teenage group</b> now meets weekly in Cultúrlann with 8 members</p> <p><b>Youth Drama in St. Mary's</b> Following their participation in <b>The Parish</b> in July and in September, young people in Nicholas St. branch of Limerick Youth Service have expressed interest in continuing with acting for film. The youth centre is to revert with a day and time for this work and have tutors available.</p> <p><b>Thomond Youth Theatre</b> We had hoped to resume workshops in Thomond Community College early October. The school suggested a January 2024 date instead. We are aware that many 1<sup>st</sup> years and 2<sup>nd</sup> years are keen to sign up for this programme.</p>	<p>Ongoing since May</p> <p>Completed last sessions in March</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6</p> <p>20+</p>
<p>IPAS and Direct Provision</p>	<p><b>Weekly after school workshops</b> with visual artist, James Ryan continue in Knockalisheen, augmented by occasional workshops with teenagers.</p> <p><b>Cahermoyle House Mural Project</b> in West Limerick was completed with tutor Rachel Grainger working with 10 young people from the centre. It had been hoped to include young people living in the local neighbourhood but this did not prove feasible.</p>	<p>Ongoing since 2022</p> <p>Once-off programme</p>	<p>8 to 12 participants</p> <p>10 young people</p>
<p>Fainleog school, Rathkeale</p>	<p><b>The exhibition of visual art and craft</b> which was launched in Rathkeale Library in April, moved to the railings of People's Park and to The People's Museum of Limerick for Culture Night and for Call &amp; Response. A Christmas card was made from one of the images by student Leona O'Brien.</p>	<p>Outdoor exhibition to run indefinitely from September 22<sup>nd</sup>.</p>	<p>13 participants</p>
<p>INSPIRE: Early Years Programme Clare</p> <p>Limerick</p>	<p><b>Stories for Children in County Clare</b> This programme was a great success, culminating during Call &amp; Response with an event in Shannon Library. Supported by Clare Libraries and Creative Ireland Clare.</p> <p><b>INSPIRE: Magic</b> This was a newly commissioned dance show designed for babies by dance artist Aoife McGarry, in collaboration with Arianna Guasso and with pedagogical guidance from Marie-</p>	<p>Complete</p> <p>Artist still delivering workshops</p>	<p>Up to 50 Parents and children</p> <p>60 + audience of babies and their adults in Dance Limerick</p>



	Therese Marry. The show which premiered Oct. 1 <sup>st</sup> is available to be considered for revival.	<b>Interactive show may be revived</b>	
<b>Film and Tech programmes</b>	<p><b>Future Film Makers</b> took place again over October and November with 8 trainees working in Southill and in St. Mary's creating a short film entitled 'Voices from the Island'. A second film was shot this year as part of this programme, in the FAI training centre at Kilmallock Rd. Campus. Dominik Kosicki of Red Paw Media and Maeve McGrath, film maker led the process. Both films are due to be shared online prior to Christmas.</p> <p><b>Postcards from North Clare</b> is a short film project led by Fergus Tighe, which began in June and is ongoing. Participants comprised a group of Ukrainian teenagers working through Northwest Clare Family Resource Centre.</p> <p><b>Critical Engagement</b> Along with Kilkee Youth Theatre and Abbeyfeale Beoirs, Future Film Makers is one of the groups identified to be part of the Arts Council-funded Critical Engagement Programme. So far, the group has travelled to the Galway Film Fleadh to see a series of short films as well as a screening of Alice McDowell's Spread Your Wings in the Glórach Theatre, Abbeyfeale during Call &amp; Response. A recording of Kilkee Youth Theatre's response to Limerick Youth Theatre's 2023 Pride and Prejudice production may be viewed here: <a href="#">(5) LCYP Kilkee Youth Theatre - Critical Engagement Programme - YouTube</a></p>	<p><b>Began October Midterm</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Completed early Dec. Film Artist due to share online</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>	<p><b>8 Future Film Makers</b></p> <p><b>12 participants</b></p> <p><b>Abbeyfeale Beoirs</b></p> <p><b>Up to 20 participants across three locations</b></p>
<b>Podcast Programmes</b>	<p>A number of Podcast programmes have been completed with artist/tutor Sean Horgan:</p> <p><b>Foróige Newcastle West:</b> We await copies of podcasts created by artist Sean Horgan with this group.</p> <p><b>West End Youth Centre:</b> A programme just recently commenced with young people in Weston with a handful of workshops completed.</p>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>	<p><b>20 participants</b></p> <p><b>8 participants</b></p> <p><b>3 Tutors/Co-ordinator</b></p>
<b>Paint Punch in West Limerick</b>	<p><b>The Paint Punch Project</b> has expanded to Askeaton with older teenagers participating in this project. Delivered in partnership with The GAFF who have applied for additional funding to expand this programme in 2024. Images for the project can be seen in this video which was launched during Call &amp; Response <a href="#">LCYP Boxin' Trottin' by Abbeyfeale Crew - YouTube</a></p>	<b>Paint Punch complete for 2023</b>	<b>16 young male Travellers aged 9 to 20 in two locations</b>

<b>Brothers of Charity, Ennis</b>	Artist and tutor, Ana Colomer recently commenced workshops in Brothers of Charity in Ennis. Anna is working with older teens and young adults on a visual art programme.	<b>Ongoing</b>	<b>10 participants</b>
<b>Updates from government departments</b>	<p><b><u>Creative Ireland's Nurture Fund</u></b></p> <p>Limerick Learning Hub and Ballyhoura Development company were both successful in their applications to Creative Ireland's Nurture Fund. The Learning Hub will deliver a programme with young people transitioning from care. In Ballyhoura, young Travellers will be part of a drama programme. The programmes run from January 2024 to September 2025 and may link with LCYP programmes.</p> <p><b><u>National LCYP meetings</u></b></p> <p>The third LCYP, national meeting took place in Marshall House on November 30<sup>th</sup>. All seven coordinators from Cork, Kerry, Laois/Offaly, Galway/Roscommon, Sligo/Mayo/Leitrim, Cavan/Monaghan as well as Limerick and Clare were present. Tania Banotti, Kenneth Nally and Dairne O'Sullivan attended from Creative Ireland. The emphasis was on promotion and communication.</p> <p>An email has been circulated to all LCYPs from the Department of Education stating that 'At this stage in the budget process, we can confirm that each LCYP will receive in 2024, funding from the Department of Education, similar to the funding made that was made available in 2023.'</p> <p>A formal agreement is yet to be issued.</p>		

Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board hosts and maintains the national web portal for [www.lcyp.ie](http://www.lcyp.ie).

#### **Further Education and Training Division (FET)**

##### **College of FET, Shannon Campus**

- **SST:** F-Gas certified training was delivered to 680 learners in 2023 and this will be maintained in 2024. Over 169 people were trained and certified in 2023, for various aspects of the transport and logistics sector. 190 people were trained and certified for the Aircraft Maintenance sector in 2023, excluding apprenticeship provision.
- **Traineeship:** Increase in demand for Aircraft Maintenance Technicians from the aircraft sector has required additional courses. The sector has requested an increase in delivery for 2024. Robotic Software Automation is gaining in popularity with a full class of learners signed up to various companies and State Departments to undertake their work experience.
- **Apprenticeship:** Shannon Campus delivered phase two training in six apprenticeship trades to 434 apprentices in 2023 and this number is expected to increase to 678 in 2024.
- **FET Pathways from School:** Shannon Campus in conjunction with the Hospitality Campus delivered City & Guilds certified training on Barista Skills to over 200 students. Shannon Campus delivered TY taster courses to 40 students from Ennistymon and Kilkee. The number of TY taster courses is set to double in 2024.



### **College of FET, Raheen Campus**

During Christmas week, a group of LCETB Instructors and Learners took on the mammoth challenge of cycling across Ireland on Mid-Winter's Day, December 21<sup>st</sup> 2023, in aid of the Mid-West Simon Community. All four cyclists completed the amazing [www.idonate.ie/coast2coast4simon](http://www.idonate.ie/coast2coast4simon) and are home safe and sound.

### **College of FET, Green Innovation Campus**

Limerick and Clare ETB has a strong and growing focus on Green Skills and Near Zero Energy Buildings (NZEB). The Green Innovation Campus will offer training to approximately 1,500 learners annually. Over 500 learners attended these courses in 2023. A new Construction Bay is currently under development at the Campus in order to grow this provision in line with the national commitments set out in the Housing for All Strategy and the National Recovery and Resilience Plan. LCETB was a lead ETB in the development of the new Level 4 micro-credential in Sustainability. It will now upskill staff via the train the trainer resources and roll this out as a blended programme across FET provision and through a national online green skills module available via eCollege.

### **College of FET, O'Connell Avenue Campus**

- Community Education provision in collaboration with LCEN organised the second very successful Winter Craft Fair in the OCAC Hall on Fri Dec 8th. The work of Community Education learners from across the city and over 20 projects including Focus Ireland, Northstar Family Support Project and Respond Housing was on sale. Mayor Gerald Mitchell visited the fair and commended the learners for their work and talent.
- The first of a series of three Community Wellbeing Events was held on December 6th in WatchHouse Cross Library. Over 30 learners from across the city listened to an inspirational talk by Psychotherapist Caroline Crotty on 'Finding Happiness and Hope Beyond difficult Times'.

### **College of FET, Clare Street and Moyross Youth Academy Campus**

Learners completed the first instance of the Pathways to Construction Course in 2023. This is an accredited National Vocational Qualifications (NVQ) Level 1 City & Guilds Course. It is currently recognised as meeting the minimum entry for craft apprenticeship. It provides the ideal introduction to the construction industry and covers essential skills.

### **College of FET, Hospitality Campus**

- The Croatian Culinary Association and the Regional Competence Campus of the Hospitality and Tourism School, Osijek invited two of the culinary instructors to demonstrate Butter Sculptures and Sugar Work. The Hospitality Campus was the only Campus in the country to be invited to this National event in Croatia;
- The Hospitality Campus has been the first ETB to be accredited with the AEHT European Association of Hotel and Tourism Schools.

### **College of FET, Mulgrave Street & Kilmallock Road Campus**

College Awareness Week this year was used as a platform, to showcase and draw learner attention to the array of Moodle courses available to them, to help with their courses and studies. A number of workshops on Referencing and Learner Health and Wellbeing took place. The Broadcasting learners hosted a round table podcast on 'The FET Experience', where current learners talked about their FET journey to date.

Teaching & learning: This year eight student teachers started on Campus to support the Teaching and Learning across a number of Department areas, the largest number to date. This is a great opportunity to allow prospective teachers the opportunity, to gain hands on experience in a broad range of subjects and classrooms at Level 3 to Level 6. This enables them the valuable opportunity to implement new pedagogical methods, which they are upskilling on and learning about whilst completing their teacher training.

Creative Careers Event: In November, a Creative Careers day took place with a particular focus on careers within the creative industries. The event featured prominent speakers from diverse backgrounds, including animation, fine art, fashion, photography and ceramics.

### **College of FET, Abbeyfeale Campus**

- As part of College Awareness Week, a representative from Mary Immaculate College visited in November to speak to learners about progression pathways particularly in the area of Early Childhood Care & Education;
- The Campus Co-Ordinator attended an Erasmus+ mobility in Stavanger, Norway during November. It is the beginning of a two-year project which will focus on entrepreneurship in rural destinations.



### **College of FET, Newcastlewest Campus**

- On the 30th November, a group of fifteen staff and learners attended the Breast Health Awareness and Education presentation that was run by Breast Cancer Ireland co-ordinator Juliette O Connell;
- As part of the drive to support Community Education groups, Yoga Fitness Classes have been organised for the Men's Shed at the Rathkeale centre.

### **College of FET, Scariff Campus**

- Minister Simon Harris TD visited Scariff Campus in October to announce support for an expansion of the Campus;
- First group of Level 6 Regional Tour Guides completed their course content;
- Broader offering of part-time components in Level 5 Drawing, Ceramics and Embroidery has resulted in an increased number of learners engaging with the Art Department.

### **College of FET, Kilrush Campus**

- In 2024 courses include eBusiness, Early Learning & Care, Intellectual Disability Practice, Healthcare Support; all courses are offered either on a full or part-time basis integrated into single instance delivery;
- Nine learners completed the 'Workboat Master Traineeship' funded through the Raheen Campus with a new cohort of learners who commenced in October;
- The Shannon Campus continued to support the provision of courses in Employability Skills, Delivery Driver, Stonewall Construction and this year the successful delivery of a new course 'Nail & Beauty'. They also funded an evening bus to the Shannon Campus enabling learners to participate in Welding courses;
- Core Skills support learners in all aspects of Lifelong Learning across all programmes, some examples include provision of English Language Training, Literacy Skills, Driver Theory, Biology & Biodiversity and courses including Life Skills such as cookery, sewing etc.

### **College of FET, O'Connell Avenue Campus**

- A Guidance Counsellor took learners from the culinary class to the Hospitality Campus to show them progression options where a tour of the facilities was given;
- 320 Portfolios went through for Dec 2023 certification. 29 Major awards were achieved. 17 of those were through the RPL process for childcare applicants finishing the ECCE award before deactivation.

### **College of FET, Cappamore Campus and Kilmallock Town Campus (Part-time provision East Limerick)**

- Part-time Provision is currently delivering 107 courses across East County Limerick to include VESD, Core Skills, Community Education, ESOL, Skills to Advance & RPL. Courses are being delivered in Kilmallock Town Campus, Cappamore Campus, Hospital Campus and Croom Campus, as well as a number of courses in community settings;
- Seven Learners achieved QQI Level 1 in Computer Skills and 10 learners in QQI L1 Writing – these were the first submissions of the Ukrainian Response learners;
- Staff attended Literacy Awareness Training organised by Síle O'Riordan (Regional Literacy Coordinator ALL) on the 1st of December 2023.

### **Music Generation Limerick City**

- In 2023, MGLC celebrated 10 years of the programme with a mayoral reception, a major one day festival at Dolans and a week-long residency at the Lime Tree, reaching over 3,000 young people;
- Over 300 young people receiving creative music interventions weekly at the Creative Centre on Cecil St.;
- Residencies established in over 25 primary and secondary settings across Limerick City, providing outlets and skills in creativity and self-expression.

### **Music Generation Clare**

- MGCE led lunchtime Christmas tunes for all FET staff and learners in the main canteen on 7th and 14th December;
- MGCE took delivery of a 16 foot exhibition trailer. This trailer will travel throughout the county providing a mobile performance stage as well as a mobile recording studio. The idea is to give schools access to music performance who otherwise, due to location, would not have access to such an opportunity;

### **Music Generation Limerick County**



- There are twelve Musician Educators working in East and West Limerick;
- Weekly projects are taking place in seventeen National Schools, Youthreach Hospital and Shanagolden and ten Community Hubs;
- In 2023 MGLC worked with 2039 Children and Young People.

### **College of FET, Croom Campus**

- BHS Bronze and Silver Challenge Award Certification is provided for Horsemanship and Equine Breeding learners at Clonshire Equestrian Centre. Work placements continues as an integral component of all courses. Relationships with local studs leads to learners gaining employment each year, for example, a horsemanship learner has recently secured part-time work at Rathmore Stud;
- The Tiny Forest planted on campus in January 2023 is facilitating research in wild animal management, animal welfare and biology through monitoring and surveying the local flora and fauna;
- Animal Science learners attended Gurteen College, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary under the supervision of course teacher, to complete cattle and sheep handling skills demonstrations as part of their studies;
- Animal Care and Animal Science learners visited John Curtin's farm in Banogue to view the automated milking system in operation;
- Fourteen learners are receiving sixty five hours learning support through Funding for Learners with Disabilities. Four learning support tutors work in conjunction with AISS learning support tutor to assist with learning on campus;
- MTU visited Croom Campus providing information regarding progression options to animal science and staff facilitated information sessions regarding Croom Campus courses at Mallow College of FET and Newport Careers Fair and ICG Mid-West Careers Fair.

### **College of FET, Ennistymon Campus**

- Learners visited EVA International Art Exhibition in Limerick and completed two days of life drawing in The Courthouse Gallery and Studios. Links were made with Joe McCaul, master Ceramicist and local artist to expand repertoire of ceramic firing techniques at the Campus;
- The inclusion of older age learners is highlighted in the form of press and social media campaign (with the Communications Dept) centred around Vincent Wall, who graduated on the level 6 art course at the age of 90. Vincent and the College of FET, Ennistymon Campus, featured on the front of one paper and in two others and was on Morning Focus Radio and the Afternoon TV programme as well as featuring in a few of LCETB's own social media posts. Here is a link to his interview on Clare FM: <https://www.clare.fm/podcasts/ennistymon-resident-graduates-90/>
- Learners attended Limerick Art College where they can go from Level 6 straight into second year, skipping 1st year.

### **College of FET, Ennis Campus**

#### **PLC Provision**

- As part of the Tertiary project Stage 1 of the Bachelor of Business (Honours) is successfully established – BBS Level 8 1st year of a degree at the College of FET, Ennis Campus with a guaranteed pathway to completing the remainder of their degree at a Higher Education Institution – TUS Mid-West. We expect to add another degree, Business & Computing Studies – BBs (hons), to this offering for 2024.
- Science Level 5 class have linked in with PBC Biomed Ltd, a Biomedical company based in Shannon. Learners recently visited the plant and got access to the R&D lab, quality lab and warehouse;
- Workshops for Music learners were introduced in Scariff Bay Community Radio and part of their Radio Production course. Learners record pieces for radio, edit and will broadcast on SBCR in 2024.
- Food processing class have introduced a dairy pasteurizer and grain milling technology to their class;
- Staff are actively engaging with CPD. A number of staff went to Athens on Erasmus+ mobility and participated in training for Universal Design for Learning (UDL).

#### **Core Skills Co. Clare**

- In 2023, Core Skills had 5,443 learners attending a total of 555 courses with Core Skills across Co. Clare. Core Skills have the highest number yet enrolled and attending ESOL literacy classes in Ennis, 21 learners since September have attended ESOL literacy classes;
- The QQI Level 3 modules in ESOL, Spanish and Irish have been updated and are ready to be used across the ETB;



- Four Family Learning staff presented three topics at the NALA Family Learning conference in Dublin on 23rd November.
- A new course Getting Ready for Primary School with tutor and parent handbooks was developed for the Autumn term as a tool for parents to encourage attendance at primary school and ways to support children be school ready;
- Settling into Second Level was brought up to date with a tutor and parent handbook, while a tutor showcased the ways she worked with Ukrainian Refugees using accredited modules in English and Art.
- Family Learning in Limerick and Clare ETB hosted Home School Community Liaison Coordinators in DEIS schools across LCETB to a Sharing Good Practice Event on 7th December in Kilmallock Road Campus. Family Learning staff and HSCLs shared examples of working in partnership, ideas for courses for parents/guardians and children together, planning for the coming year and networking, making the event a very valuable experience.

### **Outdoor Education & Training**

- ETBI OE Network conference hosted by LCETB at OETC Kilfinane on 13/14 November 2023, with a focus on completing and reviewing the implementation of the OE Network Strategic Framework;
- Overall provision for 2023 has increased, with an increase in FET provision in both OETCs in line with strategic framework goals;
- 'In service' training in Orienteering for PE teachers is planned for January 2024 in conjunction with schools division to enhance school based OE provision and promote Junior Cycle CBAs in Orienteering.

### **Support Services**

#### **Information, Recruitment & Guidance**

- On December 8th O'Connell Avenue Campus hosted a craft fair to celebrate the craft work done by community education groups throughout the City;
- IRGSS continue to facilitate information stands at school information evenings and job fairs throughout the regeneration areas of Limerick City;
- IRGSS Clare continues to support the Thomond Reception Centre of which over 1000 Ukrainians are engaging in education and training;
- IRGSS continues to pilot guidance information on PLSS in preparation for the FET College of the future and the alignment of all guidance information.

### **Enterprise Engagement**

- EESS team facilitated the coordination of the 'Inspire: Women in Engineering' event in UL December 1st. 600 school girls from 20 schools in the Mid-west region participated in interactive discussions on careers for women in STEM;
- EESS was co-opted to chair the ETB Immersive Technology Skills. This group facilitated the development of Immersive Technology curricula to future proof programmes in the area of Wind Technology and Green Skills;
- EESS in collaboration with colleagues coordinated the Apprenticeship Showcase on November 13th and 14th which enabled 1600 students to attend interactive, educational demonstrations on pathways to apprenticeships. This event is part of the annual FET calendar and is part of ongoing collaborations with our colleagues in TUS and UL.

### **Active Inclusion**

- ESOL and Migrant Learners: Demand for ESOL continued to increase during 2023, driven in the main by the impact of the Ukrainian response and the increasing number of International Protection applicants in the region. A PLSS report drawn on the 28th of November 2023 shows a total of 5,802 beneficiaries have or are currently accessing ESOL provision in the College of FET. The FET Response team meet weekly with the AISS and Provision Adult Education Officers and an ESOL Refugee Resettlement Programme is planned for 2024 in Limerick. As English levels improve, learners are progressing on to the wider vocational opportunities available across the College of FET. The focus in 2024 will include looking at pathways and progression options for these groups into the wider College of FET Provision;
- Traveller and Roma Learners: Ensuring that our College of FET Campuses provide an inclusive and supportive environment for Traveller and Roma learners requires an understanding of their unique needs, challenges, and aspirations of this target and involves tailoring of our services and provision to support and respond to these specific requirements. Collaboration with Traveller and Roma community groups, partnership companies and



other NGOs is a critical piece of the work of the Traveller/ Roma Pathways Adult Educator. During 2023, this collaborative work has involved establishing connections with Traveller-led community development programmes, healthcare teams, youth workers, and various interagency groups in Clare and Limerick. The College of FET are represented on the following interagency groups:

- CLDC led Traveller interagency group in Clare,
  - CLDC led new communities group in Clare,
  - CYPSC led Trauma informed interagency group Clare
  - Regen Interagency group, Limerick City
  - Limerick Community Education Network, Limerick City
  - North Clare learning Network
- The College of FET Learner Mental Health and Wellbeing Framework outlines how Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board promote and support Learner Mental Health and Wellbeing in a consistent, structured and planned way. During 2023, circa €30,000 has been made available to Campus Mental Health and Wellbeing Teams to run events and activities which support and promote good mental health amongst campus communities.

### Professional Development

- In 2023, 125 unique PL&D events took place locally, engaging a total of 2,300 staff members;
  - 2023 saw a significant number of experienced staff upskill in the TESOL area either to support ESOL delivery or to work more effectively with ESOL learners who are in mainstream programmes. Thirty-one staff were supported to complete Level 6 TESOL programmes and two staff to complete their CELTA;
  - 2023 saw a significant number of experienced staff upskill in the TESOL area either to support ESOL delivery or to work more effectively with ESOL learners who are in mainstream programmes.
  - In total 68 staff were supported to complete accredited programmes at Levels 6-9 in a variety of areas including TESOL, RPL, Sustainability, Manual Handling and Active Consent.
7. For Adoption:
- a) Finance Report  
Adopted on proposal of Mr. Mark O’Dea, seconded by Mr. Sean McMahon
  - b) Minute from Finance Committee Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2023  
Sean McMahon, Gabriel Keating.
8. For Noting:
- a) Code of Ethics (Staff and Members)
  - b) Minute from the Audit & Risk Committee Meeting held on 20/10/2023
  - c) Report from Finance Committee Meeting held on 01/12/2023
  - d) Report from Audit & Risk Committee held on 01/12/2023
9. For Appointment:
- a) Mol an Óige Community National School Board of Management Members  
Proposed by Sean McMahon and seconded by Cllr. Gabriel Keating
  - b) Raheen Wood Community National School Board of Management Members  
Proposed by Cllr. Gabriel Keating Gabriel, and seconded by Mr. Sean McMahon
- a) **AOB with the permission of the Chairperson**  
None.

Next Meeting: 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

George O’Callaghan  
Chief Executive.

Signed:

  
Chairperson of Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2024