

Educate Together

Education & Support



news

For Educate Together
teachers and boards
of management

Autumn 2018



**THIS ISSUE: Ethical Education Conference;
New Schools, New Principals; Educate Together is 40;
News on Training, New Resources, Savings and More!**

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MAKE A DIFFERENCE – VOLUNTEER OVERSEAS WITH VSO IRELAND



VSO Ireland is an international development organisation with exciting volunteer opportunities 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.

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- Education Researchers

What we provide:

- Flights
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If you're interested in finding out more about volunteering with VSO Ireland, we'd love to hear from you. Call **01 640 1060**, email volunteer@vso.ie or visit www.vso.ie now.

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CHANGING OUR WAYS CHANGING OUR WORLD

Educating for a Sustainable Environment

Educate Together Ethical Education Conference 2018



Duncan Stewart

Friday 23rd November- Science Gallery Dublin

Second-level Student Session

StudentMeet (primary and second level)

Panel Discussion: with Duncan Stewart

Conference Dinner (optional)

Saturday 24th November- The Alex Hotel

Education Exhibiton

TeachMeet

Launch of 'Ethical Education Teachers' Guide' (Erasmus+)

Keynote Address: Dr Charlotte Holland, DCU

Workshops

The 4th annual Ethical Education conference is a highlight of the teaching year. We recommend that all Educate Together schools should be represented at the conference. This year's theme of "Education for a Sustainable Environment" speaks to a core element of the Ethical Education curriculum in Educate Together schools.

Why Education for a Sustainable Environment?

One of the biggest challenges facing the world currently are the unsustainable levels of development that are degrading and destroying the environment. As global citizens we are collectively placing unsustainable demands on our planet's capacity. Consequences include resource depletion and waste disposal, climate change, extinction of species and challenges to the integrity of ecosystems.

This Conference will focus on supporting educators to address these issues in their classrooms and schools through Ethical Education. Friday's panel discussion includes Eco Eye's Duncan Stewart and Óisín Coughlan of Friends of the Earth. Saturday's keynote address by Dr. Charlotte Holland (DCU) promises to both engage and challenge, followed by top quality workshops designed to leave educators with a wide range of ideas and practical solutions to bring back to their schools.

Further conference details on the Educate Together website (educatetogether.ie) including details of our special offer – buy 3 tickets, get one free!

Ethical Education Conference TeachMeet and StudentMeet: Call for presenters!

Would you like to present at the Ethical Education Conference TeachMeet?

Do you have a lesson, teaching approach, project or resource that you'd like to share with teaching colleagues?

TeachMeets are fun and informal. They involve several short and snappy presentations – roughly 5 minutes from a number of different individuals.

Sign up by contacting fionnuala.ward@educatetogether.ie (primary teachers) or laura.dooley@educatetogether.ie (second-level teachers).

StudentMeet

Last year's StudentMeet was a huge success. Why not involve your students this year?

We're looking for groups of students to make a short presentation on any initiative they participated in or introduced to their school.

As well as presenters we're also interested in hearing from students who would like to host the session.

Contact: resources@educatetogether.ie



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New Schools - New Principals

6 the number of new Educate Together Schools opening in 2018

4 the number of new Educate Together second-level schools opening in Dublin and Limerick

13 the number of second-level Educate Together Schools in Ireland so far

25,000 the number of pupils who now enjoy an equality-based school experience in Ireland

84 the number of Educate Together primary schools, the number grew this year by 2 with the opening of schools in Dublin and Cork.

New Educate Together Second-level Schools

August 2018 sees the opening of four new Educate Together second-level schools bringing the total number to 13. Three of the new schools are Dublin based - Dublin South City, Firhouse and Malahide/ Portmarnock. The fourth school is based in Limerick.

Malahide Portmarnock ETSS, Riase Centre, Feltrim Road, Swords, County Dublin

Principal: Aoife Kelly Gibson

'This is a very exciting time, the beginning of a new journey in education and the introduction of a long awaited Educate Together Secondary School in this area.

Our team is coming to us with a wealth of teaching experience from Ireland, the UK, the Middle East and Australia. We are delighted to have them all on board. Our curriculum will provide students with a wide variety of learning experiences and opportunities to grow and develop their skills and knowledge.'

Limerick ETSS, Fernbank, North Circular Road, Limerick.

Principal: Eoin Shinnars

Deputy Principal: Eukaria O' Grady

'We want our teachers and students to think outside the box, take risks and become reflective practitioners. Our greatest challenge in Limerick ETSS will be to ensure that every student has

equality of opportunity to reach their potential. It's aspirational but we believe it's attainable.'

Firhouse ETSS, Firhouse ETNS, Ballycullen Drive, Firhouse, Dublin 24

Principal: Claire Matthews
Deputy Principal: Frank Milling

'We are a listening and learning school community, passionate about the education of our young people to ensure that they have the knowledge, understanding, skills and values to best support them to be happy and healthy as they navigate their twenty-first-century world.'

Dublin South City ETSS, Roslyn Park, Sandymount, Dublin 4

Principal: Paula Mulhall

'Students will be encouraged to question, to be creative and curious, developing the self-motivation and love of learning which leads to academic success and personal fulfilment. We would like to sincerely thank parents and all those involved in making our vision a reality.'



Aoife Kelly-Gibson, Eoin Shinnars, Eukaria O'Grady, Claire Matthews, Frank Milling and Paula Mulhall

New Educate Together Primary Schools

Dublin South City ETNS
Temporary accommodation in
Griffith Barracks MDS, South Circular Road, Dublin 8

Principal: Niamh Cullen

'I envisage Dublin South City ETNS as a school where children will learn in a way best suited to their needs and abilities. I look forward to the journey ahead and to meeting all the wonderful children and parents who will be a part of our school.'



Fermoy Educate Together NS
Temporary accommodation in
Fermoy Youth Centre

Principal: Aideen Maher

'I relish the opportunity to be part of a new and developing staff and whole school community. I've previously worked in five different Educate Together schools, the most recent being Midleton ETNS. I look forward to establishing a vibrant welcoming school community where children are encouraged to reach their full potential.'



New Educate Together Principals

Catriona Golden, Principal of Ennis ETNS

'I am passionate about the Educate Together ethos and ensuring Ennis ETNS reaches its potential. I look forward to the journey ahead and meeting all of the Ennis ETNS staff, parents and students who will join me on it.'

Gráinne McManus, Principal Lucan East ETNS

Grainne has worked in the Educate Together Sector for nine years, seven of which she spent as Deputy Principal of Lucan East Educate Together National School 'It is an honour and privilege to be appointed Principal of Lucan East ETNS. This is a school which I helped to develop from its grass roots, together with Eddie, the staff, the Board of Management, the parents and the pupils. I am delighted to return to working with and leading this dynamic school community which supports the identity of every child in an inclusive and democratic manner'.

Maeve McCarthy, Principal Rathfarnham ETNS

'I have spent over thirty years working in education and was very fortunate to have spent fifteen of those years seconded to the European School in Oxfordshire. I returned to Dublin last year and am delighted to be joining the network of Educate Together schools. I received a wonderful welcome from the children and staff of Rathfarnham Educate Together when I visited late last year and

look forward to beginning my new role there in September.'

Noel Reilly, Principal Rush & Lusk ETNS

'Originally from Monaghan town, for the past nine years I have worked in Tyrrelstown ETNS, the last seven as Deputy Principal where I've had wonderful opportunities working with a vibrant and inspiring staff within a diverse school community.

I am joining a very committed and dynamic team at Rush and Lusk ETNS and am looking forward to this new exciting chapter!'

Tim Stapleton, Principal Tyrellstown ETNS

'Having previously worked in London and in Portlaoise Educate Together, it is really exciting to join the staff of Tyrellstown ETNS. In my new role as Principal, I am determined to continue and build upon the great work undertaken by previous school leaders and the school community in general.'

Pat Crowe, Principal of North Kildare ETNS

After 22 years working in North Kildare ETNS I am delighted to be taking over from Rita Galvin as Principal. NKETNS continues to grow as the demand for equality-based education increases and I'm looking forward to a bright future for Educate Together schools in Kildare.



Catriona Golden; Gráinne McManus; Maeve McCarthy; Noel Reilly; Tim Stapleton, Pat Crowe

New Crest for Citywest ETNS

Caitriona Hand is Principal of Citywest ETNS, Dublin and is also on the Board of Directors of Educate Together. Here Caitriona shares with us how they have been putting Educate Together's democratic ideal into practice in Citywest ETNS.

As principal I'm really proud to reveal our new school crest, particularly because it was designed by our Student Council (which has pupils from 2nd to 5th class). The crest features a silhouette of children in our school and includes a child from the class for children with autism.

The process of designing and developing the new crest was a model of democracy and student voice in action, and has resulted in a truly special and meaningful school crest for Citywest ETNS. We'll be using it in all the obvious places like our social media pages, letterhead, signage for the school and also on our school sports team jerseys. It's wonderful to see the children's work being displayed in such a way.

The Student Council presented the crest to the school's Board of Management where they outlined the process they had gone through to come up with a design. They also identified the meaning of each element of the crest and why it had been chosen:

- The castle represents the building of our school and where we learn. Even if we move school, the building will be part of our history. Castles are also strong, safe places.
- The Golden Book. This had featured in lots of the children's designs. Each week at school assembly, Caitriona reads the names of those pupils nominated for inclusion in the Golden book for upholding school values.
- Rainbows featured in nearly every one of the children's designs. Rainbows represent so many things for example they are a symbol of equality, they show that everyone is different, they mean happiness and they represent childhood and nature.
- We shaped our rainbow like an open book. This again represents learning but also, it represents the idea that two working together can create something beautiful.
- The Children - The child with the magnifying glass is representing investigation, the child



with the ball is representing sport, the child with the globe is representing Geography and the child with the page is representing the Arts.

- The Colour Blue represents a number of things. First, it is the colour of Dublin. We are a proud Dublin school! Secondly, it represents autism and being inclusive of everybody. Finally, it is a calming, welcoming colour.

I'm really proud of all the children in Citywest and will treasure this crest for years to come.

2018/2019 Ethical Education Wall Planner and Online Calendar

With this newsletter your school received two copies of Educate Together's Ethical Education Planner. Further copies can be purchased from the National Office at a cost of €5 per planner which includes postage. To order further copies email resources@educatetogether.ie

Educate Together's online calendar is also available on the Learn Together and Ethical Education Resource Banks. PDFs can be sent out on request.



Teacher of the Year: Our World Irish Aid Award

Cecelia Gavigan teaches in Balbriggan ETNS and was the recipient of the 2018 'Teacher of the Year: Our World Irish Aid Award'.

Cecelia received the award for her commitment to Development Education as demonstrated by her participation with her pupils in the Our World Irish Aid Awards in this and previous years. Cecelia's pupils have consistently produced a very high standard of work and demonstrated in-depth and meaningful learning about the work of Irish Aid and the importance of the UN's Global Goals for Sustainable Development. Cecelia helped her pupils to effectively communicate their knowledge to the wider community and demonstrated a deep understanding of what it means to be a global citizen.

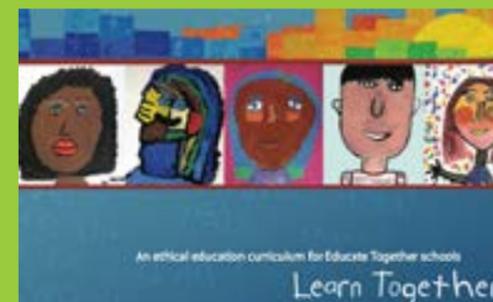


Cecelia is pictured here receiving her award from Minister of State for the Diaspora and Overseas Development Aid, Ciarán Cannon

Learn Together Review – Please let us know what you think!

The Learn Together curriculum is currently being reviewed and updated. Your feedback will be vital to that review.

In the next few weeks, we'll be sending out a link to an online survey on all four strands of the Learn Together. Be sure to take part and let your voice be heard!



Learn Together Advisors

Do you have a passion for the Learn Together? Is Ethical Education one of your favourite subjects to teach? Why not apply to be a Learn Together advisor?

Learn Together advisors are teachers in Educate Together schools who work with Educate Together's Primary Education Officer in the Colleges of Education; they also provide feedback on resources, organise sessions on the Learn Together and liaise with the National Office as to how to best support teachers in our sector.

Send your CV to resources@educatetogether.ie by 5.00 pm Friday, 28th September, 2018.

Educate Together Awarded WorldWise Global Schools Funding 2018-19

Educate Together has again been successful in its application to WorldWise Global Schools* for funding to support Development Education activities for second-level teachers in the Educate Together network.

What is Development Education?

Development Education is an educational process aimed at increasing awareness and understanding of the rapidly changing, interdependent and unequal world in which we live. By challenging stereotypes and encouraging independent thinking, DE helps students critically explore the root causes of global justice issues and how they interlink with our everyday lives. Development Education forms part of the Ethical Education curriculum at Junior Cycle and fits naturally within Educate Together's vision for education, promoting and supporting equality and inclusion. A focus on the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals is an important part of Development Education.

What will the Educate Together WorldWise Global Schools 2018-19 project involve?

- 1 day Development Education CPD event for second-level teachers (Oct)
- Student Development Education Showcase (April)
- Support for schools to apply for their WorldWise Global Schools Passport Award (Jan-Feb)
- Online Development Education support webinars for second-level teachers (Oct- Apr)
- Development Education online module for teachers (available Sept 2019)

If you are interested in developing your knowledge and skills in teaching Development Education why not get involved in the Educate Together WorldWise project this year? Contact laura.dooley@educatetogether.ie to express your interest and find out more.

* **WorldWise Global Schools** is an organisation that helps to support schools to integrate Development Education into all aspects of teaching and learning at second-level. They offer funding, training, resources and supports. See www.worldwiseschools.ie



Educate Together is 40

2018 marks 40 years since the establishment of the first Educate Together school, the Dalkey School Project. To celebrate this historical landmark, Educate Together will run a series of activities over the coming months and we invite all of our school communities to get involved and make this anniversary one to remember!

Pencils & paintbrushes at the ready!

Educate Together will run an art competition for second-level students and school communities. We will invite these communities to create artistic representations of the Junior Cycle Ethical Education Strands. The winning entries will be turned into posters for display in second-level schools. Further details will follow in the coming weeks so keep your eye on your inboxes and social media!

A date for your diary!

One Day Together, Educate Together's National Fundraising Day, will be held on October 26th 2018* and this year we're asking schools to incorporate Educate Together's 40th Birthday into their celebration of the day. We will send a fundraising pack to your school in the coming weeks with lots of fun fundraising ideas!

* if that date doesn't suit your school, simply choose another date over the first school term.



Upcoming Dates of Training & Events

29th September	Ethical Education Network Halloween Event: Exploring Beliefs About Death	Glasnevin Cemetery Museum
10th October 2018	Board of Management as a Corporate Entity	Online webinar
20th October 2018	Board of Management as a Corporate Entity	Blackrock Education Centre
26th October 2018	One Day Together	Local Schools – more info to follow
14th November 2018	Data Protection	Online webinar
23rd and 24th November 2018	4th Annual Ethical Education Conference	Science Gallery Dublin & The Alex
28th November 2018	Board of Management as a Corporate Entity	Online webinar
4th & 5th April, 2018	Principals Conference	TBC



After-School Science Clubs, Super Whole School Science Shows, Science Hallowe'en, Easter & Summer Camps, Science Parties, Science Corporate Events, and Science Family Events & Festivals.

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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.

Back to Basics: Learn Together Belief Systems Strand

Fionnuala Ward, Primary Education Officer

At this time of year there will be a lot of new teachers coming to grips for the first time with the Learn Together curriculum and maybe even some existing one's looking for a refresher. With this in mind, I've answered some of the questions I get in relation to the Belief Systems strand of the Learn Together curriculum.

What world religions should I teach about?

The Learn Together involves the six main world religions; Buddhism; Sikhism; Islam; Christianity; Hinduism and Judaism

Does the Learn Together include world views other than formal religions?

Yes! Every teacher should also teach about Atheism; Agnosticism and Humanism. We're currently working on updating the Learn Together curriculum, these worldviews will be more obviously included in the update.

That's an awful lot of information to cover in the time allowed for the Learn Together programme, any suggestions?

Each teacher should be allowing 30 minutes per day for teaching all elements of all four strands of the Learn Together Ethical Education Curriculum. It seems like a lot, but to cover it adequately you

should only cover the six main world religions (as above), but keep it light. There is no need to go into details regarding sub-divisions of these religions, such as Catholicism / Protestantism under Christianity; Shia / Sunni under Islam or the many denominations of Hinduism, etc.

Ok, so I'm thinking of a child in my class from another belief background, should I teach about this belief background?

The short answer is no. Of course in order to ensure that child's belief identity is affirmed you should recognise this perspective and give the child the opportunity regularly to speak of significant events and festivals, etc. However, this belief system does not need to be explicitly taught.

Now I have the basics where can I find resources on this strand?

Educate Together has developed resources with the Humanist Association of Ireland for use with 1st / 2nd and 3rd / 4th classes. You'll find these and a number of other resources to support you in teaching the Belief Strand of the Learn Together on the Educate Together Resource Bank (www.learning.educatetogether.ie)



First day at Firhouse Educate Together Secondary School on Monday 27 August

Ethical Education Network Halloween Event: Exploring Beliefs about Death

Want to find out more about the traditions related to death and mourning for different beliefs including Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism and Atheism? Come along to this special CPD event for teachers of Ethical Education!

Venue: Glasnevin Cemetery Museum

Date: Saturday 29 September 9.30am - 2.00pm

Audience: Free event open to all teachers.

For further information and to register see: www.ethicaleducation.ie



LEARN TOGETHER TO LIVE TOGETHER

Teachers Leading Ethical Education
For An Inclusive Society

Free online course for teachers in Methodologies in Ethical Education

This course is available for free all year round. It includes six separate modules covering topics such as

- critical and creative thinking;
- ethical decision making and dilemmas,
- managing conflict and facilitating dialogue on controversial issues;
- the ethics of care in teaching.

Developed with our European partners under the Erasmus + Learning Together to Live Together (LITTLE) project.

Erasmus+ LITTLE News

Along with the online course in Ethical Education, the LITTLE project will also result in a comprehensive set of guidelines for teachers of Ethical Education.

The guidelines are being piloted currently and will be finalised over the coming months, they will be launched at the Ethical Education conference in November after which they will become freely available for any teacher to use.

Educate Together staff members, Sandra Irwin-Gowran and Laura Dooley will join the LITTLE team for a week long training session in Ljubljana, Slovenia in October to further develop the work of this project which will end in August 2019.

New Resources in the Ethical Education Resource Bank

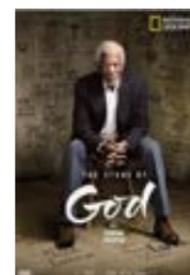


What is the Ethical Education Resource Bank?

The Ethical Education Resource Bank is developed and maintained by Educate Together to support teachers of Ethical Education in Educate Together schools. The Moodle site contains lesson plans, ideas and resources suitable for Ethical Education. There is one resource bank for primary teachers and one for second-level teachers. Both can be accessed through the teachers section at www.learning.educatetogether.ie.

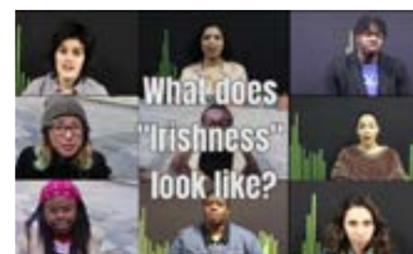
We update the bank with new resources regularly and respond to requests from teachers for more support in teaching particular topics, for example to support teaching the Junior Cycle Beliefs & Worldviews Strand new resources related to Sikhism and Humanism have also been added to this section.

Spotlight on new resource: Beliefs & Worldviews



The Story of God with Morgan Freeman is a TV documentary series produced by the National Geographic Channel. In connection with this series Journeys in Film have created lessons on each of the five major world religions: Buddhism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism and Judaism. These lessons are highly detailed and include handouts and worksheets suitable for use with students as part of Junior Cycle Ethical Education. The lessons can be downloaded directly from the Ethical Education resource bank from the Beliefs & Worldviews section: <https://learning.educatetogether.ie/course/view.php?id=26#section-4>

Spotlight on new resource: Diversity in Ireland



The short Youtube video-documentary by Ola Majekodunmi, "What does Irishness look like?" explores the personal stories of 15 different people who are Irish but are often questioned about their identity. Suitable for use with Ethical Education students, it provides a good stimulus for discussion on identity, prejudice and stereotypes. The clip can be accessed directly from the Ethical Education resource bank from the Diversity in Ireland section: <https://learning.educatetogether.ie/course/view.php?id=26#section-6>

Spotlight on new resource: Migration



Newspaper article by Una Mullally: "Direct provision fits with our history of incarcerating the innocent"
This article was published in the Irish Times on 22nd June 2018 and has been adapted here into a reading comprehension which includes a glossary of key terms and questions suitable for students of Ethical Education. The adapted article is available to download directly from the Ethical Education resource bank from the Migration section: <https://learning.educatetogether.ie/course/view.php?id=26#section-7>

If you have other Ethical Education lesson plans, resources or ideas to add to the Resource Bank please share them by emailing resources@educatetogether.ie

LEGO Inspired STEM Workshops

Maths Week Workshops (13th-21st October)

Our LEGO® Technic model builds allow children to explore the relationship between mathematical concepts and their importance in everyday life.

Science Week Workshops (11th-18th November)

Our LEGO® Technic workshops allow children to apply a range of scientific concepts and discover how science is a fundamental part of their everyday lives.

After-School
Our LEGO® after-school programmes balance fun and education exploring core STEM concepts, delivered by fully trained Garda Vetted LEGO® Tutors.



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Ethical Education Curriculum Developed for 5th and 6th Year Students

Dr. Laura Dooley, Second Level Education Officer

Educate Together's first three second-level schools opened in 2014 which means that this year will see students in Hansfield Educate Together Secondary School, Kishoge Community College and Ballymakenny College continue their Senior Cycle journey into 5th Year and for a small number of students in Hansfield ETSS, 6th Year. Along with core subjects such as English, Irish and Maths, students will continue to study Ethical Education in 5th and 6th Year.

Senior Cycle Ethical Education Development Process

The Board of Directors sub-committee on Education and its subsidiary working group (which includes experienced curriculum developers) have been guiding the development process of the senior cycle Ethical Education curriculum. This involved commissioning Ethical Education teacher, Ciara McMackin, who works in Kishoge Community College to work on developing the curriculum over the past number of months.

Input from students and teachers on the curriculum content

Getting input from students and teachers formed an important part of the process and influenced the content and approach taken.

The curriculum will be piloted this year and revised accordingly. It contains six strands which are

designed to be taught consecutively over the two years. The curriculum follows the approach taken in Junior Cycle and Transition Year with a focus on the development of students' knowledge, skills, attitudes and values. In support of this approach, specific Ethical Theory and Ethical Skills are identified in each strand.

The curriculum emphasises innovative, inquiry-based, practical learning – so that students build the habit of ethical behaviour.

'Senior Cycle Ethical Education prepares our young adults to enter the world not only academically capable, but with the knowledge, skills and considered attitudes and values to use that capability for good.' Ciara McMackin, Ethical Education teacher and Senior Cycle Ethical Education Curriculum Developer.

Teacher Guide

To assist teachers with leading and facilitating learning in Senior Cycle Ethical Education, the curriculum is accompanied by a Senior Cycle Ethical Education Teacher Guide. This Teacher Guide breaks down the curriculum into lessons with associated resources and guidelines for assessment. Both the curriculum and Guide are available from the Educate Together Learning Resource Bank at www.learning.educatetogether.ie.

Strand	Key Skills	Ethical Skills	Year	Ethical Theory
Introduction: Values: Assumptions and Action	Critical & Creative Thinking Working Together Critical & Creative Thinking	Using Criteria Productive Discussion Avoiding Cognitive Biases	5 th Year	Kant and the Categorical Imperative
Identity, Inclusion and Diversity	Being Personally Effective	Being consistent	5 th Year	Plato and the Self (Head/Heart/Stomach)
Pleasure, Purpose and The Meaning of Life	Information Processing Being Personally Effective	Perception and Reality Growth Mindset	5 th Year	Aristotle's ideas of happiness "Eudaimonia" Plato's Allegory of the Cave Nozick's Experience Machine Gaardner's Multiple Intelligences
Power and Privilege	Working with Others	Negotiating a Solution	6 th Year	Kant, Hume and Reason
Acting on our Values	Being Personally Effective	SMART planning	6 th Year	
Justice	Being Personally Effective Information Processing	Being Reciprocal Analysing Statistics and Data	6 th Year	John Rawls and the Mind Game

Senior Cycle Training for Teachers

A number of training sessions for teachers involved in teaching Senior Cycle Ethical Education will take place during the school year. Further information on these will be communicated directly to relevant teachers by email from Laura Dooley, Educate Together Second-level Education Officer.

Teachers who are interested in finding out more about CPD opportunities for Ethical Education at primary, Junior and Senior Cycle levels are invited to join the Ethical Education Network (www.ethicaleducation.ie) which runs a number of free events during the school year. Membership is free and is open to all teachers.

Dr. Laura Dooley said of the curriculum:

"The Junior Cycle and Transition Year Ethical Education curriculums provide students with a strong base from which to engage in the more detailed and experiential learning that the Senior Cycle Curriculum facilitates. I think students and teachers are going to enjoy exploring each of the strands and building on the knowledge and skills they have developed to date in areas such as critical thinking, ethical and moral decision-making and respectful communication, all of which are central to Ethical Education. I look forward to engaging with students and teachers and hearing their feedback on it."



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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 10 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

School Support Clinic for Principals and Boards of Management

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

The clinic 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

Energy in Education News Save Money & Tackle Climate Change

The Energy in Education programme offers a range of supports to schools which have been developed by the Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI) in partnership with the Department of Education and Skills. The programme is designed to help schools to improve energy management practices, reduce school operating costs and protect the environment. Here is an overview of what's on offer.

Free Energy Management Training Courses where you will receive access to a range of resources, online tools and expert advice. Schools that attend courses can apply for an Energy Advisor service including a consultation and report identifying energy saving opportunities along with 3 months mentoring to implement the savings plan. There are training dates for venues in Tralee, Drumcondra, Donegal, Wexford, Clare and West Cork. Contact energyineducation@seai.ie for dates and times.

SEAI's Schools competition: "One Good Idea"

Every year SEAI invite primary and post primary students to enter an annual competition by telling us about their One Good Idea to help save energy and tackle climate change. Students design and launch a creative awareness campaign in their community to show people how One Good Idea can make a difference. Winning teams receive prizes for themselves and their school, find out more at <https://www.seai.ie/teaching-sustainability/one-good-idea/>.

Support for schools for energy reporting

All public bodies, including schools, have a statutory obligation to monitor and report energy use. From January 2019, schools can login to SEAI's online system to report annual energy consumption and related data for 2018. The deadline for submitting energy usage and related data is 5 April 2019.

SEAI will offer free monitoring and reporting workshops for schools.

Energy Awareness posters for schools

Schools can order free bi-lingual posters (English/Irish) from SEAI. The suite of 5 posters communicate energy saving messages submitted by students to SEAI's annual school's competition.



Top Energy Saving Tips

Did you know between 50-70% of energy use in schools is for space heating? With the weather getting colder here are some tips for reducing heating energy use and maintaining comfort levels:

- Do – Keep track of your fuel deliveries in order to track fuel savings or fuel wastage.
- Do – Read the manual on how to operate your storage heaters correctly (if your school uses these).
- Do – Set your room thermostats to 18 degrees
- Don't – Cover radiators or allow new furniture to cover radiators.
- Don't – Ignore stuck radiator valves. Get them fixed.
- Don't – Open windows to control temperatures when heating is on.

Further tips, teaching resources and workshops for pupils sign up to SEAI's schools ezine by visiting www.seai.ie/teaching-sustainability

News from the Teaching Council

The Teaching Council have written to all Principals with important information regarding the employment of Newly Qualified Teachers. From September 2018 Droichead will be the only route of induction for NQTs in:

- Special Education Needs settings in all schools
- Primary schools where there are 16 or more mainstream teachers and
- Post-primary schools of 400 or more students

Schools of any size may opt in to Droichead at any stage if they so wish. Training for members of school Professional Support Teams who support NQTs in schools is available – call 01 452 8020. See letter from the Teaching Council for more further details.

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Further Savings for Your School

Purchasing Books

As an Educate Together School you can save money for your school by purchasing Folens Publisher books directly from a Folens representative. Your school will receive a 10% reduction on purchases and you'll also be helping to raise funds for the national office as Folens give us a rebate based on the amount of direct sales from Educate Together schools.

Group Insurance Scheme

Educate Together is working with Brady Insurance to provide a group insurance Scheme. Brady Insurance are our only recommended Insurance Partner. If our schools group together, we have a much greater bargaining power, which should lead to stable premiums and future premium reductions. To be part of this scheme please contact Claire@bradyinsurance.ie or 01 5676797.

Staffing: New faces, new roles

James McGlynn has been working in the national office as administrative assistant since 2014 but has recently been promoted to the role of officer. He will work across the Education & Support programme and in particular in the school support section.



Bridget Dawson has recently been appointed to the national office as Fundraising and Development Manager and will be working on major gift investment campaigns and partnerships to support the expansion and resourcing of our school network. If you have any ideas or know of funding initiatives please feel free to call Bridget on 086 049 6379.



Left to right, Deirdre O'Donoghue, Sandra Irwin-Gowran and Fionnuala Ward, Niamh Cullen, Maeve McCarthy, Grainne McManus, Pat Crowe, Noel Reilly, Tim Stapleton, Aideen Maher and Caitriona Golden at Principal Induction Day at Educate Together national office in August 2018

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