

TEAM DDL DEVELOPMENTS

NEWSLETTER #7 OCT/NOV 2022

ddletb 



FOREWORD

I am delighted to introduce this edition of the Development Team newsletter.

As we approach our second term of this academic year, and reflect on the last few months, we are reminded of the importance of “Care” every day in the lives of our students and interactions with our colleagues. With this in mind, it is important we take time to reflect on why we, as leaders and educators, should care deeply about caring in our schools today.

Caring is an intrinsic good, a worthy endeavour in its own right. It is a basic human condition, a foundation stone of being moral. Above all, it is crucial to the learning and development of children and youth and to their success in schools. As leaders, we recognise the importance that our students place on caring to their engagement and learning.

As both leaders and educators, we recognise that caring in schools helps develop children’s and youth’s capacity for resilience and leads to social-emotional development and prosocial behaviours, such as cooperation, communication, empathy, and responsibility. We have all witnessed the power of care in enabling academic engagement, learning, and performance. Moreover, we know that the experience of caring can beget more caring.

Finally, we should never assume that caring is a present quality of education. Caring is not simply “caring about” but rather a quality of relationship. It is the manner, matter and motivation of our actions and interactions with others. It is not only one of our DDLETB Core values, it is a core quality of the communities we cultivate in schools for both students and adults every day. It is a crucial element of the social networks of families and neighbourhoods in which children and youth learn and grow.

Caring is not an abstract notion - it is a vital element of education provision. As we embark on the remainder of this academic year, remember that as we stress high expectations, academic rigor and accountability, we must also elevate the care and support necessary for students and staff to respond positively to the challenges placed upon them. We must continue to ensure that “Care” is an approach to education which endeavours to value and develop each member of our DDLETB school community and promote learning at every level.

Finally, as Director of Schools, I wish to acknowledge all the support and care that you give to our students, their communities and your colleagues every day. It is this quality of care that ensures DDLETB remains a centre of excellence in educational provision where all can achieve, learn and succeed.

Thank you.

Nichola Spokes



Nichola Spokes,
Director of Schools, CNS.

Care

ETHOS

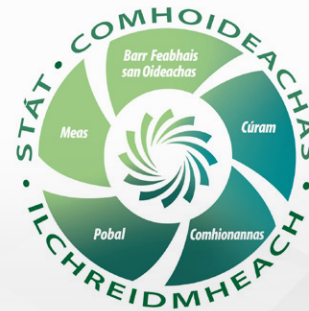
WHAT DOES THE VALUE OF CARE LOOK LIKE IN DDLETB?

This term DDLETB took the opportunity to explore what the value of care looks like. It has provided a great opportunity to highlight and celebrate the incredibly high level of care provided to all members of the DDL community.

The Mentimeter word cloud captures the response of several DDL networks who were asked to identify what care looked like in their context.



THIS TERM SAW THE FIRST DDLETB ETHOS LEAD NETWORK MEETING TAKE PLACE. THANK YOU TO THE 28 TEACHERS WHO HAVE TAKEN ON THIS ROLE.



CARE IN GRIFFEEEN CC

TY students in Griffreen CC along with their teachers have been very busy ensuring they raise awareness about the ETB Ethos. Jim the Care bear has been spotted everywhere and has even been on a few TY trips.

THE VALUE OF CARE

'SHOUT OUT' POSTCARDS AT COLLINSTOWN PARK CC

ACTIVITY:

'Positive postcard' will be sent home or given to students who deserve a 'shout out' for good work, behavior or both.

WHEN:

Tutors will send postcards during the time they are sending monthly attendance and punctuality letters.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:

Students put forward for a 'shout out' are not necessarily candidates for Student of the Month. They could be individuals that are working hard, have displayed good citizenship or have improved over a period. In many ways this should be used to recognize those students that are doing their best but might not necessarily get top student honours.

Qualities of a 'Shout Out' candidate

- Hard-working
- Completes homework
- Good citizenship
- Helpful and kind
- Good attendance and punctuality
- Responds well to correction



PROCEDURE:

Year Heads will send an email to staff members teaching their particular year group and ask if there are any students over the past month that deserve a 'shout out' for good work, behavior, citizenship etc.

Teachers will email back to the Year Head names of any appropriate students Year Heads will compile a list of suggested students by tutor class Year Heads will share the names with the tutors Tutors will send /give out postcards during the next occasion punctuality letters are disseminated.



Rath Dara Communit...

Lots of smiles and learning taking place in Homework Club this evening. 📖 📅 We are so lucky to have our beautiful JCSP library! 🙌
#teamDDLETB #JCSP
#RathDaraCC #ETBethos
#ExcellenceInEducation
#care



Deansrath Communi...

Did you know that our school is a @ddletb school? Our student Ethos team designed a noticeboard to highlight our core values! They were also spotted carrying out random acts of kindness around the school today. Fantastic work from our caring students
#etbethos #teamddletb #care



Coláiste Pobail Seta...

Thanks to Ms. Buckley and Sugar Plum Sweetery in Mullingar for this amazing & thoughtful bag of sweets for all teachers today! 🍬 🍭
@ddletb #care #ddletbethos
#treattime



DDLETB TEACHER INDUCTION PROGRAMME 2022-2023

On Thursday, September 29th we welcomed over 100 new colleagues to DDLETB Head Office for our Teacher Induction Programme.

Attendees were officially welcomed to the organisation by Ms. Siobhan Lynch, Director of Further Education and Training. They also heard from many of our support teams in Head Office (HR, IT, PSS and the Development Support Team) and then took part in a workshop facilitated by Mr. Joe Lynch, Inclusion Coordinator with Limerick and Clare ETB.

The evening was a huge success and it was wonderful to meet so many of our new colleagues and welcome them to #TeamDDLETB.

Thank you all for attending!



[View our welcome video here](#)





LEADERSHIP CONNECT PROGRAMME

OUR LEADERSHIP CONNECT PROGRAMME
FOR 2022-2023 LAUNCHED ITS FIRST
SESSION ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6TH.

We were overwhelmed again with the response from interested participants and we are delighted to be in a position to offer a mix of online and in-person sessions for both programmes this year. We look forward to working with our participants and creating an enhanced collaborative experience for everyone.



TEACHER LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

This term saw the start of another year of the teacher leadership programme. TLP 2022- 23 kicked off with a training session for 26 facilitators from across DDLETB. As part of the afternoon facilitators were given an overview and advice from two of last year's facilitators.

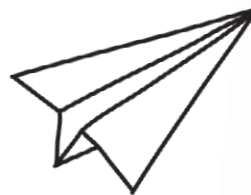
A big thank you to **Mairin Brady (Fingal CC)** and **Craig Cunningham (Rath Dara CC)** for this input.



MIDDLE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

It was great to meet our 42 MLP Participants at our first session of this year in DDLETB Head Office. The main session was facilitated by Mr. Joe Lynch, Inclusion Coordinator with LCETB and was attended by both our MLP participants and our TLP Facilitators.

It was a successful, insightful and uplifting afternoon. Thank you to Joe Lynch.



EAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS ACROSS DDLETB

EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES

Every year on 26th Sept, post primary schools across DDLETB celebrate European Day of languages. It is a good opportunity to take stock and focus on the languages spoken in our schools to build understanding, empathy and community.

EDL is celebrated on the same day around Europe. Students and teachers take part in various events and post them on the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) website.

TYs in Griffeen CC (see photo below) carried out a survey and displayed the info on a map at the entrance to the school. The survey showed that there are around 40 languages spoken in the school!

Students identified similarities and differences between languages they study and languages they know. They spent time appreciating cultural differences, learning about traditions, landmarks and the customs of other countries as well as famous people who speak other languages.



St Finian's CC incorporated their European Day of Languages event into an open evening in their school. Parents and children were able to learn a choice of languages from Polish to Latvian, Russian to Bangla, Spanish to Maltese and Yoruba.

[Please show support and vote for their event here:](#)
#TeamDDLETB:

SUMMER PROVISION

The highlight of a very successful program of Summer Provision in St Kevin's CC was when the Home Economics room was commandeered for a group of mothers to cook a meal for their children. This is to become a monthly event in the school where the school facilities will be put to good use. An excellent example of our ethos (Care) in action.



EFFORT AND IMPROVEMENT IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS

Three students from St Finian's CC (Dmytro, Daniela and Artiom) improved their reading skills considerably in the year since they were last tested. Their comprehension skills (reading and listening) were tracked over time using the Cambridge English Placement test to ensure they are reaching their potential. All three should be very proud of their effort. Their names will go forward for the DDLETB Reading competition to be held in December.





BLACK HISTORY MONTH

October is Black history month. It is celebrated across the globe and in many DDLETB schools.

Skerries CC prepared a display to remind students of the outstanding contributions that Black people have made to society and to support the multiculturalism and diversity lived in our communities. The theme this year is Black Health and Wellness, which allows all to focus on mental health and wellbeing and to know where to seek help if needed.

EAL NETWORK MEETING

The EAL Network met on 5th Oct after 2 years of not meeting face to face.

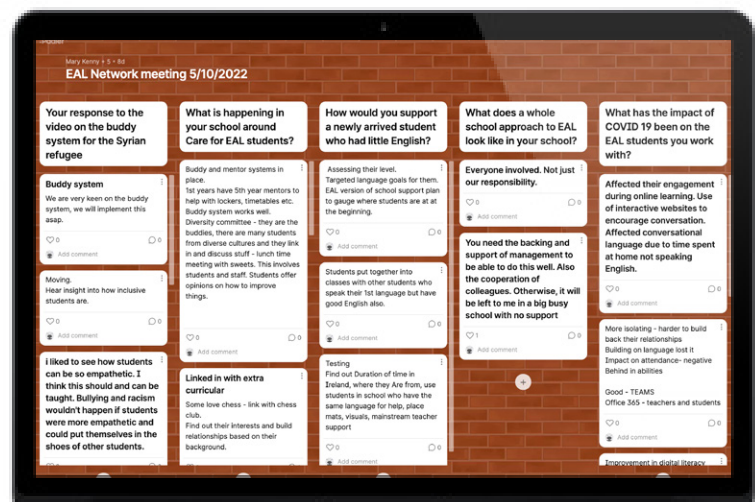
We focussed on the pillar of "Care" from our Ethos. We watched a short TikTok video to illustrate Care in a school setting, then discussed what Care for EAL students looks like in our schools.

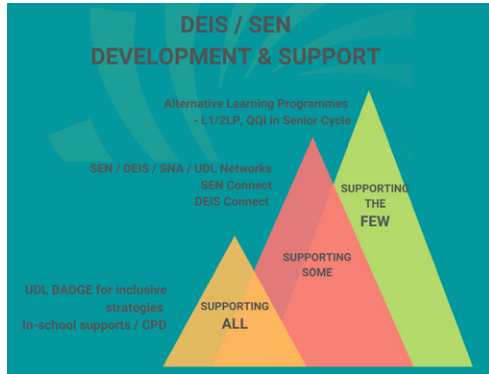
We spoke of very recent updates to SSE and Looking at our school 2022 and related this to EAL students.

Discussions are documented on Padlet if anyone would like to read the posts and the discussions we had on the day or to add any additional thoughts to those already there. It is a living document.

[Download what you want from it](#) (posters, resources).

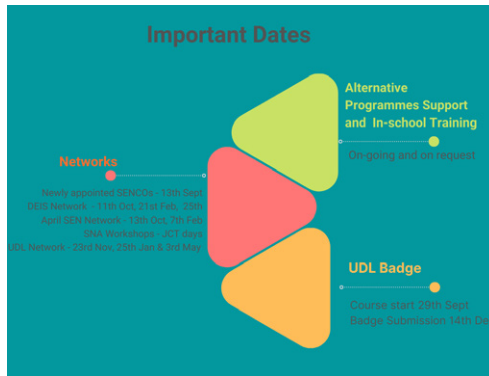
FYI The next EAL meetings in the calendar are on Wed 11th January and 8th March.





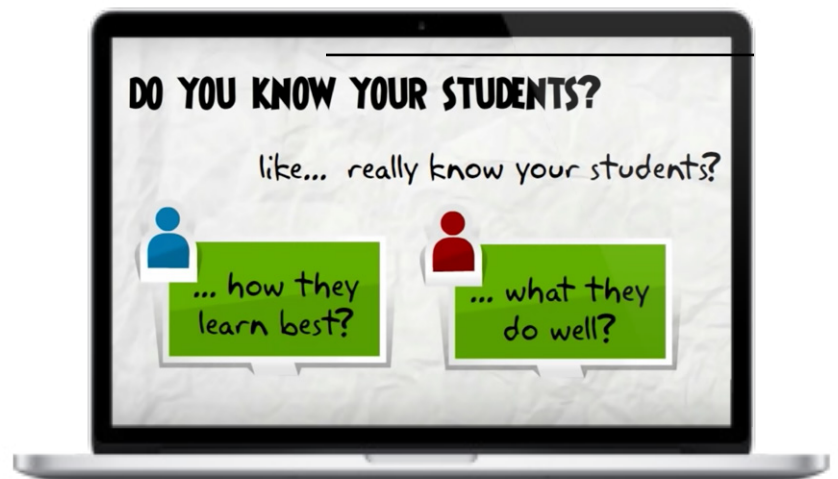
UPDATES

A very busy start to this year. It's been great to launch our network meetings, in-person! We kicked off in September with a session for newly appointed SEN/AEN Coordinators. This as you all know is a very busy role, so this term we're focussing on developing and reviewing Student Support Plans and Reasonable Accommodation applications.



UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR LEARNING

September also saw the launch of the UDL Badge Autumn 2022. 71 participants from across all of our Second Level schools and Gaelcholaistí are currently redeveloping class and assessment activities to incorporate the principles of Universal Design. UDL is a class-based strategy that offers checkpoints to make sure that we include all of our students to achieve better outcomes.



The best of luck to all of our new UDL-ers! For those of us embedding UDL in our teaching strategies we'll have a network meeting next term, please get in touch to make sure that you get the invitation.

DES REVISED CIRCULAR

The Department of Education issued Circular 0055/2022 at the end of August, this saw a few changes to applications for Irish Exemptions;

Many thanks to Anthony McCreevy, Principal Donabate CC and Gemma for their input at the Principals and Deputy Principal's meeting and massive thanks to Gemma for the extensive resources that she made available to schools to support them with the xapplications process (Ref: SEN Network Teams Folder).

C. 0055/2020:

Irish Exemptions

- Revising C.0053/2019
- Reinforces DES principles of inclusion and Framework for Junior Cycle (2015)
- Highlights the importance of Student Support Planning
- Expands the criteria to include students with multiple and persistent needs

Ms. Gemma Peat, SEN Coordinator, Donabate CC

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING PROGRAMMES – L2LP

Greenhills CC have developed a superb short course for their students following the Level 2 Learning Programme. The Cooking Course is the latest integrated plan created by the team following the hugely successful Weather Project last year which brought together 4 PLUs in one 8 week project.



Priority Learning Unit	Numeracy
Element	Developing an awareness of temperature, Developing social awareness
Learning Outcome	LO: 2.13, 2.14, 2.15, 2.17, 2.32, 2.33
Priority Learning Unit	Communications and literacy
Element	Using expressive arts to communicate, using a range of writing forms to express opinions
Learning Outcome	1.17, 1.18, 1.19, 1.20, 1.22, 1.23, 1.24, 1.26, 1.27, 1.29, 1.30, 1.31, 1.33, 1.34, 1.35, 1.36
Priority Learning Unit	Preparing for work
Element	Being able to set goals for learning, finding out about work, Preparing for a work-related activity.
Learning Outcome	5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.8, 5.9, 5.10, 5.12, 5.13
Priority Learning Unit	Personal Care
Element	Making personal decisions
Learning Outcome	3.41, 3.42, 3.43, 3.44



This year's project has students engaged, motivated and learning key skills as they achieve numerous Learning Outcomes in each of the PLUs across the programme. Thanks so much to Ciaran Stone for sharing the team's work to date at the GENCO Network.

STEM IN ACTION

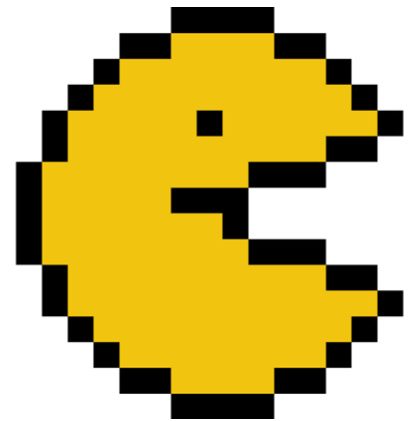
CHECK OUT GREENHILLS CC STEM PROJECT INTEGRATING ART, WOODWORK, ENGINEERING, CODING WHICH AIMED TO:

1. Develop and build links with primary schools – School Promotion
2. Promote the school in the community - DEIS
3. Empower our students to lead – Student Practical Learning



Not only have the students had fun learning but they've created arcade machines to play during break and lunch times – not bad for a days work!

Finally, ETBI were looking for input at the Newly Appointed Principals and Deputy Principals Conference on 11th October on best practice in Managing SEN Provision in schools. Kingswood CC delivered an exceptional review of how to put structures in place to ensure the inclusion of all of our students. Many, many thanks to Deborah Dunne, Principal Kingswood CC and Shona Burke, AEN Coordinator, for highlighting some of the fantastic practice in DDL schools.



PRINCIPALS AND DEPUTY PRINCIPALS MEETING.

We welcomed our Post-Primary Principals and Deputy Principals to Head Office on October 6th. It was an extremely productive morning which focused on LAOS (Looking at our School 2022), refectation and planning for the year ahead.

Thank you to Mr. Mark Fennell, Mr. Paul Crone (NPAD) and Mr. Paul Fields (ETBI) for facilitating sessions and guiding our School Leaders through an inspiring and insightful morning.



NEWS FROM GREENHILLS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*European Commission
Safer Internet Forum
25th – 27th October 2022*

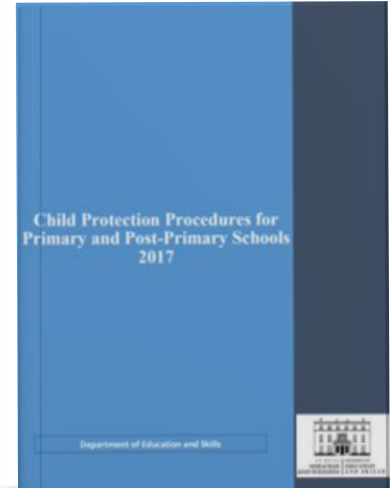
Karl Carew, 6th year student at Greenhills CC, has been participating in the Better Internet for Kids Youth Panel this year.

Better Internet Safety for Kids (BIK) is a European Commission funded project that aims to create a better and safer internet for children and young people. Karl was invited to represent his school in European event held in Brussels during 25th – 27th October. This event was the culmination of his involvement with the European Youth Panel with BIK.

As 2022 is the European Year of Youth, Karl has been working with his European Peers to plan and lead events and workshops taking place in Brussels as part of Safer Internet Forum this year. The event was attended by policy makers, the tech industry and representatives from education and safer internet centres around Europe. This work is being carried out in association with the Department of Education and Skills in association with the PDST.

The school is very proud of Karl and the work that he has done on promoting internet safety in a national context and now in a European context also. We wish him the very best of luck with his endeavours.

Huge congratulations to Karl, from all at Team DDLETB. Follow @GreenhillsColl on twitter to see more and remember Safer Internet Day takes place on February 7th, 2023.



CHILD PROTECTION

We were delighted to start off the term with Child Protection Training for newly appointed DLPs & DDLPs. This was a comprehensive full day training that supports DLPs and DDLPs in understanding their roles and responsibilities as set out in the DE Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools.

We followed this up with two refresher sessions to support DLPs and DDLPs with reviewing their roles in reporting and recording child protection concerns. It was great to see so much engagement from school management teams and we look forward to supporting schools throughout the year.

In addition to this training, we are delighted to offer a suite of supports including:

- Child Protection and Safeguarding training for school staff
- Child Protection Oversight Report writing
- Child Protection Inspection support
- Bespoke support in Child Safeguarding and Protection for Senior Management Teams/Care Teams/Guidance etc.
- Child Protection support and training for Care Teams
- Child Safeguarding Statement and Risk Assessment reviews
- Roles of Board of Management in Child Protection- responsibilities & oversight
- Child Protection for Board of Management Chairpersons

We Care



We Prepare

We Achieve



DIGITAL AND SOCIAL MEDIA

#TEAMDDLETB

It has been a busy start to this academic year and as always #Teamddletb have been very active on social media.

We were delighted to see the level of engagement with our ethos focus and Values Led Calendar this term and we loved seeing the Open Nights/Events, Maths Week activities and Wellbeing initiatives in our schools and centres over the past few weeks.

It was also great to be able to host so many in-person network meetings and CPD sessions in DDLETB Head Office and visit Microsoft DreamSpace with some of our learners.

We hope you all enjoyed the various events and celebrations as much as we did.

Remember to follow and tag us @ddletb and #Teamddletb. We also encourage you to follow all schools (CNS, Community Colleges and Special Schools) and centres (FET, Youthreach, Adult Education and Training Centres) in our DDLETB Community and don't forget to comment on posts.

Our Values Led Calendar will focus on Community during our second term, and we would love to highlight our large and diverse Community as much as possible, #ETBEthos, #Community.

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY 2022

#WORLDMENTALHEALTHDAY #WMHD2022

World Mental Health Day was celebrated on October 10th and this year's theme was "Make Mental Health and Well-being for all a Global Priority".

DDLETB are dedicated to promoting positive mental health and wellbeing in our schools and centres and we have committed systems in place to support our staff and learners. It was wonderful to see so many of our schools and centres hosting events on the day and during a week of Wellbeing. The theme of 'Care' was particularly evident throughout the week and supported our Values Led Calendar.

Our Student wellbeing is supported through the delivery of SPHE, CSPE, PE and Guidance in our school communities and is imbedded in our Ethos. Supports for staff wellbeing are promoted through collaborative practices, staff networks, continued professional development and supports from Psychological Support Services and Spectrum Life (Employment Assistance Scheme).

#FINDYOURBALANCE



MICROSOFT DREAMSPACE

#MSDEAMSPACE

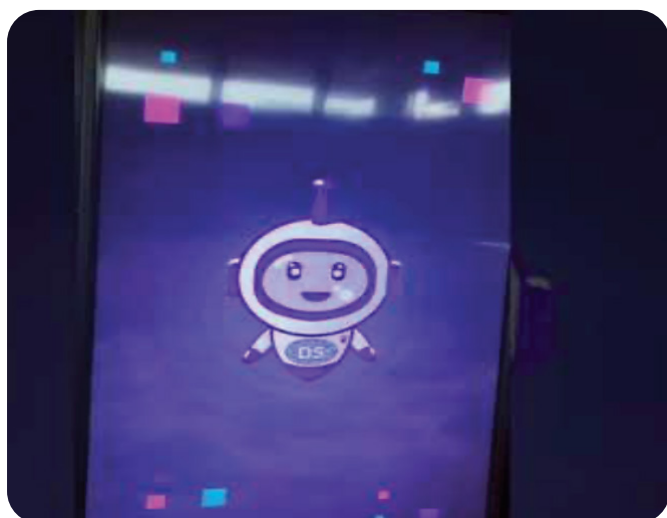
On Wednesday, October 5th, 5 of our Community Colleges were welcomed to Microsoft in Sandymount for a workshop with the DreamSpace Team.

Students from St. Kevin's CC, Rath Dara CC, Donabate CC, Ériu CC and Kishohe CC had a wonderful day exploring, creating and connecting #MSDreamSpace.

Our teachers were not forgotten and attended a workshop on MineCraft Education and its applications and uses in the classroom.

It was a great day and sparked the imagination of all.
#DDLETBDigitalConnect.

[View a video of the day here](#) Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB
- Microsoft DreamSpace #MSDreamSpace



Our IT department have already booked DDLETB in for next year's sessions so if you are interested in taking part, please keep an eye on your DDLETB emails for details or contact our DDLETB Head of IT Paulbyrne@ddletb.ie



INTRODUCTION TO TALLAGHT TRAINING CENTRE

Tallaght Training Centre is a part of DDLETB, conveniently located in Cookstown Industrial Estate just behind Tallaght Hospital, and easily accessible via LUAS or bus routes.

Opened in 2008, it is a modern campus style, purpose-built building, with a spacious catered and subsidised canteen offering full breakfast and lunch/dinner menus. All of the classrooms are fitted to the highest standards.

FET programmes delivered in the Tallaght Training Centre include Apprenticeship, Specific Skills Training (SST), Traineeship, Skills to Advance programmes, Skills to Compete short courses and Evening classes.

FET programmes are delivered via a range of full-time and part-time day courses along with a choice of night training options. All courses are designed to equip learners with the skills necessary to progress to further training options and/or seek employment. A wide range of courses provide training to those who are entering the labour market for the first time and those who wish to upskill and/or change their career path.

In general, the Centre offers courses at QQI level 5 & 6 across a wide range of disciplines, most of which are free to attend for the unemployed, and in many cases a training allowance will be available to learners. Courses are run both in the Centre and remotely on line, and there is also a suite of courses run during the evenings.

Some examples of the courses that might be of interest to school leavers are:

- Special Needs assistant
- Medical Terminology / Medical Administration
- Industrial Automation Electrical Control Systems
- Industrial Automation Programmable Logic Controllers
- Accounting Technician Parts 1 & 2
- Warehousing
- Beauty Specialist & Facial Electrics
- Manual & Computerised Payroll & Bookkeeping
- Start Your Own Business
- Welding & Fabrication
- Engineering Skills
- Amazon Web Services
- Supervisory Management
- And many more

While many of these courses offer a direct pathway to employment, they can also be used as a pathway to higher education.

For more information about Tallaght Training Centre please check the following:

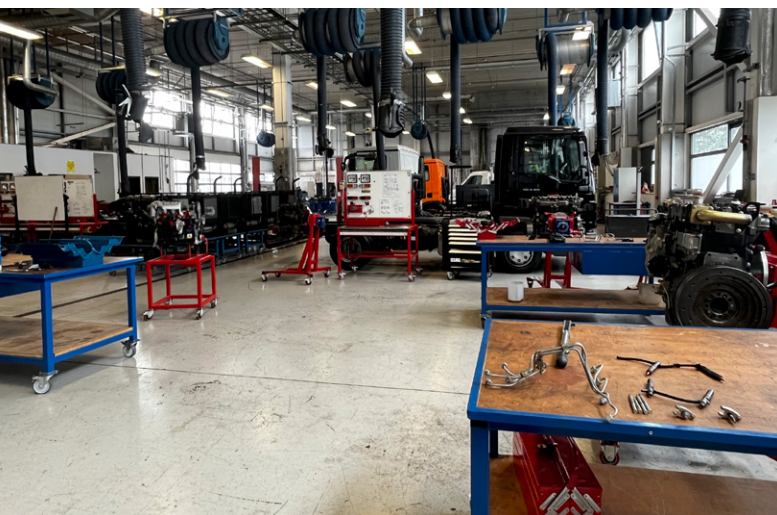
Facebook – Tallaght Training Centre

Instagram – @tallaght_tc

Twitter – @TallaghtTC

We can also accommodate school tours/visits so please contact our recruitment office for more information.

Email: tallaghttrct@ddletb.ie or Phone 01 427 5400



DATACENTER ACADEMY PROGRAM: COLLINSTOWN PARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

“A Workforce Development program that aims to create a diverse and localized talent pool of skilled, technical workers in the communities in which we operate datacenters.” (Microsoft)

THE BEGINNING PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

In partnership with the Collinstown Park Community College and the Microsoft Dublin datacenter staff, the Microsoft TWCD Workforce Development team proposed implementation of the Microsoft Datacenter Academy program at Collinstown Park in Dublin, Ireland.

The Microsoft Datacenter Academy builds student IT skills combining academic learning, scholarship financial support and hands-on equipment experience. Microsoft is committed to investing in local datacenter communities, especially in underserved populations. There are five pillars in Microsoft Support: Hardware, Curriculum, Mentorship and Work Experience.

So, in 2019, Microsoft partnered with DDLETB and Collen Construction to convert a classroom in the school into a 5 rack fully functional mini-scale data center. Microsoft donated decommissioned hardware and network devices to facilitate hands-on learning. In collaboration with Collinstown Park Community College, a datacenter-oriented curriculum was designed. The proposal was agreed upon and the DC academy in Collinstown Park was born.

CONTEXT

Collinstown Park Community College's mission and ethos aligns with Microsoft's focus on equality and diversity and shares key goals: Collinstown Park Community College aims “to provide an inclusive education service in which individual differences are welcomed and respected. We recognise the right of every person to learn and develop through education.” Consequently, the alignment of goals, shared purpose, identifiable opportunities for learners, the existing course curriculum with its positive achievements and successes, the location of the college and the demographics of Clondalkin and surrounding areas were the driving factors and enablers for the DC Academy Programme and the physical academy lab to be built and located in our community and school. The DC Academy was launched in autumn 2019.

In relation to DDLETB's operational values, this course “includes transfer and progression options to maximise (their) the trainees' chances of pursuing further

education and training and securing employment.”

Learners will have an opportunity to gain real hands-on experience in the experiential learning elements of the programme and through practical hands-on in a fully functional data centre lab environment. DDLETB have a particular focus on equality, inclusion and equality of opportunity. This programme contributes positively to this through community empowerment and the creation of access to various job roles in the IT industry. In terms of our provision of service and location: “Dublin is now Europe's largest data hosting cluster, surpassing London with 25 per cent of the European market. There were 53 data centres in operation in the State at the end of 2018, A further spend of some €1.3 billion is expected in 2019. This anticipated spend has grown since that date as have the presence of data centres]. “Sustainability is playing a major role in new and planned edge deployments. More than three-quarters of sites (77%) are using or planning to use energy-efficient UPS systems. In addition, 40% are planning to use renewable energy; 31% water-efficient cooling; 29% dynamic grid support technologies; and 19% refrigerants with a low global warming potential (GWP) (courtesy of Vertiv Survey 2022.)

Learners may come from diverse social, economic and/or cultural backgrounds, have an existing vocationally specific skillset and be seeking re-skilling or up-skilling in order to re-enter the workforce. This factor has risen in significance due to Covid-19 in 2020 and with post-Covid impacts on employment.

Ian Mulrooney
Past trainee.
Full-time Datacenter
Technician at
Microsoft Ireland.



CERTIFICATION

The certification consists of CompTIA A+, CompTIA Server+ and QQI modules at level 5 and 6. In 2020, DC graduates were interviewed for paid work experiences in the Dublin DC as well as for roles in other companies.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

The DC lab here in Dublin is the first Microsoft supported lab built outside the US. The EU project has since expanded to the Netherlands, Sweden and Spain and our DC academy in Clondalkin is now part of the European Datacenter Academy Partners currently numbering 7 DC academies, a development that is still growing!

The datacenter academy course was selected to be part of a discussion with Minister Simon Harris in a virtual visit to Collinstown Park Community College on Monday 29th March 2021. The virtual visit was quite informal and gave the Minister an opportunity to talk to learners, staff and management to hear about specific FET experiences. It proved to be a very successful meeting and the Minister enjoyed the conversations he had, especially with the trainees.

In June 2020, Two of the trainees from the traineeship program pursued a 3-month internship in Microsoft. One intern, Amanda Bailey, a lady from the local community, is now a full-time employee. Luke Kasawanga is now a technician in the Department of Education. In another partnership with employers, two trainees completed a 3 month paid internship with KN Circet and then followed a 1 day per week release in their second year of studies. Another graduate secured a full-time role in the company while others like Simon Dempsey are now in full-time employment in Amazon and other IT firms. Some of the interns of 2021/2022 are Ethan McGough and Selma Augusta Correia (Circet) and Stephanie Stynes, Roland Boros, Ritta Ngole, Tristan Toomey and Claire Burke (Microsoft Ireland). The interns give great testimony to the opportunities and experiences which the internships have given them. Now that are past the extremities of Covid-19, the plan is to build and strengthen employer engagement and look at other ways to channel the excellent resource this lab offers.

Kedington, Host in Ireland, TEK Systems, Amazon and GemPool are among employers who offer supports to the program. As seen, past trainees also secure employment in other companies demonstrating a range of IT Support skills.

PATHWAYS TO THE FUTURE

PATHWAYS PROGRAM: WOMEN IN TECH (2020)

21 students across 5 schools in Dublin

All learning online

Supporting teachers present

STRUCTURE:

One evening per Week after normal school hours and self-directed work at home.

Focus on Technical Training with Professional skills interwoven throughout.

THE MAIN PURPOSE AND EXPERIENCE WAS:

Establishing and incentivising a pathway to the Datacenter Academy in Dublin

Women IT Event

Collaboration with US students – Meetups and Quizzes-Team building

Trainees have participated in many initiatives and site visits. Least year's first years took part in the StepIn2Tech Mentoring Programme, run by FIT alongside talks and events. Site visits are now being re-established since 2021.



Left to Right:

Eithne Hogan (Datacenter Coordinator and Course Instructor, Collinstown Park Community College).

Selma Augusta Correia (Trainee & Intern in Circet),

Ritta Ngolle (Trainee & Intern at Microsoft)

and Stephanie Stynes (Trainee & Intern at Microsoft).

TESTIMONIALS

"I'd seen it on the list, but didn't have a clue what it was, nevermind how to do it. Eithne explained that they literally teach you from the ground up. I didn't need to have any IT experience to do the course." The Academy's hands-on training got Amanda hooked on technology: "I really enjoyed the hands-on section of the course—opening up the PCs, seeing the parts, figuring out what they are, how they connect to each other, and what makes what work."

Amanda Bailey

"I'm always learning and growing my technical skills at AWS." "When I first joined as a contractor, I had only visually looked inside a computer. I fully immersed myself in our tickets, and I started to figure out how to diagnose and fix devices. With that, I saw how fast I grew my troubleshooting mindset in a couple of months alone! The idea of being able to grow even further made me want to get a job as a DCO here."

Lou Scout Morrissey

"This course has helped me develop necessary skills such as knowledge of blade servers, racks and unit numbers. In addition to this, other skills include subnetting, VLANs, IPV4/6, router and server configuration, windows 7, 8, 10, Linux and much more."

Simon Dempsey.

Full-time Technician @ Amazon Web Services (AWS)



FIGURE 1: DUBLIN



FIGURE 2: DATA CENTRE STAFFING NEEDS

"In June, 2022, I was given the opportunity through the DCA course to have an internship with KN Circet, who have a partnership with the course. When I found out I was given the opportunity to work and be trained on the job, I was very excited to learn day by day the job of an IT Support Technician and learn real-world skills. I enjoyed my full-time internship there and the people I have met who I have made connections with. I've had a good social life outside the work environment. I would recommend to anyone this opportunity as it is hands-on practical skills on the job. I have enjoyed the summer there."

Ethan MGough.

"When news broke that I'd been selected as one of the lucky candidates for an internship with Microsoft, I was over the moon. All of my hard work and effort to achieve this opportunity had paid off. During my time with Microsoft, I've expanded my knowledge immensely. Now I am understanding why data centers are so important to us."

Roland Boros

"As part of the course, I got an internship in the company Circet and tht was a great opportunity for me. In Circet, I'm a part of a great IT team and I'm learning a lot of things from them, like how to troubleshoot, preparing a hot desk/ workstation for getting equipment ready for a new starter. I also deal with clients on the phone and remotely. All that changed the way about what I know about devices and networks. I'm glad I took the course and I recommend it is worth it!"

Selma Augusta Correia



Managing Cisco devices.

Left to Right: Craig McGlynn, Roland Boros (Trainee & Intern at Circet) and Henry Ofeudu (Trainee).

YOUTHREACH

IT WAS ANOTHER MILESTONE MONTH FOR DDLETB YOUTHREACH.

On September 21st Youthreach Swords were delighted to host a very special visit from EU Commissioner Elisa Ferreira. It was a memorable day for staff and learners and the Commissioner was overwhelmed by the talent on display from learners. [See more from the visit here](#)

Well done to the Team at DDLETB Youthreach and learners and staff from Youthreach Swords.

HAPPY 30TH BIRTHDAY FROM ALL AT #TEAMDDLETB

Rush Youthreach celebrated turning 30 in September and held a celebratory event at the centre.

Congratulations and best wishes flooded in from President Michael D Higgins, Minister Simon Harris and EU Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, Nicolas Schmitt.

[See more of the celebrations here](#)



DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW YOUTHREACH

 [@ddletbyouthreach](#)  [@ddletbYR](#)  [@ddletbyouthreach](#)

and your local Youthreach centre to be kept up to date with all the news and events. You can also visit their YouTube channel, which is full of exciting videos and information.



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Dublin and Dún Laoghaire ETB

DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT TEAM:

janetmurphy@ddletb.ie
carolinedaly@ddletb.ie
francesgibson@ddletb.ie
marykenny@ddletb.ie
lornalavelle@ddletb.ie
suzannegraham@ddletb.ie

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