



# Educate Together

## at Second Level

Here at Educate Together we are often asked what Educate Together offers at second-level so we've put together this short introduction to what to expect in an Educate Together second-level school.



## What are Educate Together second-level schools like?

**Taking the Next Step: A Blueprint for Educate Together Second-level Schools** outlines the vision for Educate Together second-level schools. As at primary level, second-level schools are guided by the four principles of the Educate Together Charter:

- **Learner-centred:** The needs of students are considered first in all decisions. Students work together in mixed-ability classes for the majority of subjects and teachers use 21<sup>st</sup> Century and active teaching approaches to enhance student engagement and learning.
- **Equality-based:** Students from all social, cultural, religious and non-religious backgrounds have equal rights and respect in the school. Everyone in the school community including staff and students are addressed on a first name basis.
- **Co-educational:** The school is mixed (boys and girls). An active approach is taken to challenging gender stereotypes and ensuring all students reach their full potential.
- **Democratically run:** Students, parents, school management and teachers are involved in decision-making and planning. Each group is represented on the school's Board of Management.

The Blueprint underlines the commitment to a holistic educational experience where the development of students' academic, social, sporting, artistic and musical skills is supported and encouraged through the school curriculum, co-curricular activities and cross-curricular teaching approaches.

## What is Ethical Education?

“learning about yourself, the world you live in and how you can improve it.” (Cork ETSS student)

Ethical Education is a subject taught from First to Sixth year in Educate Together schools. Ethical Education aims to encourage and provide a space for students to develop awareness of different perspectives, reflect on their own views and biases and to think critically, question and take action on equality and justice issues in their local and global communities. Topics studied as part of the Ethical Education curriculums in Junior Cycle, Transition Year and Senior Cycle include Beliefs and Worldviews, Values, Ethical Decision-making, Diversity, Migration, Inequality.



To find out more about specific Educate Together second-level schools please find links to school websites below. You can also view the Educate Together second-level schools brochure at <http://bit.ly/2LBluPr>

[Ballymakenny College](#)  
(opened 2014)

[Bremore ETSS](#) (opened 2016)

[Celbridge Community School](#)  
(opened 2015)

[Clonturk Community College](#)  
(opened 2016)

[Cork ETSS](#) (opened 2016)

[Dublin South City ETSS](#)  
(opened 2018)

[Firhouse ETSS](#) (opened 2018)

[Hansfield ETSS](#) (opened 2014)

[Kishoge Community College](#)  
(opened 2014)

[Limerick ETSS](#) (opened 2018)

[Malahide Portmarnock ETSS](#)  
(opened 2018)

[North Wicklow ETSS](#)  
(opened 2016)

[Stepaside ETSS](#)  
(opened 2016)

## How many subjects are offered in Educate Together second-level schools?

Students in all schools study English, Irish, Maths, Ethical Education, Science and a Modern Foreign Language as standard (except in the case of students with exemptions for particular subjects). Schools also offer a range of other subjects and short courses. In general, students will sit a minimum of 8 subjects for state examination at Junior Cycle (3<sup>rd</sup> Year) and a minimum of 6 subjects for the Leaving Certificate (6<sup>th</sup> Year).

## What is the approach to assessment in Educate Together schools?

Students are assessed through a range of assessment methods including examinations, homework and in-class assignments, peer assessment, project work and presentations. Students in Educate Together schools sit state examinations at Junior Cycle (3<sup>rd</sup> Year) and Leaving Certificate (6<sup>th</sup> Year).

For more information, go to [www.educatetogether.ie](http://www.educatetogether.ie)  
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