



# Educate Together Second - Level Project

Educate Together Second-level News - Vol. 2, Issue 2 – October 2009

## Blueprint goes on the Road

The 3 Educate Together school communities in the Galway area (Galway ETNS, Claregalway ETNS, and Kilcolgan ETNS) will next week be hosting the first of a series of “Roadshow” events to promote ***Taking the Next Step – A Blueprint for Educate Together Second-level School***



A public meeting will be held in the Galway Educate Together National School, Thomas Hynes Road, **Galway on Thursday November 5th at 7pm**; all are welcome to attend. The Blueprint will be discussed at the meeting and Paul Rowe, CEO, and Emer Nowlan, Second-level project Manager will be there to answer any questions you might have about Educate Together’s plans for second-level education.

Download *Taking the Next Step* [here](#)  
Read what others have said about the Blueprint [here](#)

## New Second-level Team Member



Ann Ryan (left) with Louise Byrne, Office Manager, on a recent training day

We are delighted to welcome Ann Ryan to the second-level team as part-time Education Officer.

Ann also works at NUI Maynooth, supervising Post-graduate Diploma in Education students on teaching practice. She specializes in teaching drama and has taught in the UK and Australia as well as Ireland. Her talents in an Educate Together school.

## Feature highlights need for Educate Together Second-level School in Cork

A two-day newspaper feature highlighted the Educate Together second-level campaign in the Cork area this month. Maria Rolston, writing in the Cork Evening Echo, drew attention to the growing number of Educate Together pupils in the Cork area and the demand for an Educate Together second-level school for these pupils to go on to.

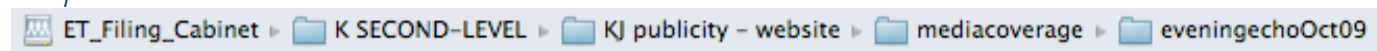
There are now four Educate Together schools in Cork (Cork Educate Together, Grattan St, Gaelscoil an Ghort Álainn, Midleton ETNS and Carrigaline ETNS). When these schools reach their full capacity there will be 200 sixth class pupils leaving each year to go on to second-level.

Maria Rolston spoke to local parents and teachers about why they feel there is a need for an Educate Together second-level school in the area. Conor O'Toole, whose six-year-old daughter, Ruby attends the Cork Educate Together national school on Grattan Street, said that this type of education is not currently available at secondary level in Cork. "Educate Together places an emphasis on teaching children to manage their own learning and learning how to learn. Ruby sees her homework as her own responsibility and I'd like to see her access the same educational ethos of equality, inclusion and diversity at secondary level," he said.

Principal at Midleton Educate Together national school, Rhodri Mears, said he hopes the children attending his school will have an Educate Together secondary school to go to. "We're thinking about where our students will progress to and although there are many good secondary schools in the region, there isn't a facility that caters for the Educate Together ethos in the Cork area. It's the missing link," he said.

The full articles can be downloaded here.

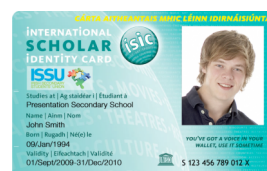
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## Irish Secondary Students Union Monitoring and Advisory Committee inaugural meeting

On Monday 19 October the Irish Second-Level Students' Union (ISSU) held their first Monitoring and Advisory Committee (MAC) meeting at Trinity Capitol Hotel, Dublin. Educate Together has accepted a position on the panel, and Ann Ryan, Second-Level Education Officer, attended on this occasion.

The newly-formed students' union has just launched an ISSU Scholar Card - a dedicated ID and discount card for second-level students aged between 12-18. The card is already proving hugely popular with second-level school students, for more information see [www.studentcard.ie](http://www.studentcard.ie)



Educate Together fully supports ISSU in their efforts to give students a voice in their school communities and beyond. ISSU expects to launch their organisation officially in March 2010, after which they will be accepting membership applications from student councils in all second-level schools around the country.

For more information on ISSU, contact [studentvoice@issu.ie](mailto:studentvoice@issu.ie) Website: [www.issu.ie](http://www.issu.ie)

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