

# Educate Together

## Education & Support



# news

For Educate Together  
teachers and boards  
of management

Spring 2018





**The progressive, professional  
union, representing teachers and  
lecturers in the Post-Primary,  
Further/Adult and Higher  
Education sectors.**



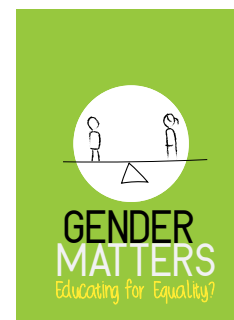
TUI is committed to a  
comprehensive system of high  
quality public education at all levels  
that is free, co-educational,  
non-denominational and informed by  
principles of equity and equality.



**[www.tui.ie](http://www.tui.ie)**

# Ethical Education Conference 2017

## Gender Matters: Educating for Equality?



The third annual Ethical Education Conference was held from 24-25 November, 2017 in the Grand Hotel, Malahide, Dublin.

Each year, the conference brings together teachers at primary and second-level from within and outside the Educate Together Network and provides an opportunity for teachers to enhance their skills and knowledge of Ethical Education.

This year the theme related to the co-education element of the Educate Together Charter and focused specifically on the topic of Gender Equality in education. Along with the popular StudentMeet and TeachMeet sessions and a thought-provoking keynote address by Dr Debbie Ging, the conference this year also featured a

*Gender Matters in Sport* panel discussion with leading athletes Catherina McKiernan, Rachel Ruddy, Nora Stapleton, Sharon Hutchinson and Physical Education lecturer and Sports Coach, Tony Sweeney. The session was chaired by *Off the Ball* presenter and Educate Together parent, Ger Gilroy (see cover photo).

We would like to thank our conference sponsors Mason Hayes Curran, Eversheds Sutherland, Erasmus+ and Folens Publishers who helped to make the conference a great success.

## Reflections of a Delegate

### Molly O'Duffy, Tyrrelstown ETNS

Educate Together's annual Ethical Education Conference is always a highlight of my teaching year and last November's event, held in the beautiful surroundings of Malahide, was no exception. The conference topic, gender, is a crucially important one, and it couldn't have been more timely. As a teacher I'm really aware of sex stereotyping making a strong comeback among young children and the fact that schools are increasingly supporting children along with their families in gender identity issues.

Dr. Debbie Ging of DCU was the keynote speaker at the Saturday session. She spoke of the backlash against feminism, which she referred to as "post-feminism" and showed examples of the truly shocking misogyny that passes for comment on certain internet sites.

She also addressed the issue of female dress and asked why the "male gaze" should determine what women and girls choose to wear. Why not let girls express themselves through dress and educate boys and young men not to sexualise certain types of clothes? This question raises a huge challenge to men and women and particularly, I suspect, to schools.

The workshop I attended was given by Catherine Cross of the Transgender Equality Network Ireland (TENI). This workshop cleared up a lot of confusion about such things as the difference between sexual orientation and gender identity and gave us the vocabulary and tools necessary to support transitioning students in our schools.

The TeachMeet was, as usual, enlightening, entertaining, and, if you won one of the many prizes, extremely profitable. Simon and Rozz Lewis, who run the TeachMeet every year, are a class act and Educate Together should be careful they are not pinched by a media mogul!

Well done to everyone involved!

# Organising the StudentMeet

**Caroline Doyle, Donabate and Portrane ETNS**

The Student Council of Donabate Portrane Educate Together NS was very proud to organise and host the StudentMeet at the 2017 Ethical Education Conference. The students gathered ideas and carefully planned activities that they felt would entertain both students and adults alike on the day!



Planning and preparing for this event was a grand undertaking. Students contacted other Educate Together schools to ensure they were informed about the day. They organised raffle prizes and prepared individual speaking roles. The students wanted to make the event fun and entertaining for everyone attending. They organised games of *Catch Phrase* and musical statues. They told jokes and held a raffle.



The students had the important role of introducing Student Council members from participating schools. Students from Canal Way, Balbriggan, Griffith Barracks and Dalkey spoke about

initiatives within their schools, which included ways to improve yard time and the promotion of Human Rights campaigns. The audience were also entertained by a wonderful video from Gaelscoil an Ghorit Álainn's Sionnach Langan which celebrated a unique perspective on everyday life.



The voices of the children played a central role throughout the process of planning and organisation.

Luke and Jamie (6th Class) described the day as 'fun' and were very glad that the event ran so smoothly! Eve's (6th Class) highlight was the active participation of so many people in the games and activities. Jacob (3rd Class) enjoyed organising the event and liked the responsibility involved!



We look forward to the next StudentMeet in 2018!





**Delegates John Irwin, General Secretary, ACCS and Eimear Reilly, UCD**



**Gender Matters in Sports Panel Discussion**



**Keynote speaker, Dr Debbie Ging**



**Educate Together CEO Paul Rowe launches LITTLE Online Course in Methodologies for Ethical Education**

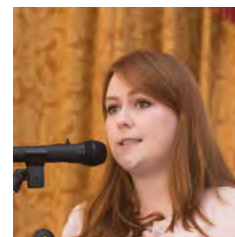
## Gender Matters in Sports Panel Top 3 Tips



1. In order to ensure participation in sport by girls and boys it is important to give girls their own space, equipment and teams.
2. Sport in school should always be about participation and not competition. Many children are put off by competition, but love participation.
3. Language is important – be careful not to imply that the boys team is the ‘school team’.

# Presenting at the TeachMeet

Vera Shanahan, Malahide and Portmarnock ETNS



For the past few years, the TeachMeet has been cited by many as the 'highlight of the Ethical Education conference'. It is a great way to see Ethical Education in action and to hear teachers from across Ireland share their experiences, ideas and knowledge.

The TeachMeet is facilitated by the power couple Simon and Rozz Lewis whose enthusiasm for Ethical Education is infectious. Simon is principal of Carlow Educate Together NS while Rozz teaches in Portlaoise ETNS. A TeachMeet is where teachers give a five-minute presentation on an idea or resource that they found beneficial in teaching Ethical Education. Every year I leave the TeachMeet with fresh ideas and inspiration for my classroom. This year was a particularly important year for me as it would be my first time presenting to an audience over the age of ten!

Over the summer I had the privilege of collaborating with UNICEF on the *#uprooted* campaign. The *#uprooted* campaign tells the stories of five migrant and refugee children, from the ages of 9 to 23. These young people have shared their lives on video in order to start important conversations in Ireland about rights, identity, culture, migration and inclusion. Their stories serve as the stimulus for ten primary and ten post-primary workshops.

The aim of the workshops is to explore values and attitudes related to diversity and to empower children and young people to show solidarity with

children from refugee or migrant backgrounds. While working on this project, the Equality and Justice strand of the Learn Together curriculum was never far from my mind, as there are strong links to this strand. Added to which, each workshop outlines the articles of the rights of the child that are being highlighted.

Inspired by previous teachers' contributions to the TeachMeet, I wanted to raise awareness of this project because I felt that it was something that would be of value to other Ethical Education teachers. While I cannot deny that I was nervous – notable perhaps in the fact that I sped-read through my whole presentation – the Educate Together Conference provides a generous and supportive audience and I was even rewarded with a goody bag for my efforts!

The great thing about the TeachMeet is the variety of approaches and ideas that are shared by other teachers. The other presenters this year included a mix of primary and second-level teachers.

If anyone has an idea or a resource for Ethical Education that is working well in their classroom, please keep the Ethical Education TeachMeet in mind – after all, there is probably nothing teachers love more than seizing a good idea when they see one!

Read more about the *#uprooted* project and access the lesson plans at: [www.unicefyouth.com/uprooted](http://www.unicefyouth.com/uprooted)

## Top Tweets on Dr Debbie Ging's Keynote



Educate Together  
@EducateTogether

'We need to be clear and consistent in approaching gender as something that is separate to biological sex and socially constructed.' @debbieging #GenderMatters #EthicalEducation



Emer Nowlan  
@emernowlan

One effect of post-feminism: students don't always see the problem. Patriarchy doesn't benefit most boys any more than it benefits girls. #GenderMatters



Niamh McGuirk  
@niamhmcguirk0

#GenderMatters Debbie Ging: we need to be aware of how our unconscious biases leads to substantial differences in how we treat boys and girls #EthicalEducation



Sandra Irwin-Gowran  
@sirwngowran

Gender straight jackets serve no one; we need to help girls and boys to develop critical thinking and language to address gender issues @debbieging #EthicalEducation #GenderMatters @EducateTogether



Eoin Shinnors  
@EoinShinnors

GENDER MATTERS: Studies indicate that children using gender stereotypes to negotiate the world can begin as early as 21/2 years...girls as young as 6 years believe brilliance is a male trait. @debbieging @EducateTogether #ethicaleducation #gendermatters





**Gary Fitzgerald from Clonturk Community College shared findings from research he conducted with pre-service teachers that revealed the gender biases teachers can hold and how these can impact the recommendations teachers make to students and parents about subject selection at second-level.**



**Jenny Byrne shared the experience and examples of democratic classroom practices at Lucan East ETNS.**



**Ciara McMackin from Kishoge Community College shared an approach to assessing Ethical Education at second-level based on a test for global competency developed by the OECD.**



**Pamela Ronan from Limerick ETNS shared her idea for incorporating ICT in teaching the Belief Systems strand of the Learn Together.**



**Pam O' Leary from Cork Educate Together Secondary School outlined how a Philosophy 4 Children approach can be used in Ethical Education to support critical thinking and debate and had us participate in a snowball philosophy fight!**



**Simon Lewis welcomed delegates to the TeachMeet**

# New School Principals Appointed

Educate Together is delighted to announce that the principals of two new second-level schools due to open in August 2018 have been appointed.

**Paula Mulhall** will lead the team at Dublin South City Educate Together Secondary School. Paula, a teacher of Science, Biology and Maths has been teaching in Palmerstown Community School since 1998. She is no stranger to Educate Together having served on the Executive Committee in North Kildare Educate Together National School and fulfilling the role of Chairperson at Celbridge Community School.

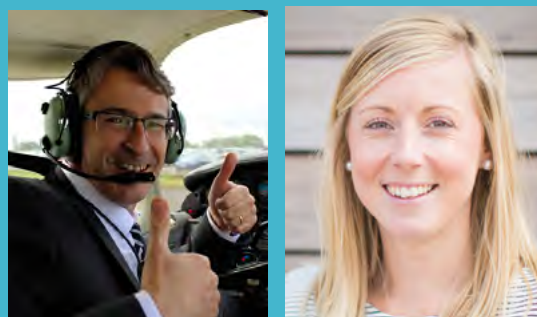
**Edmond Hussey** will lead the team at Limerick Educate Together Secondary School. Edmond joins the Educate Together Second-level Network from Christian Brothers College Cork where he teaches Geography, ICT and Coding. Edmond also brings his experience of working as a member of the Steering Committee for the New Junior Cycle to the role.



Paula and Edmond will join Claire Matthews and Aoife Kelly-Gibson, principals of Firhouse ETSS and Malahide Portmarnock ETSS, to bring the total number of new second-level schools to open in 2018 to four. We wish all of them well as they set up these new schools.

**Steve Davis** is the newly-appointed Headteacher of Parklands Educate Together Primary Academy in Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset. He was Deputy Headteacher at Winscombe Primary School from 1998 before becoming Deputy Principal at Kingshill School in Nailsea. This preceded his appointment as co-headteacher in Kingshill in 2008. In 2010 he took up his first full-time headteacher post at Northleaze Church of England Primary School in Long Ashton, Bristol

**Emma Garnett** is the newly-appointed Headteacher of Mulberry Park Educate Together Primary Academy in Bath. Originally from Warwickshire, she taught at a school in Rugby, where she helped to set up a foundation unit. After 2 years Emma relocated to Sheffield, where she joined Coit Primary School as a Year 1 teacher and art coordinator. She was a founding staff member of Redfield Educate Together in Bristol.



If you would like to write an article for the newsletter, please contact Fionnuala Ward ([fionnuala.ward@educatetogether.ie](mailto:fionnuala.ward@educatetogether.ie)) or Laura Dooley ([laura.dooley@educatetogether.ie](mailto:laura.dooley@educatetogether.ie))



# Useful Resources for the Primary Classroom

**Fionnuala Ward, Primary Education Officer**

There is a lot of really good material available on the Educate Together Learn Together Resource Bank. The resources are related to the four strands of the Learn Together and are available either to download in PDF or a link is provided to a relevant site. Here are some examples.

**Creating Futures** is the title of a set of 10 really engaging lessons from Trócaire on the existentialist crisis that is Climate Change - suitable for senior classes. <https://www.trocaire.org/getinvolved/education/creating-futures>



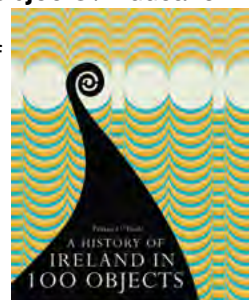
**Different Families, Same Love** is the title of a range of resources on LGBT issues for all classes. Available on INTO website. <http://www.into.ie/lgbt/EducationalResources/>



**If 100 people lived on Earth** is a short, animated video (less than 3 minutes) bringing global statistics to life. Available on YouTube

**A History of Ireland in 100 Objects** / Education:

This user-friendly website from the National Museum of Ireland provides an in-depth look at fourteen wonderful objects with a range of accompanying resources and lesson plans. Educate Together was involved in the development of this project and all of the objects can



be linked to the Learn Together curriculum. For example, the Eileen Gray chair links to gender roles in Equality and Justice; the Flint Macehead to awe and wonder in Moral and Spiritual; the Reclining Buddha to Belief Systems, etc. <http://100objects.ie/education/>

**To recommend a particular resource, please contact: [fionnuala.ward@educatetogether.ie](mailto:fionnuala.ward@educatetogether.ie)**

## Online Summer Courses for Primary Teachers

Keep a look out for the next issue of Education & Support News where we will be promoting our new online summer course about activating students' voices.

Our standard course on all strands of the Learn Together curriculum will of course also be on offer this summer.

These courses are EPV approved.

## Educate Together AGM: Kildare Town ETNS, 19 May, 2018

This year's AGM is being hosted by Kildare Town ETNS on the 19 May 2018. It's very accessible by all modes of transport so we're hoping for a big turnout.

Please note the following important dates in the lead up to the AGM.

- All information on how to make submissions was posted to schools in January
- Boards of Management are invited to submit policy motions no later than the 8th March.
- The preliminary agenda will be sent to all members on 22nd March.
- Amendments to proposed motions should be submitted to the Board of Directors no later than 19th April.
- Nominations to the Board of Directors should be submitted no later than 19th April.
- The final agenda will be circulated to members a minimum of 3 weeks before the AGM.
- A number of workshops will be provided on the day. Please note the date in your diary and bring your voice to the Network.

# Second-level Educate Together Network Teacher Exchange

**What is the Teacher Exchange?** Selected teachers from Educate Together second-level schools will have the opportunity to visit another Educate Together school for a day to observe teaching and learning and meet with teachers.

**Why?** The teacher exchanges aim to promote the sharing of learning within the network of Educate Together second-level schools particularly in the areas of Ethical Education and Development Education. Teachers will discuss planning, resources and assessment for Ethical Education and Development Education.

**How?** The teacher exchanges are part of the 2017-2018 Educate Together Development Education project funded by Irish Aid's WorldWise Global Schools Programme.

**When?** February-April 2018.

**What about students?** Students also have a role in the project. The Development Education Student Learning Showcase will be hosted by one of the second-level schools in April. Students from each of the 9 schools will come together to share their learning in Development Education.



## Serving Teachers, Promoting Education

**Campaigning for investment in education**

**Promoting and protecting the teaching profession**

**Safeguarding education standards**





# 4 Books that address core strands of Ethical Education at Second-level

Laura Dooley, Second Level Education Officer

## Migration

### **The Island**

Armin Greder

A picture book that depicts what happens when an asylum seeker is found on an island. The book can be used to explore fears and media coverage of migration and the treatment of, and attitudes towards, asylum seekers and refugees in Ireland and elsewhere.

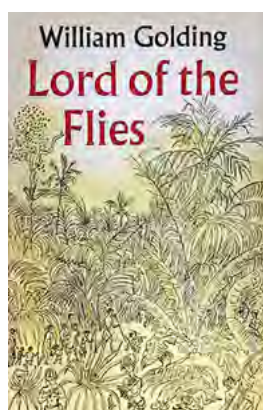


## Power & participation

### **Lord of the Flies**

William Golding

A group of boys get stranded on an uninhabited island and try to survive. This classic can be used to explore power relations and the regulation of society by rules/laws, including what happens when they are broken. Another theme to explore is how the story might be different if there were girls and boys on the island.



## Gender Equality

### **I Am Malala: The Story of the Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban** Malala Yousafzai & Christina Lamb

This book is based on real events. Malala was shot in the head by the Taliban when she was 15 on her way home from school. After surviving the attack, Malala became a champion for girls' education. The book can be used to explore the different treatment of boys and girls and gender equality activism.



## Development Education

### **Breathe**

Sarah Crossan

The story is told from the perspective of three characters who occupy different positions in the futuristic world of the Pod where oxygen must be bought because there are no more trees. The story can be used to explore sustainability and social inequality.



For suggestions of texts related to the other strands see the Autumn 2017 edition of the E&S Newsletter available at [www.educatetogether.ie/ES-newsletter](http://www.educatetogether.ie/ES-newsletter). Further resources, lesson plans and teaching ideas are available from the second-level resource bank: <https://learning.educatetogether.ie/course/view.php?id=26>

Have you got suggestions for texts to use in Ethical Education you'd like to share?

Send your ideas to [laura.dooley@educatetogether.ie](mailto:laura.dooley@educatetogether.ie)

## Ethical Education Network Workshops and Seminars



The Ethical Education Network (EEN) is a teacher professional development network organised and run by teachers with an interest in Ethical Education. The EEN held two events for teachers last term:

- An introduction to Ethical Education: Planning, Resources and Assessment
- Exploring Beliefs through Experiential Learning

Upcoming workshops include:

- ***Teaching Ethical Education in Transition Year***
- ***Teaching the Learn Together in the Early Primary Years***
- ***Values in Ethical Education***

The EEN Committee is currently working on developing a website where information about past and future events and resources for Ethical Education will be available. Watch out for it. In the meantime, information will be shared by email to EEN members. You can join the Ethical Education Network by simply completing the membership form (available at <https://www.educatetogether.ie/support/ethical-ed-TPN>) and emailing [ethicaleducationnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:ethicaleducationnetwork@gmail.com)

## Online Course: Methodologies for Teachers in Ethical Education - Now Available



Working with our European partners in Slovenia, Croatia and Italy, Educate Together has developed an online course especially for teachers of Ethical Education as part of an Erasmus+ funded project. Responding to requests from teachers within the Educate Together Network for greater guidance and support for teaching the Learn Together and Ethical Education Curriculum, the online course contains 6 modules designed to enhance teachers' skills in teaching Ethical Education:

1. Introduction to Ethical Education
2. Critical and Creative Thinking
3. Ethical Decision Making and Ethical Dilemmas
4. Holistic and Biographical Learning
5. Managing Conflict and Facilitating Dialogue on Controversial Issues
6. The Ethics of Care

The course can be accessed at <https://learning.educatetogether.ie/course/view?id=144>

### LEARN TOGETHER TO LIVE TOGETHER

Teachers Leading Ethical Education  
For An Inclusive Society

#### Quotes from teachers who have already completed some of the modules:

*"I feel this module will help me in my teaching by clarifying my understanding of what Ethical Education is. [...] I also found the web links and resources to be very useful."*

*"The content on Thinking Time, Philosophy and exploring Ethical Dilemmas is applicable across all subject areas, particularly literacy and SESE."*

*"Interesting and useful. Not too long and easy to follow."*

*"It is very clear, concise and practical. Some courses have far too much text in each section, however, this course steers through the jargon directly to the key points."*



## Educate Together Insurance Scheme To Be Launched In 2018

Educate Together National Office recently carried out a survey of member schools to try to better understand schools' cover needs and costs increases. The survey showed that since 2015, average insurance premiums have increased by €3,500 and this is placing extreme demands on already stretched finances.

Insurance premiums across the board are on the increase. As our schools grow, so too do the risks and premiums increase. Even for schools with no growth, higher levels of claims and litigation mean that insurers are loading the premiums. As individual schools we have very limited control of how we can protect ourselves from huge increases or, indeed, huge claims.

The National Office has appointed Claire Dumbrell, from Brady Insurance, to be the Educate Together Network Insurance Broker. Claire is working to ensure that our member schools avoid further substantial increases. If our schools group together, we have a much greater bargaining power with the insurers by entering longer term agreements with stable premiums and future premium reductions.

Educate Together are developing an Educate Together Insurance Scheme exclusively for our schools to launch later in 2018. Members will benefit from seminars, site visits and risk reduction training which will help minimise the risk of claims, and therefore minimise the risk of premium increases. Claire has worked with Educate Together schools for many years and understands the unique needs and ethos of our communities. She is the only recommended insurance broker for our schools.

You can contact Claire by phone at 01 838 5605 or by email at [claire@bradyinsurance.ie](mailto:claire@bradyinsurance.ie)



*Fundraise for Your School*  
**WITH GREETING CARDS DESIGNED  
 BY YOUR OWN SCHOOLCHILDREN**



**WWW.DESIGNACARD.IE**  
 A FUNDRAISING PARTNERSHIP WITH EDUCATE TOGETHER

## Why is there so much about Data Protection these days?

General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) come into effect on 25th May 2018. For schools the regulations relate to the protection of 'personal data'. It should be noted that while the fines for non-compliance are sizeable the regulations are generally based on schools taking 'reasonable steps' to ensure compliance.

### What is personal data?

"Personal data" means data relating to a living individual who is or can be identified either from the data or from the data in conjunction with other information that is in, or is likely to come into, the possession of the data controller (school).

### Where can I get more information?

On the basis of 'Tús maith, leath na hoibre' (A good start is half the work) and to help schools

navigate this complex areas, the Management Bodies have put together a website full of information, advice, GDPR 12 steps and useful links. The website is [www.dataprotectionschools.ie](http://www.dataprotectionschools.ie).

### How quickly does a school need to act upon receipt of a request for information?

One important change to note is that the requests for data held by a school in relation to a person must be dealt within one month. This means that schools should have a system in place to check for requests when the school is closed.

There is specific information on the Data Protection Schools website in relation to the requirements of GDPR: <http://www.dataprotectionschools.ie/en/GDPR/>



VSO Ireland is an international development organisation that works through volunteers in 24 countries across Africa, Asia and the Pacific. We're looking for experienced teachers, deputy principals, principals and education researchers to join us in the fight against poverty this year.

### These roles might involve:

- **Promoting inclusive education** – working with schools, communities and governments to make sure education is for everyone, including girls and children with disabilities.
- **Using technology in classrooms** – improving literacy and numeracy outcomes by introducing tablet devices and child-centred software to curricula.
- **Training teachers** – working with teacher training institutions to improve teaching quality and school management systems.

All volunteers receive a comprehensive support package, including flights, accommodation, medical insurance, training and a monthly allowance. Please note that the deadline for career break applications for teachers is 1st February 2018.

### Interested in finding out more?

Call Liz on **01 640 1060** or visit [www.vso.ie](http://www.vso.ie) now. You can also register your place at an upcoming information evening by visiting [www.vso.ie/meetvso](http://www.vso.ie/meetvso).



## Q&A: Training for Members of Boards of Management

### Q. What training does Educate Together provide to Boards of Management?

A. In conjunction with the Department of Education and Skills, Educate Together provides training to Boards of Management in the following areas:

- The Board as a Corporate Entity
- Data Protection
- Child Protection Guidelines
- Finance
- Legal Issues
- Anti-bullying Procedures
- Recruitment and Appointment

In 2017 the School Support section delivered training in Data Protection; the Board as a Corporate Entity; Recruitment and Appointments.

The first 2018 training event addressed Finance and took place on Saturday, 27th January, in Drumcondra Education Centre.

### Q. What training is planned for 2018?

A. Details of further training this year will be circulated to all schools when finalised.

If you would like to receive notice of these events please email [schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie](mailto:schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie)

### Q. Who gets notified of these events?

A. The School Support section notifies all Principals and Chairpersons of primary schools. We also include Treasurers and other Board members, when we have those details. If you're on a Board of Management, and not receiving our emails in relation to training, please DO let us know, and we'll add you to our mailing list.

### Q. How do you book a place?

A. Please book your place in advance to ensure that we can accommodate all participants – planning for such events involves ensuring venues have enough space; printouts are available and catering is for the desired numbers.

### Q. Can I just show up on the day?

A. No, if you haven't registered in advance we haven't counted you in the numbers. You'll have to wait until the training comes around again or avail of our online resources.

### Q. What do I do if I can't make it on the day and I've already registered?

A. If you do register in advance and realise you can't make it please let us know so that we can offer your place to someone else as we often have a waiting list.

### Q. Who do I contact to find out more?

A. Email Deirdre O'Donoghue or James McGlynn [schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie](mailto:schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie)

## Online Networks for Treasurers and Chairpersons

The Educate Together School Support section moderates two closed email groups, one for Chairpersons, and one for Treasurers of Boards of Management.

The online groups provide a private space for discussion, sharing of ideas and solutions, and general networking opportunities.

If you would like to be part of either of these email groups, please email School Support at [schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie](mailto:schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie), and we will arrange to have you added.





# OUR WORLD IRISH AID AWARDS 2018

## "TRANSFORMING OUR WORLD"

I first heard about **Our World Irish Aid Awards** earlier this year, and I must say it was a fantastic opportunity for my class to be involved in. As 5th Class teacher, I was looking for project work that the whole class could work on together as a unit. It needed to provide enough scope for the children to work on individually, and in groups, and to cater to their particular strengths as learners. It also had to appeal to them on a personal level, to command their attention for its duration. When I introduced the class to Our World Irish Aid and its 2017 theme, "For People and Planet" via its website, the children were very enthusiastic to participate. Even from this early stage it was very satisfying to see the children arrive at their own class theme, "Save the Bees to save the Planet" through brainstorming, debate, art and discussion. The Our World team were happy to assist with any questions we had, so we were well supported throughout. The lesson plans they provided were very detailed and integrated well across the primary curriculum, and the learning outcomes were valuable and meaningful to the children across a wide spectrum including literacy, SESE, SPHE, the Arts and more.

The children showed real concern for the welfare of the planet and its peoples. They were particularly keen to illustrate how the countries of the Global North could learn a thing or two from our friends in the Global South on sustainable development, and how to protect our planet and its valuable resources. What was even more gratifying and encouraging for me as a teacher was to see the children work cohesively and passionately to produce their submission. It gave them a real sense of ownership, citizenship and responsibility toward their part in protecting planet Earth for future generations. My only role was to co-ordinate and submit their work. From my class' experience of **Our World Irish Aid Awards**, I would thoroughly recommend it to other schools as a fulfilling and rewarding opportunity. I look forward to taking part again in the future.

– **Caroline Brennan O'Connor**  
Carrigaline Educate Together National School,  
Carrigaline, Co Cork

Irish Aid, the Government's overseas aid programme, invites you and your class or school to participate in the Our World Irish Aid Awards. The theme for this year is **"Transforming Our World"**.

This exciting Awards programme helps primary pupils in 3rd to 6th class to explore the interdependent nature of our world and the connections between people, animals and the environment, in places near and far.

The Awards were launched at the beginning of January by the Minister of State for the Diaspora and International Development, Ciarán Cannon T.D. Irish Aid is inviting teachers to register now by filling out the form below. Registered teachers will receive a Teacher's Pack, which includes classroom posters, a teacher's booklet, fun and interactive pupils' magazines as well as online curriculum linked lesson plans.



## REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2018 AWARDS!

Simply fill out the form below and post back to:  
**The Our World Irish Aid Awards, Real Nation,  
24 Arran Quay, Dublin 7, D07 W620**

You can register or find out more via phone or email:  
**01 522 4834 or [ourworld@realnation.ie](mailto:ourworld@realnation.ie)**



School Name:

School Roll Number (Roll):

School Address:

School Principal:

Representative Teacher:

Representative Teacher's Email:

Representative Teacher's Mobile Number:

We are interested in undertaking the Our World Irish Aid Awards programme in the following classes:

Republic of Ireland ☐ 3rd Class ☐ 4th Class ☐ 5th Class ☐ 6th Class  
Northern Ireland ☐ P5 ☐ P6 ☐ P7

☐ Please tick here if you would like to receive a pack in Irish rather than English

Please indicate how you first heard about the programme:

☐ This publication ☐ Having participated previously ☐ TV/radio/newspaper article  
☐ Word of mouth ☐ Expo/Conference ☐ Advertisement  
☐ Online ☐ Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Principal's Signature:

Date:

