National Centre for Guidance in Education

Working with Students with Intellectual Disabilities 19 October 2021

> Dr Eimear McDonnell Guidance Officer (Temporary) (Post-Primary & Euroguidance)



Lárionad Náisiúnta um Threoir san Oideachas National Centre for Guidance in Education



ncge

Employee Assistance Service

² Folláine le Chéile • Wellbeing Together



New Employee Assistance Service

Accessible 24/7, 365 days a year

Up to 6 free counselling sessions, where clinically appropriate

Unlimited, in the moment, clinical support if you just want someone to talk to

Wellbeing Portal and App - online services, live chats, videos, podcasts, blogs, digital gym Online cognitive behavioural therapy

Freephone 1800 411 057

Email: eap@spectrum.life

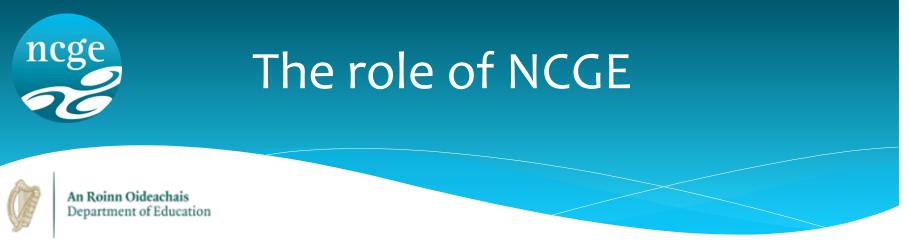
Whatsapp/ SMS: Text 'Hi' to 087 369 0010

www.education.ie

https://wellbeingtogether.spectrum.life

Organisation Code vIVIIU17





NCGE is an agency of the Department of Education

Our role:

Develop, support and influence <u>quality guidance</u> <u>provision</u> in post-primary schools and further education settings as part of lifelong learning, in accordance with national and international best practice.



Aim of this webinar



An Roinn Oideachais Department of Education

OVERALL AIM:

Develop an awareness and understanding of guidance / 'transition planning' for students with an ID in mainstream and special schools as part of a Whole School Approach to guidance



Webinar participants



Michelle English	Special Education Needs Organiser (SENO)	National Council for Special Education (NCSE)
Val Real Elaine Morris	Area Manager Career Start Programme Instructor	Limerick and Ennis National Learning Network (NLN)
Dr Geraldine Scanlon	Assistant Professor	School of Human Development Dublin City University (DCU)



Develop an understanding of:

- * Current context in terms of ID and guidance
- * The role of the National Council for Special Education (NCSE) in supporting guidance counsellors
- * Develop an awareness of alternative pathways for students with disabilities (NLN)
- * "Supported Transition" for school leavers with (ID) as a means of accessing mainstream opportunities in further / higher education, training, and employment (FETE).
- * Update to an existing resource; 'Setting Up A Network of Support' to include Disability supports



Intellectual Disability (ID)



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* **Definition** World Health Organization (WHO) (Page 6)

"Intellectual disability means a significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information and to learn and apply new skills (impaired intelligence).

This results in a reduced ability to **cope independently** (impaired social functioning), and begins before adulthood, with a lasting effect on development"

Disability depends not only on a child's health conditions or impairments but also and crucially on the extent to which **environmental factors** support the child's **full participation and inclusion** in society.



Statistics Section – Department of Education



- * Data is supplied by the NCSE and the latest data available is for 2019:
 - * 8,035 pupils in special schools (n=114)
 - * **2,406** pupils in special classes in post-primary schools
 - * <u>gov.ie Education Statistics (www.gov.ie)</u> \ Latest statistical reports \ Education Indicators for Ireland 2020



Rationale /Key Publications



- * Aston, D., Banks, J. and Shevlin, M. (2021) Post-School Transitions for Students with Intellectual Disabilities in the Republic of Ireland, Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, available: <u>http://www.tara.tcd.ie/handle/2262/94978</u>
- * DES Inspectorate (2005) Guidelines for Second Level Schools on the implications of Section 9(C) of the Education Act 1998, relating to students' access to appropriate guidance
- * Education Act 1998, No. 51/1998, Dublin: Stationery Office, available: http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/pdf/1998/en.act.1998.0051.pdf
- * Government of Ireland (2015) Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities 2015-2024
- * Indecon (2019) <u>Review of career guidance final report</u>, Dublin: Indecon International Research Economists,
- * NCGE (2017) <u>A Whole School Guidance Framework</u>
- * NDA & NCSE (2017) <u>A qualitative study of how well young people with disabilities are prepared for life after school</u>
- Scanlon, G. and Doyle, A. (2018) Progressing Accessible Supported Transitions to Employment (PASTE) Navigating the transition from school: Voices of young people and parent, available http://doras.dcu.ie/view/people/Scanlon=3AGeraldine=3A=3A.html



Rationale



- * The Programme Recognition Framework (PRF): Guidance counselling (2016)
- * Criteria and Guidelines for Programme Providers
- Develop core competences including "the capacity to work with young people and adults and with those experiencing social exclusion and barriers to learning" (Page 5)



The challenge?



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 Meeting the "appropriate" guidance needs of the student with ID

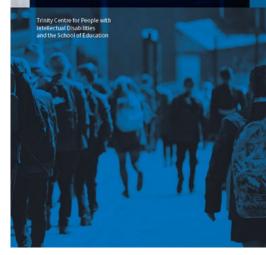




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Post-school Transitions for Students with Intellectual Disabilities in the Republic of Ireland



 * Aston, D., Banks, J. and Shevlin, M. (2021) Post-School Transitions for Students with Intellectual Disabilities in the Republic of Ireland, Dublin, Trinity College Dublin, available: http://www.tara.tcd.ie/ha ndle/2262/94978



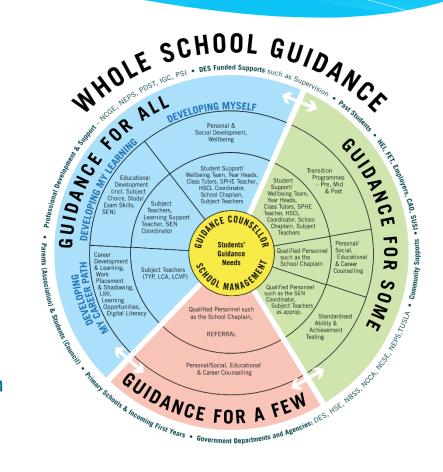
Key Findings (Aston et al. 2021)



- 1. Limited Career Guidance for Students with Intellectual Disabilities
- 2. Barriers and Enablers to Successful Transition
- 3. The Importance of an Inclusive School Ethos
- 4. The Impact of the Covid-19 School Closures

Policy Implications (Aston *et al.* 2021)

- 1. Implement a Whole-school Approach to Guidance Provision
- 2. Expand Post-school Options from Traditional Health-based Settings to Further and Higher Education for Students with ID
- 3. Broaden the Scope of Guidance beyond Preparing Students for the Leaving Certificate and College Entry
- 4. Ensure continuity of provision at Senior Cycle
- 5. Improve Access and Retention in Further and Higher Education





DES (2005) Guidelines for Second Level Schools on the Implications of Section 9 (c) of the An Roinn Oideachais Department of Education

- The guidance plan should include a detailed guidance programme which includes learning experiences and activities designed for specific groups of students.
- The guidance programme should draw on the expertise of the guidance counsellor/s who should be central to the process as well as all relevant management and staff.....
- The school guidance plan should reflect the needs of both junior and senior cycle students.
- Balance between the personal, social, educational and career guidance offered to students should be ensured in the plan.



Setting up a Network of Support Disability Supports



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Acmhainní | Resources the
don | for
lar-Bhunscoil | Post Primary
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Setting Up a Network of Support

This document contains information on key supports for students. This document was collated to support Guidance Counsellors in their approach to Whole School Guidance and to ensure Guidance Counsellors have access to a variety of supports.

This document may be appended to the Whole School Guidance plan or may be a 'standalone' resource for Guidance Counsellors and other members of staff.

This document is not final nor exhaustive, it will need to be reviewed regularly.

Supports are outlined under the following headings:

- SCHOOL SUPPORTS (p1)
- LOCAL AREA SUPPORTS(p3)
- NATIONAL SUPPORTS(p6)
- NATIONAL DISABILITY SUPPORTS (p12)
- INTERNATIONAL SUPPORTS (p15)
 KEY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES / BODIES (p16)
- SUPPORTS FOR THE GUIDANCE COUNSELLOR (p17)

SCHOOL SUPPORTS

Support	How to access / make contact	Notes
Principal	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Deputy Principal(s)	e.g. Extension 124 / email	If not in office, usually in corridor near room 20.
DLP/DDLP	May be same as above or may be different	Refer students if child protection issue as outlined in whole school guidance plan. https://www.education.ie/en/schools-Colleges/Information/Child- Protection/child_protection_guidelines.pdf
IT Coordinator	Phone number	Click or tap here to enter text.
Mentor System	Meet irregularly but coordinated by Mr Ryan.	Very helpful with last year's $\mathfrak{1}^{st}$ years especially those who needed extra help.
NEPS Psychologist	e.g., Phone and email	Calls to school each year in September for initial meeting
Access Initiatives with local HEIs	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Other relevant student activities e.g., Clubs / Teams	e.g., Basketball Mondays at 4 in the gym (Mr Reilly) e.g., Rugby Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7am (Ms O Rourke) e.g., Frisbee Fridays at lunchtime (Mr Daly)	It is very helpful to have a list of what club/heams are available so we can refer students who are struggling and help them build a community.

Other School Teams e.g., DEIS Team	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Other Staff Members with specialist training	e.g., Mr Lawrence is highly trained in first aid e.g., Ms Ni Rourke speaks Latvian fluently	Mts Ni Rourke helps with translation at times
Parent Councils	Chair email Secretary email	Very active and supportive in this school. Keen to know how they can help.
Prefect System	Meet Thursday at lunchtime Coordinated by Ms Smith. Guidance Prefect: Jimmy Murphy	The role of the 'Guidance Prefect' is to update all Guidance Notice Boar and coordinate prospectuses.
Chaplain	e.g., Extension 123 / email	Available from 8am every day except Wednesday
Restorative Practice Groups led by peers	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text. http://www.restorativepracticesireland.le/information-schools/
School affiliates e.g., ETB / Edmund Rice Trust etc	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
School Completion Activities and programmes	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Student Councils	Meeting every Monday lunchtime in Room 9. Coordinated by Ms Ryan	Always looking for new projects / ideas to help students
Student Support Team	Meeting every two weeks at 11am on Wednesdays.	Share this document with members
Tutors	School Policy is to contact through	Very helpful to have a list of these at the start of the school year. Also, helpful to know about the role of the tutor in this school as documented in the whole school guidance plan pg. 4.
Union Reps	Name and contact details	Click or tap here to enter text.
Wellbeing Coordinator	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
Whole School Guidance Team	Click or tap here to enter text.	A team has not yet come together in this school maybe prioritise for after Christmas?
Year Heads	e.g., email / extension / regular meetings	Year Head of 1 ^{str} year regularly checks email Year Head of 2 nd year rarely checks
Other	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.
	where we supprise to enter text.	when we say there we street serve

Developed by the National Centre for Guidance in Education (NCGE) 2021

Page 2 of 17

Update to an existing resource;

Include
 Disability
 supports to
 support
 Guidance
 Counsellors in
 their approach
 to Whole School
 Guidance

Developed by the National Centre for Guidance in Education (NCGE) 2021







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Michelle English Special Educational Needs Organiser with the NCSE Dublin South region.

Michelle is a qualified post-primary teacher and guidance counsellor. Michelle completed a Professional Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Leadership

Webinar on Guidance support for students with intellectual disabilities

An Information Session for Guidance Counsellors

Presented by Michelle English (NCSE) 19/10/2021 Michelle.English@ncse.ie



Today's Session

We'd like to tell you about.....

Current research by the NCSE

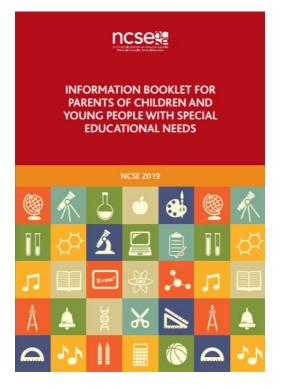
Who the NCSE are and what we do

Whole-school approach in supporting the transition of students with ID



Who We Are – What We Do

- Support schools
- Support parents
- o Provide information
- Carry out research and advise the Minister for Education and Skills





NCSE Local Support teams

Schools Family

Advisors for Teachers

SENOs Visiting Teachers



Transition from post primary





NCSE Research

Moving to Further and Higher Education

An Exploration of the Experiences of Students with Special Educational Needs

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION RESEARCH REPORT NO.14



Findings

- 1. Pathways: making choices, access and progression
- 2. Resources and supports
- 3. Student experience



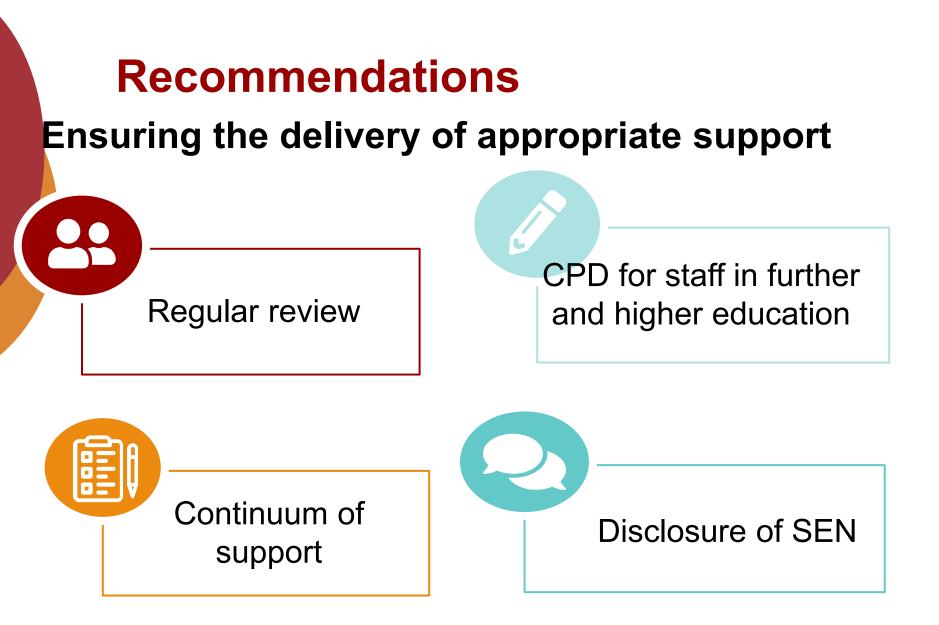
Recommendations

Facilitating effective access...

Begin the process of transition planning in JC with parental involvement

CPD opportunities for guidance counsellors to enhance knowledge and skills regarding aspects of transition planning







NCSE Research

What Works in the Provision of Higher, Further and Continuing Education, Training and Rehabilitation for Adults with Disabilities?

A Review of the Literature

Carmel Duggan and Michael Byrne

NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION RESEARCH REPORT NO.15



Conceptual framework and examples of provision

Stage in Educational Process	Example	es of Interventior	15	Examples of Outcome Indicators
	at the level of the student	at the level of the provider	e institution/service	
Access	Outreach strategies Information provision Personal transition plans Guidance and advice	Transition progr Differentiated a Differentiated m processes Remission of fee Universal design	atriculation	Enrolments Type of courses undertaken Level of courses undertaken
Participation	Needs assessment Finance for subsistence Assistant personnel Befriending schemes Assistive technology Guidance On hand support	To support participation Transport Modified buildings	To support learning Pedagogies Teacher training Differentiated course material Universal design in learning	Completion rates Accreditation rates Level of accreditation
Progression	Career planning Guidance Work placements	in learning Progression programmes Formal links to employers		Progress to education/ training Progression to employment Retention/return to work



Findings

Dearth of literature relating to adults with disabilities availing of adult education

Lack of transfer of good practice or learning across educational settings

Well resourced transition programmes based on good professional involvement



Findings

Measures focused on the specific needs of the individual, incorporating personal choice and good information were effective

Building direct links between the educational course and the world of work

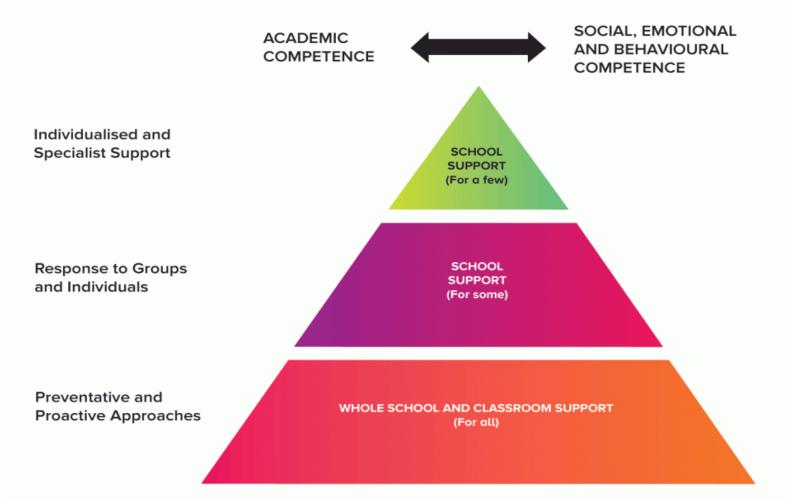


The implications of the review's findings for developing policy and practice in Ireland

- Development and deployment of personnel
- Institutional factors
- Involvement of people with disabilities in the design and delivery of measure to support their access to, participation in and progression from, higher and further education, adult and continuing education, vocational training and vocational rehabilitation.



Continuum of Support





NCSE Website Resources

Information Booklets & Pamphiets for Parents

🔳 📣 Listen 🕨

Transitional Guidelines for Parents of Students with Special Educational Needs and for Schools

The NCSE has published transitional guidelines for parents of students with special educational needs. These guidelines are intended to assist parents to support their children to make successful transitions. The guidelines are available at four different stages of transitions.

The NCSE has also published guidance for schools on supporting students with special educational needs to make successful transitions.

Please see the following table which contains links to all the guidelines.

Guidelines on Starting School	English	<u>lrish</u>	Polish
Guidelines on Moving from Primary to Post-Primary School	English	Irish	Polish
Guidelines on Moving between Mainstream and Special Settings	English	Irish	Polish
Guidelines on Planning for Life after School	English	Irish	Polish
Transitional Guidelines for Schools	English	lrish	

Click here for Press Release

Post-School Education and Training





NCSE Website Resources

Home	About Us	For Parents	For Schools YouTube Pre	Research mieres function	Statistics	Policy Advice	Publications
NEPS Tr Primary	ansition from Pri	mary to Post	(ASD)/Social from Primary	hildren with Aut Communication to Post Primary pack for parents	n Difficulties Tra y School. An infe	insition	w/Download
NEPS Tr	NEPS Transition to Post Primary			Transition to Post-Primary School. Sample Transition Programmes			w/Download
PLC Primary and Post Primary: Making the Links		children on th English and I Ianguage lea	The Primary Language Curriculum seeks to support children on their language-learning journeys, in both English and Irish. Children continue to engage in language learning and development as they progress to post-primary school through their experience in junior cycle.			<u>llish</u> 1	
Supporting Students with Dyspraxia		Secondary Se	"The Next Adventure" Transitioning from Primary to Secondary School is an invaluable guide for students, parents and educators			w/Download	
Supporting students with Down syndrome transition from Primary to Post Primary School		Down Syndrome Ireland			Vie	w/Download	
Tips for Teacher Supporting Pupil Engagement and Motivation during Remote Learning			SMART Strate COVID 19				w/Download
	Transition Activities: Tips for parents/guardians			All children, and particularly those with special <u>View/Download</u> educational needs need a sense of predictability during			







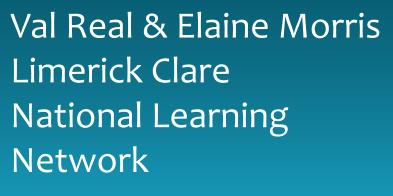
Michelle.English@ncse.ie





An Roinn Oideachais Department of Education





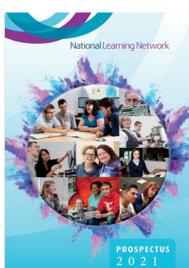
Val Real

Area Manager National Learning Network (approx. 100 students)

Elaine Morris Career Start Programme Instructor

National Learning Network Prospectus 2021

QQI accredited ranging from level 1 - 5





ncge



National Learning Network

Investing in People, Changing Perspectives

Who we are and what we do....

NLN is the largest private training organisation in Ireland, we have centres in every county.

NLN is funded by ETB as a Specialist Training Provider

We provide training to school leavers needing extra support to help them reach their employment/further education goals

And also to people out of work/education due to:

- Accident, illness or disability
- Early School Leavers
- People that had a set back in life



No Educational Requirements or CAO points

We help students bridge the gap from school to the mainstream world

We help them build their confidence before they move on to the world of employment/further education







Extra Support Staff include:

- Resource Teacher
- Work Related Social Skills Instructor
- Rehabilitation Officer
- Rehabilitation Psychologist
- Programme Development Officer





Training Courses (Limerick & Clare)

These are the Courses run in Limerick and Ennis, but they will give you a good flavour of the courses run in every county in Ireland.

All our courses are funded by ETB or HSE

Provision co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Social Fund as part of the ESF Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning 2014 - 2020





European Union Investing in Your Future European Social Euro



Bord Oideachais & Oiliúna LUIMNIGH & AN CHLÁIR

IMERICK & CLARE Education & Training Board



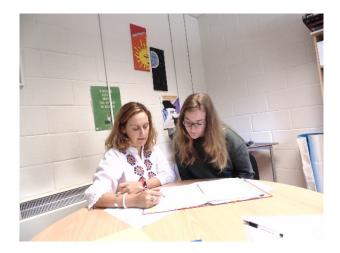
Career Start (Limerick & Ennis) Employability Skills QQI Level 3 Major Award

Recommended for those finishing school to build up motivation, confidence and self esteem

(Full time programme for up to 18 months)

















Pathways to Employment (Ennis)

QQI Level 4 Awards in Retail, Tourism and Digital Technologies













PC Maintenance & IT Systems Programme

We offer a diverse range of Skills and Qualifications, including:

- *CompTIA IT Fundamentals+FCO-U61*
- EBCI European Certificate in PC Maintenance & Networking
- EBCI IT-Diploma
- CISCO IT Essentials v7
- CompTIA A=Core
- New ECDL













Catering Assistant

Catering Support QQI Level 4 Major Award







'This Course has given me the confidence to take me on to the next level of further Education.'



Training is carried out in a full professional kitchen working under full HACCP Management System







Employer Based Training (on the job training in your area)

Employment Skills by EBT QQI Level 4 Major Award







Companies that we partner with include

Nursery Times

Co-Op Superstores

Moyross Community Centre

St. Munchin's

Vanduleur Gardens, Kilrush

Petmania

Tadgh O'Connor Builders Providers

Clare Genealogy Centre

Dromoland Castle Hotel

Woodstock Hotel, Ennis

Milford Care Centre

Guineys, William Street

Safety First, Limerick

Millennium Centre, Caherconlish

Centra, Gort Road, Ennis

St. Marys A.I.D. (LICP) Limerick

St Cronans Association CLG Roscrea



I.T. with Office Skills

New ECDL, MOS and Accounts & Payroll QQI Level 5 components











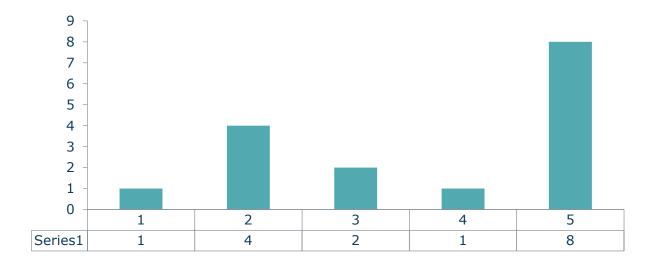
90% - 95% Positive Outcomes to Employment or Further Education for people who complete our training programmes

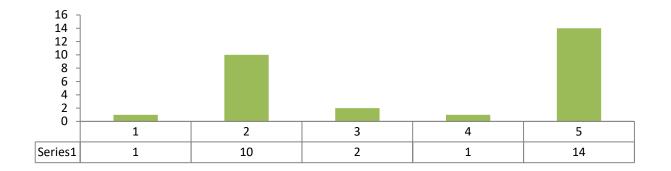
As one of our former students said, "NLN is not about **IQ**, it's about **I can**"





Where Career Start Students progressed to in 2021 & 2020 – many of these came straight from school to NLN





Imad joined National Learning Network

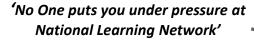
in October 2017 for support with his goal to become a

Software Developer.

Certification Major Award at Employability Skills Level 3

Personal Effectiveness Level 4 Information Technology Level 4

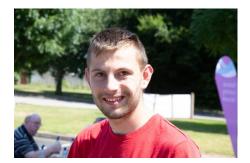
Made best friends, improved my confidence and got Work Experience while with National Learning Network.







Imad went on to complete a Level 6 programme with LCFE and is now completing Level 8 Software Development in LIT Dara joined National Learning Network in October 2017 after completing his LCA Exams





Workplace Safety Level 4 Information Technology Level 4



Dara left National Learning Network in April 2019 and set up his own Business

'NLN gave me the confidence to set up my own business and the communication skills to deal with the public' Many Progression Options from Career Start with Employer Based Training Chloe and Cathy went on to training at Nursery Times Creche.

Sean with Tadhg O'Connor Ltd and Melissa with Guineys











To apply to NLN

or for copies of our National or Mid West Prospectus, contact us on:

Limerick: 061 229777 or 087 3454408 Clare: 065 6864560 or 087 7110918 Other areas: 1890 283 000

Email: limerick@nln.ie or clare@nln.ie or info@nln.ie

Provision co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Social Fund as part of the ESF Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning 2014 - 2020.





European Union Investing in Your Future European Social Fund



Bord Oideachais & Oiliúna LUIMNIGH & AN CHLÁIR

LIMERICK & CLARE Education & Training Board



An Roinn Oideachais Department of Education



Dr Geraldine Scanlon Assistant Professor School of Human Development Dublin City University

Research interests:

Strategies to support the inclusion of Children with Special Educational Needs in mainstream education and the implications for teachers and schools in facilitating those needs in light of Inclusion.

DEVELOPING POST SCHOOL PATHWAYS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH INTELLECUAL DISABILITIES

Dr. Ger Scanlon School of Human Development

Institute of Education









CONSIDERATIONS

- The notion of transition and the critical components that underpin and enable a seamless process including, supports, co-ordination of services, and support for employers is featured in the Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities (CES) (2015).
- This process is fragmented where young people are moving from compulsory education to Further/ Higher Education or employment (McGuckin et al., 2013).
- This is despite their aspirations being similar to that of their peers (Scanlon, Shevlin, & McGuckin, 2013) at the point of transition from school to Further and Higher education (FE/HE) or directly into the labour market.



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Article 23 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

"children with a mental or physical disability have the right to special care, education and training designed to help them to achieve the greatest possible self-reliance and to lead a full active life in society."



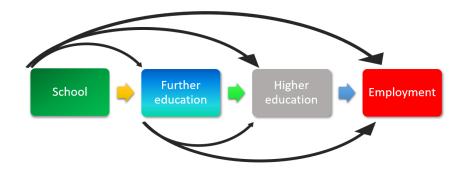
Article 7 UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities

"all necessary measures should be taken to ensure the full enjoyment by children with disabilities of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with other children, and that the best interests of the child shall be a primary consideration."

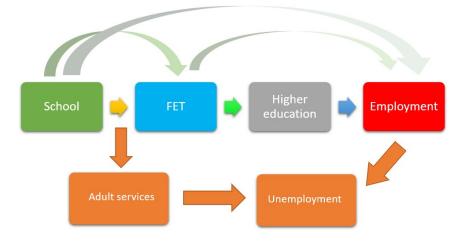


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'Normative' transitions



Transition from special education?





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WHAT DID WE DO

- Investigated supported transition for school leavers with intellectual disabilities, as a means of accessing mainstream opportunities in further / higher education, training, and employment (FETE).
- Outcomes for school leavers with ID, engaging with the WALK PEER supported transition model during their final two years in school.
- Captured the viewpoints of students attending two special schools, their parents and carers, recent school leavers, and education professionals.



Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City University Placing young people and their parents at the centre of their experiences





Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City University

Barriers

- Perceptions, experiences, and descriptions of negative cultural and societal attitudes
- Limited pathways and opportunities that impact on aspirations and goals
- Lack of continuity between child and adult services, and provision of support to manage this transition bridge
- Lack of access to a Guidance Counsellor as schools are not sufficiently resourced to provide this support to students and their families



Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City University An urgent need for greater clarity around options and financial implications, more timely communication of same to alleviate stress and anxiety for pupils and parents.

Facilitators

- Strong correlation between support programmes and transition planning, and their role in realization of goals and successes
- Growth in personal skills and confidence as an outcome of supported transition and work experience
- ✓ Development of clear goals and aspirations for the future, which can assist parents to support their children in achieving their ambitions
- ✓ Offers of permanent part-time employment, and enrolment in FET



- Access to QQI courses which will permit gradual progression up the qualification ladder
- ✓ WALK employment facilitators in schools, drawing together these strands.

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SUPPORTED TRANSITION MODEL



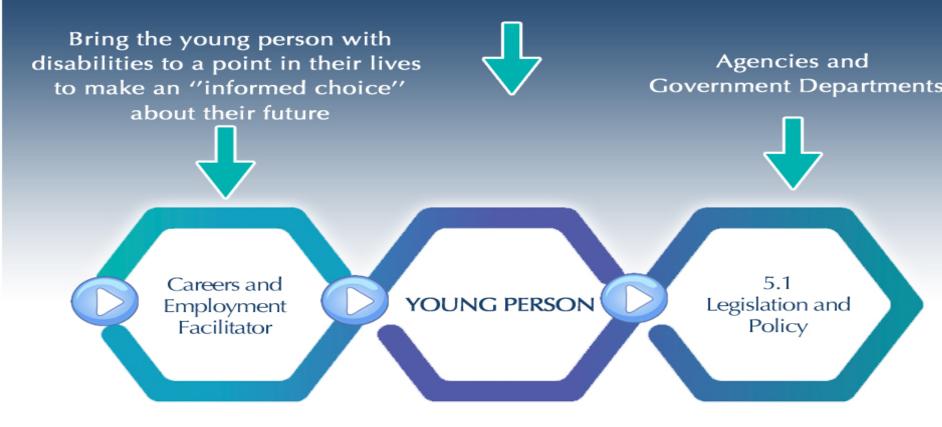






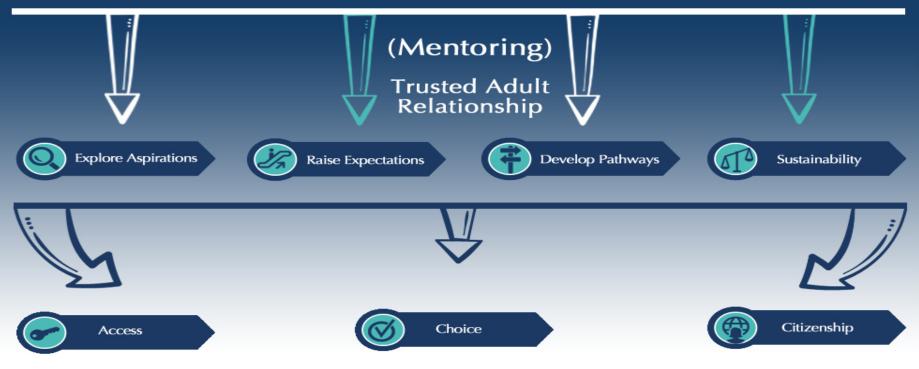
SUPPORTED TRANSITION MODEL

Building natural circles of support within local communities





CAREERS & EMPLOYMENT FACILITATOR



Strategic Priority 5.1: Provide Co-Ordinated and Seamless Support





MOVING FORWARD



Supported Transition Planning Including all Learners STIAL

This project proposes to develop the Post- School Transition Trajectories for young people with disabilities form special and mainstream schools



AIMS

- 1. To develop a collaborative evidence-based framework between the WALK PEER model of Supported Transition for developing post school pathways (PSP) for young people with disabilities and educational stakeholders in mainstream and special schools.
- 1. To provide access to career guidance information and transition support to students with disabilities and their parents in mainstream and special schools.



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OBJECTIVES

- To increase the capacity and promote the inclusion of young people with disabilities to access the same opportunities as their nondisabled peers in Ireland
- 2. To facilitate and coordinate capacity building initiatives on transition planning to strengthen and inform national policy on "Managing Transitions" for young people with disabilities (CES, pg. 16).



Ollscoil Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City University

EXPECTED OUTCOMES



RESEARCH FRAMEWORK





Bhaile Átha Cliath Dublin City Universit

WHATS NEXT?

Dr. Ger Scanlon

Geraldine.Scanlon@dcu.ie





Go raibh maith agaibh

Thank you

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Discussion / Q & A

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