

Educate Together

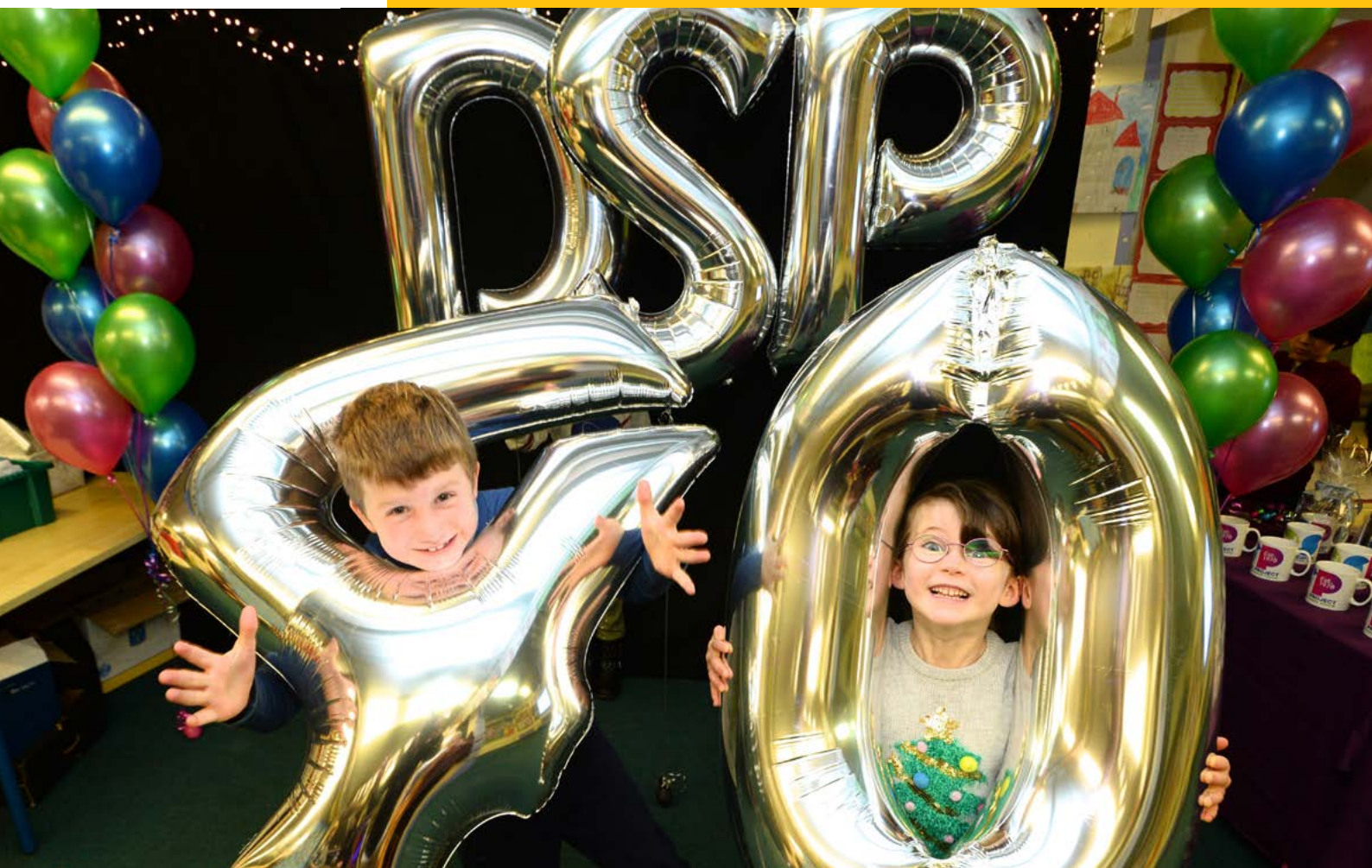
Education & Support



news

For Educate Together
teachers and boards
of management

Spring 2019



WHAT'S INSIDE: Ethical Education Teacher of the Year;
Round-up of Ethical Education 2018 Conference;
Climate Action Strike; \$1m Grant from Salesforce;
Apply for Ethical Education Summer School & much more

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 **léargas**

Are you Educate Together's Ethical Education Teacher of the Year?

Educate Together schools are unique in the Irish education system because of their provision of an Ethical Education curriculum at primary and second-level. This makes our teachers unique too as you lead teaching and learning in this equality-based subject! For the first time this year, Educate Together National Office will formally recognise and celebrate this commitment and dedication to Ethical Education by honouring an **Ethical Education Teacher of the Year** at primary and second-level. The scheme is part of Educate Together's aim to promote the value of Ethical Education across the education sector; highlighting the outstanding practice that exists in our schools' by Educate Together teachers is an important aspect of this aim.

Who's eligible and how will the Teacher of the Year be selected?

- Any teacher currently employed in an Educate Together school can be nominated.
- Anyone from an Educate Together school community can make a nomination including students, parents, teachers, principals and Board of Management members. Self-nominations are encouraged!
- An adjudicating committee will include the Educate Together Primary and Second-level Education Officers and pupils and students from Educate Together primary and second-level schools.

What's the prize?

In addition to a special Ethical Education Teacher of the Year trophy the primary and second-level awardees will receive a voucher for their personal enjoyment at a special Ceremony Dinner in May. The initiative is being made possible this year through sponsorship received to build capacity amongst teachers and promote leaders in Ethical Education.

How can you make a nomination?

The entry process is simple:

- Log on to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3X8N9X5>



Complete 2 sections:

1. Why do you think this person should win Ethical Education Teacher of the Year?
2. Give 3 examples of good practice in Ethical Education this person demonstrates.

Closing date for entries is **March 29th 2019**.

So what are you waiting for? Submit your nomination today!




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Round Up of the Ethical Education Conference 2018

Fionnuala Ward

This year's Ethical Education conference focused on the very apt theme of *Changing Our Ways; Changing Our World: Educating for a Sustainable Environment* and it certainly didn't disappoint.

The conference was held in two venues, with the Friday kick-off Second-Level Student Council session in the Science Gallery Dublin, followed by our ever-popular StudentMeet.

The Student Council of Dalkey School Project (DSP) ran the StudentMeet and had riddles and activities that kept everyone on their toes in between wonderful and inspiring presentations from students from Canal Way ETNS, Celbridge CS, Griffith Barracks MDS, Portmarnock ETNS, Stepside ETSS and Bremore ETSS as well as of course students from Dalkey.

The evening concluded with an engaging panel discussion on *Educating for a Sustainable Environment* which was chaired by Dr Shane Bergin of UCD and comprised Oisín Coghlan of Friends of the Earth, Elaine Nevin of Eco-Unesco and Duncan Stewart of RTE's Eco Eye.

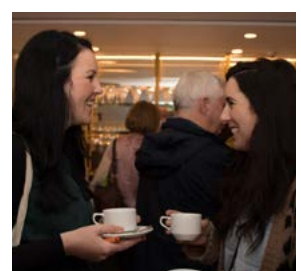
It was a sobering discussion but challenging and stimulating nonetheless.

Saturday morning in The Alex Hotel began with the ever popular TeachMeet which this year had a change of face up front as Fintan Murphy stepped into the TeachMeet facilitator shoes. Many thanks to him and also to Robert Quinn, Ashbourne ETNS, Mary Brosnan, Tralee ETNS, Kate Minnock, North Wicklow ETSS, Jerrieann Sullivan, Cork ETSS, Eimear Coen, Claregalway ETNS, Gráinne Gannon and Susan McCarthy both from Dublin 7 ETNS for their presentations.

Dr Charlotte Holland, DCU, gave an impactful keynote that looked at the growth of the human population over millennia and the repercussions for life on the planet.

The workshops by Aoife Titely, Maynooth University, Rowan Oberman, DCU, Una Halpin, Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland and Doireann Dunbar, Eco-Unesco were active and hands-on sessions that finished the conference off on a practical note.

Thanks to all those who attended and to all our sponsors for their generous contributions.



Changing our ways, Changing our World

Garry Hodgins, Teacher at Stepside ETSS

On Friday, November 23, I had the privilege of accompanying our Deputy Principal Sallie Ennis and a dozen of our students in attending the Educate Together Ethical Education conference at the Science Gallery in Trinity College Dublin. The day was extremely informative and helped those teachers and students present to better appreciate the history and values of the Educate Together community of schools. The 84 Educate Together primary schools were well represented and led by a brave cohort of students from Dalkey School Project.

They did a wonderful job in leading the audience through a presentation which traced the history of Educate Together back to 1978 when a committed group of visionaries wanted to break the stranglehold which religion had upon the Irish Education system at the time by starting Dalkey School Project.



From Small Acorns Mighty Oaks Have Grown

The bravery and resilience of the founding members cannot be underestimated. A pamphlet, circulated in the Dalkey area in south Dublin at that time warned that “there is no need for such a school as this can only be divisive. It can only be hostile to religion in an age where it was never more needed . . . Dalkey could be a precedent for major trouble in other areas.” In many ways, their struggle to establish an alternative voice in Irish education is a call to action for all of our students. As Educate Together CEO, Paul Rowe said in a recent article in The Irish Times, “It’s a tribute to them and to the courage and dedication of the nascent Educate Together school communities in the intervening years that we are now in a position to apply for 13 new schools to open in 2019.” So, from small acorns mighty oaks have grown.



Integrating Technology in the Classroom Has Positive Impacts on our Environment

Ethical Education invites students and teachers to engage with issues and challenges facing society in order to nurture globally aware and active citizens who are prepared to take action. In the student-led presentations which we witnessed, there was a strong emphasis on creating learning environments which better prepared our young people to face the challenges of environmental degradation and their collective responsibility in developing sustainable models for learning. “I love my phone” was an ironically titled and rousing presentation given by students of Celbridge Community School, as they challenged the audience to recognize the reality of climate change and how young people’s attention is diverted from this reality by social media.

The importance of integrating technology in the classroom was brilliantly explained by students of Bremore ETSS who demonstrated the positive impact which a paperless medium for teaching and learning has on our environment. I took particular pride in the excellent presentation delivered by our own students Cuan, Sadbh and Maria as they presented their Phenomena Based Learning (PBL) week and Dragon’s Den winning invention for sustainable beehives entitled “The urban B and Bee”. Particular kudos must go to their teacher, Colin Doyle, who provided the scaffolding for the most successful PBL week to date which yielded several innovative projects for a sustainable future. It is clear that students in Educate Together Schools are learning to think and live sustainably through the Ethical Education curriculum.



Make Your Voice Heard: NCCA Consultation on a revised Relationships & Sexuality Education Curriculum

The Relationship and Sexuality Education Curriculum is currently under review and the NCCA are seeking submissions from teachers and school leaders. Details are available on the NCCA website and the closing date for submissions is **15 February**. The review spans both primary and second-level.

Help Us Rename This Newsletter

In the coming weeks we will survey you about different aspects of this Newsletter with a view to assessing its impact. At present we send a print copy to every teacher in every Educate Together school, we're open to suggestions as to whether we continue this or make it a digital publication, etc.

We're also open to hearing your suggestions as to a new name for what is currently called **Education and Support News**! We're confident that one of you can come up with a catchier title that captures the Ethical Education and Board of Management Support aspects of this publication.

We're so confident in fact, that the author of the chosen title will receive a €100 voucher! So, watch out for the survey and get thinking to be in with a chance of winning.



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Our mission is to nourish a lifelong love of learning through Science in all our children ('Junior Einsteins'), igniting their natural curiosity by providing, exciting, engaging, experimental practical STEM experiences, professionally delivered in a Structured, Safe, Supervised, Educational and Fun environment.

Through our bespoke science based programmes (Experiments / Curriculum) we develop children's personal confidence and self-esteem. We promote creative thinking, teamwork, imagination and problem-solving abilities.

We teach them "how to think.... not what to think", best preparing them for the unpredictability of the future challenges they will face in our constantly changing world.

Let Planet Earth Be Your Valentine!

JOIN US IN OUR CLIMATE ACTION

Jenny Stanley & 6th Class, Donabate Portrane ETNS

How can you tell whether children feel they have a voice in the classroom and the wider world? As a teacher, being told that your students want to go on strike definitely seems like a step in the right direction, albeit a bit of a surprising one!

Donabate and Portrane ETNS have placed significant emphasis on the Sustainable Development Goals in our school this year. Perhaps a consequence of that has been the decision by 6th class students to strike for climate justice. While the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have permeated many areas of our learning so far, the Learn Together curriculum was definitely where the strike seed was sewn.

Immediate Action is Needed

I attended this year's Educate Together Ethical Education Conference on sustainability and I was, to say the least, shaken by the cold harsh realities of the fate of our planet. The message that immediate action is needed was clearly received and so I left the conference with a need to share this with my students. This, combined with the students' understanding of the importance of the SDGs, lead us on our first steps towards our current plans for strike action.

A colleague of mine sent me a video of Greta Thunberg, a Swedish fifteen year old who has taken social media by storm with her decision to protest outside Swedish government buildings in a call for climate justice.

Should Irish students strike for climate action?

Upon sharing this in class and exploring how her actions inspired students in Australia to strike, we decided to have a debate around the motion: Should Irish students strike for climate action? The 6th class students did an excellent job considering both sides of the argument.

Following this debate, a class discussion ensued. It was here that students' questions got interesting: what would I, as their teacher, think if they decided to strike? What would Maeve, our principal, think? How would they go about striking?

I would be lying if I said this conversation didn't take me slightly off guard. It certainly got me thinking. If we want our students to become active global citizens, we need to empower them to put their knowledge of sustainability and active citizenship into practice. We need to truly listen to their voice and value their opinions, because they certainly have a lot to say.

Teachers can facilitate their students to take action

We, as teachers, have the privileged opportunity to facilitate this. This year, let planet Earth be your Valentine: write love letters to the Earth and send them to Dáil Éireann or your local TDs; stand with us outside the Dáil on February 13th. The students have written to RTÉ News2Day, who are excited to join us, and share our belief that children have the power to change the world.

Greta Thunburg is a perfect example of how one young person can make significant positive change. In her speech to the United Nations, she argued that if a few children could make headlines all over the world just by not going to school, imagine what we could all do together if we really wanted to.

We hope you will join us on our journey. Watch out for our video calling on other schools to join us in striking. **Join our strike action on 13th February.**

If you are interested in, please contact jenny.stanley@dpetns.ie for further information. Join us on social media [#bethechangeSDG13](https://twitter.com/bethechangeSDG13)



Intercultural education through adventure and experiential learning and the Grow from Seeds Project

Gerry Breslin, Principal, Kildare Town Educate Together

Last year we got involved in a very exciting Erasmus+ project called *Grow from Seeds* which was led by The Gaiety School of Acting and The National Theatre School of Ireland. Plan International in Dublin was a fellow-Irish partner and we also had partners in Germany and France.

The ultimate aim for the project was to produce resources for primary school teachers and to develop a summer course for teachers in Ireland which will be free of charge in the summer of 2019.

The *Grow to Show Play Handbook* is one of the resources we developed. It is divided into two sections, a series of workshops aimed at assisting teachers and their students in exploring, creating and collecting their own stories and an instruction pack on how to turn these stories into a 'show' or performance.

Teachers may also use the *Grow to Show Play Handbook* as an independent resource for creative drama purposes within the classroom.

The programme and handbook use an Open Framework Pedagogy Approach, encouraging inclusivity in the classroom and providing teachers and pupils with resources and frameworks that explore social cohesion and social inclusion.

In November, we launched The *Grow from Seeds* E-Book. This publication explores the topic of intercultural education within a primary school setting in three countries: France, Germany and Ireland.

Both publications have been produced with the support of the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union.

We are now in the process of developing drama-based, experiential workshops designed to investigate and explore the themes of social inclusion, social cohesion, active citizenship and empowerment. These workshops will be accessible on the *Grow from Seeds* website in due course.

The *Grow to Show Play Handbook* and the *Grow from Seeds* E-Book are available from Gerry in Kildare ETNS or through the National Office of Educate Together.



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Educate Together Receives a \$1million Grant!

Sandra Irwin-Gowran

Many readers will have seen and heard the big media stories recently about tech giant companies promising new jobs in the capital. Amongst those announcements in the dull days of January was one of a million dollar grant by Salesforce.org, the philanthropic arm of Salesforce, to the Educate Together national office. Salesforce is a customer relations management cloud-based platform which is very popular within the not-for-profit sector, including Educate Together national office which has been using this as our database system for the past decade.

So, how much is \$1million in Euro?

Educate Together received the grant in October of last year and at the time this converted to €833,333. This odd number may not roll off the tongue as smoothly as \$1m but it most certainly will help Educate Together to invest in our Network of schools through a range of activities over the coming year.

Investing in our network

A significant proportion of monies were granted in order to support the deepening of the Educate Together ethos throughout the network of schools, through investing in leaders of Ethical Education, providing guidance to schools in relation to the Educate Together Charter, developing the Ethical Education curriculum and capturing the unique student experience in attending an Educate Together school. A smaller, but significant proportion is to support the opening of more new primary and second-level Educate Together schools and thereby expand the numbers of families who are able to gain access to the Educate Together experience.

Activities will strengthen our Leaders and Schools

Here is a flavour of some of the activities we are planning over the coming months, all of which will be done in close collaboration with all our schools;

- Recruiting a full-time Ethos Guidance Officer to develop guidance for Educate Together schools in implementing the four pillars of the Charter.
- Engaging external experts to complete a School (Ethos) Self-Evaluation process. We will be writing to all schools very soon with more information about this.
- Engaging external curriculum experts to pilot, evaluate and review the existing Ethical Education curricula in Educate Together Schools.
- A full calendar of events for teachers and leaders of Ethical Education including Educate Together's first ever Ethical Education Summer School – see page 11 for full details.
- Expanding school libraries and resources in new and engaging Ethical Education books and teaching materials
- Supporting leaders in our schools and leaders in Ethical Education through, for example the Ethical Education Teacher of the Year (see page 3 for details) and establishing a network for Deputy Principals at second level.
- Research into the impact of second level Educate Together schools on student experience
- Recruiting a Buildings Officer to help support issues around school accommodation

We're trying to channel as much of this grant into the schools through teachers, please take advantage of these exciting opportunities and help us spend this amazing grant on the strengthening of our sector. You'll be hearing more about all of these as time goes on.



Further information about the Salesforce.org grant and any of these activities can be sought from Sandra.irwingowran@educatetogether.ie

Company Events - Educate Together GMM and AGM

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) this year's takes place a little earlier than usual on Saturday 30th March 2019 in Stepside Educate Together National School.

The AGM is an opportunity for members to shape the policies of Educate Together for the coming year. Policy motions direct the organisation in its dealings with partners in education, including the Department of Education and Skills. They are also a way of ensuring that members' concerns inform decision making by the Board of Directors.

Prior to the AGM a General Member's Meeting (GMM) was held on the 2nd February 2019 at Firhouse ETNS. This resulted from a review by the Board of the operation of AGM meetings. In order to implement these changes for the 2019 AGM, a GMM was necessary.

Each Educate Together member has received instructions via post about submitting motions to the AGM, and has received nomination forms for the Educate Together Board of Directors.

We hope that every member of Educate Together is represented at the AGM.

OUR WORLD IRISH AID AWARDS 2019

"LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND"

The Our World Irish Aid Awards has been a key part of my teaching over the past few years. As a Learning Support teacher for 5th and 6th class, I see it as a great opportunity to build communication skills, teamwork, confidence and student ownership over their own learning. It is also a wonderful way to integrate global citizenship themes into the life of the pupils in a meaningful and exciting way.

Participating in the Our World Irish Aid Awards has allowed our pupils to learn about people living all around the globe, the issues that may be affecting their lives, how these issues link with our lives in Ireland and come up with actions that we can do to try to make a positive difference to the world around us. The focus on taking action is the key driver encouraging me to participate in the awards again and again. I think it is imperative that our pupils learn about these 'big issues' but it is simultaneously critical that we, as educators, guide them in their role as global citizens in how to take action locally that can have wider knock-on effects.

I would thoroughly recommend the awards to any teacher regardless of their context. While obviously an exciting initiative for a whole class to engage in, my colleagues and I have found that delivering Learning Support or SEN provision through the context of a project like this can really enhance the experience and enjoyment of everyone involved (including the teachers!).

– Cecelia Gavigan, Balbriggan Educate Together National School, Balbriggan, Co. Dublin

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 "Leave No One Behind".

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 to 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 2019 AWARDS!

You can register or find out more via phone or email:
01 522 4834 or ourworld@realnation.ie

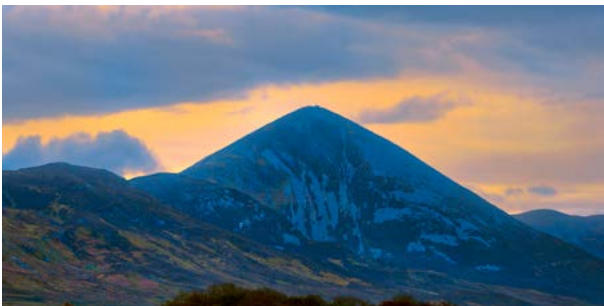


Apply now! Ethical Education Residential Summer School 12-16 August 2019

We are delighted to announce that Educate Together will be hosting a very special, residential summer school for teachers this year! Join us in the west of Ireland for five days of Ethical Education learning, sharing, collaborating and networking. This **free** five-day course is specially designed for teachers in Educate Together schools and will focus on developing and honing participants' knowledge, skills and aptitudes in Ethical Education.

The Summer School content will include inputs on:

- Sustainability
- Equality and inclusion
- Philosophy and moral education
- World beliefs



What's included?

- 4 nights' B&B accommodation in the Westport Coast Hotel (Monday 12th – Thursday 15th August)
- Lunch each day
- 1 Summer School evening dinner
- 5 course days* including keynotes, workshops and afternoon activities
- All costs for excursions, visits and activities that are part of Ethical Education Summer School programme

*Qualification for EPV days (primary teachers only - approval pending)

Keynote Speaker: Professor Michael Hand University of Birmingham



Michael Hand is Professor of Philosophy of Education in the School of Education at the University of Birmingham and Deputy Director of the Midlands Graduate School ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership. He is editor of the IMPACT pamphlet series and the Bloomsbury Philosophy of Education book series. Michael's research interests are in the areas of moral, political, religious and philosophical education. He has published books and articles on education for patriotism, the nature and aims of religious education, the justifiability of faith schools, autonomy as an educational aim, philosophy in schools, teaching about sexuality, and controversial issues in the classroom. His latest book is *A Theory of Moral Education* published by Routledge in 2018.

Keynote Speaker: Dr Laura D'Olimpio



Dr Laura D'Olimpio is a Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at The University of Notre Dame Australia. A regular contributor to 'The Conversation' and ABC Radio National, Laura completed her PhD, 'The Moral Possibilities of Mass Art' at The University of Western Australia. Laura is Chairperson of the Federation of Australasian Philosophy in Schools Associations and co-editor of 'Journal of Philosophy in Schools'. Laura's first book, 'Media and Moral Education: a philosophy of critical engagement' outlines how the study of philosophy can be used to enhance critical thinking skills, which are sorely needed in today's technological age.

More speakers to be announced!

There are only a limited number of places available to teachers in Educate Together schools. Register your interest now by applying through <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/35282KJ>

School Programmes that support Ethical Education



Ethical Education is not just about the curriculum that is taught in the classroom, ideally it permeates all aspects of school life. It's a curriculum that encourages student voice and engagement in learning, it's about giving students opportunities to lead and make decisions. There are many benefits to this approach to education, not least developing critically thinking and active citizens but also young people who are socially and emotionally resilient who possess a positive attitude and a sense of belonging to their school.

Gaisce – The President's Award are currently looking to engage with a small number of students in a new and exciting programme called LikeMinded. They are seeking 12 young people aged 14 -17 who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning to take part. **Please bring this to the attention of your students or if you have queries email likeminded@gaisce.ie or visit gaisce.ie for more information. Read below how one Educate Together teacher is using Gaisce in her school.**

Celbridge Educate Together Students benefit from Gaisce Programme

Aoife Sullivan from Celbridge Community School outlines the benefits of her students engaging with the Gaisce Programme which has led to increased confidence and connectedness.

We started **Gaisce – The President's Award** for the first time this school year as it is our first year running Transition year at Celbridge Community School. Our school introduced the programme to students in September 2018. We have three **Gaisce President's Award Leaders** in our school who act as mentors to our students involved in Gaisce.

The main thing we have found to be beneficial is that many students who were never involved in extracurricular activities have now found new hobbies and interests. Students who also would be naturally quiet have come out of the shells due to them being exposed to more social interactions.

Gaisce encourages participants to engage in three challenge areas: community involvement, physical recreation and personal skills and, as a result, many students have begun to learn new instruments, learn new languages and even begun specific weight and gym training. Some have become involved with Equestrian activities and others have got involved in after school programs



by training and assisting in helping younger students with clubs and projects.

If your school is interested in introducing the Gaisce programme, we would recommend that you give your students clear examples of each of the categories. It can be beneficial to look for contacts from various charities, clubs and programmes in your area too. These will be helpful resources for your students, especially those who are naturally shy and wouldn't be inclined to approach people.

Our school is hoping to do the Adventure Journey in Lilliput Adventure Centre in Mullingar as an overnight stay. The students are really looking forward to the trip as it is a nice way to reward their dedication to personal development.

Visit www.gaisce.ie

CPSI: A New Form of Inspections for all Schools

Introduction and Context to the Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspections (CPSI)

From 1st February 2019 a new form of inspection was introduced by the Department of Education & Skills Inspectorate, this is called the Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspection (CPSI) and forms part of the requirements of the 2017 Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017.

CPSI is a level 3 monitoring inspection model which will examine the implementation of the *Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post-Primary Schools 2017* in schools through conducting ten checks based on the requirements of the procedures.

- Level one monitoring involves three checks and is conducted on shorter less intensive models such as the Incidental Inspection, Follow-Through, Curriculum Evaluation (Primary) or Subject Inspection (Post-Primary).
- Level two monitoring involves eight checks and is conducted on whole-school type evaluations such as WSE-MLL and Evaluation of Action Planning for Improvement in DEIS schools.

The inspection framework is set out in the published *Guide to Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspections* available at www.education.ie.

Normally, a school will receive between 24 hours and 48 hours' notice of a Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspection. The Inspectorate also reserves the right to conduct the inspections without any notice.

In each school selected for a Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspection, two inspections will be conducted – an Initial Child Protection Inspection and a Final Child Protection Inspection. Usually, the inspections will take place within four to six weeks of each other.

Separate reports from both inspections, incorporating any school responses, will be published. Having two inspections provides the school with the opportunity to address any omissions or weaknesses identified in the Initial Inspection by the time the Final Inspection is completed. Both inspection reports will be published at the same time.

The Inspectorate are holding a series of regional seminars on Child Protection and Safeguarding Inspections for primary and post-primary school principals in January and February and are planning further briefings in May and June 2019.

An Inspector will present the new model at Educate Together's Principal Conference in April.

All teachers, principals and Board members should familiarise themselves with the new CPSI model through visiting the Department's website www.education.ie

Support for Boards of Managements

The national office provides training to members of Boards of Management, these are either face-to-face training sessions normally held in Education Centres, or they are online webinars that you can access from the comfort of your own computer. See the calendar on page 14 for a list of upcoming training events.

The School Support section also 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 to issues and general networking.

If you would like to be part of either of these email groups, please email schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie

Educate Together School Support Calendar

Date	Event	Venue
February 2nd	Educate Together GMM	Firhouse Educate Together
February 12th	Transition Year Symposium	Hilton Hotel, Kilmainham, Dublin
February 15th	Second-Level Art Competition Exhibition	Science Gallery, Dublin
February 27th	Board of Management Training - The Board as a Corporate Entity (webinar)	Online - (6pm-9pm) Email schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie
March 23rd	Board of Management Training - Recruitment (face-to-face)	Dublin West Education Centre
March 27th	Board of Management Training - Webinar (online)	Online - (6pm-9pm) Email schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie
March 30th	Educate Together AGM	Stepaside Educate Together
April 4th - 5th	Principal's Conference	Ardilaun Hotel, Galway
April 9th	Educate Together Development Education Student Showcase	Kishoge Community College
May 2019	Ethical Education Teacher of the Year Ceremony	Details will be circulated closer to the date.
July & August 2019	Educate Together online summer course for Teachers	Details will be circulated closer to the date.
August 12th-16th	Ethical Education Summer School	Westport Coast Hotel, Mayo - see page 11 for details.

School Support – What's Available to You?

School Support for Principals and Boards of Management

The Educate Together national office provides a dedicated time for school support queries

The times for general queries are:

Mondays 2-4pm

Wednesdays 2-4pm

Thursdays 2-4pm

Urgent queries are responded to outside of these hours on a priority basis.

To send in a query write to schoolsupport@educatetogether.ie

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Unique School App

The single most important touch point for parents.



Communications - The App provides 100% parental reach through targeted alerted notifications and integration with the school's website, social media and SMS.

Payments - Parents can make payments to the school easily and seamlessly.

Forms - Parents can complete and securely submit forms through the App including Absentee Reporting and Permission Forms.

Nothing should be sent to parents via the school bag, by post or text.

Website Design, Development & Maintenance

- One supplier, one solution.
- Unique Publishing will help you develop a fully integrated communications infrastructure where all the dots are joined and all the pieces fit together!



€ Unique Pay - the only App native payments solution for schools.

Parents

- Only see items that relate to their child
- Pay in full by credit or debit card
- Pay in instalments
- Items shown as paid
- Receipt sent by email immediately
- Full payment history available
- Seamless access and two click payment

Schools

- Move away from handling cash in the school office
- Students shown as per your school administration system
- Real time reporting on who has paid and who has not paid
- Quick and easy reporting for accounts analysis



North Wicklow ET Secondary School App - launched September 2018

Some of our Primary School App clients:



Contact us!

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