Welcome to Educate Together’s Third Annual Ethical Education Conference

Each year Educate Together’s Education and Support team works to put together a conference programme that supports teachers in facilitating learning in Ethical Education and addresses the Educate Together Charter. This year the focus is on Co-education and focuses on Gender Equality in particular.

Ethical Education is a key component of the Educate Together model. The examination of morals and values, equality and justice, beliefs and sustainability within an ethical framework offers students the opportunity to meaningfully and critically reflect upon the world around them.

With issues related to Gender Equality gaining increasing attention in the media and society more widely, it’s important that teachers and students are prepared to discuss and respond ethically to these issues, to critically analyse representations of gender and to challenge gender stereotypes.

Our conference seeks to address some of the challenges and difficult questions relating to Gender Equality in education in 2017. Along with workshops for teachers and students, the agenda includes an expert keynote address and for the first time, a panel discussion. The conference will create a space to discuss the wide-ranging issues related to Gender Equality from sexuality and gender identity to migration and refuge issues to sport.

We look forward to engaging with you in conversation on this important topic.

#EthicalEducation #GenderMatters
Agenda

Friday November 24

3.30 - 4.30  Student Council Training
4.30 - 4.45  Break
4.45 - 6.00  #StudentMeet
6.00 - 6.30  Break - Registration
6.30 – 8.00  Panel Discussion: Gender Matters in Sport
8.00  Wine Reception

Saturday November 25

8.30 - 9.30  Registration - Tea/coffee Exhibition stands
9.30 - 11.00  #TeachMeet
11.00 - 11.30  Break – Exhibition stands
11.30 - 11.45  Official Launch of Ethical Education Online Course
11.45 - 1.15  Keynote Address
Gender Equality in Education:
21st Century Challenges
Dr. Debbie Ging
1.15 – 2.15  Lunch – Exhibition Stands
2.15 - 3.45  Workshop 1
3.45 – 5.15  Workshop 2
5.15  Conference Close

Workshops

Introduction to Development Education
Vicky Donnelly
Galway One World Centre

When Gender Creates Controversy: Classroom Strategies in/for Ethical Education
Sandra Irwin-Gowran
Educate Together

Supporting Gender Diverse Students
Catherine Cross
Transgender Equality Network Ireland

Using Methodology of Drama and Theatre to Approach Issues Around Gender Equality
Mary Duffin
Smashing Times Theatre Company
Gender Matters in Sport Panel Discussion

Ger Gilroy @gergilroy
Currently Managing Editor of Newstalk’s ‘Off the Ball’, Ger has been a broadcaster and journalist for 20 years covering sport on radio, online, in print and on television. Originally from Kildare he lives in Dublin with his wife and three kids, the eldest of whom attends Grace Park Educate Together NS.

Sharon Hutchinson @sportswomen_ie
Former international hockey goalkeeper Sharon Hutchinson has been heavily involved in sport all her life. Frustrated with the lack of coverage of women’s sport in Ireland, she launched the Sportswomen.ie website in January 2015. In addition to her sporting achievements, Sharon holds a PhD in Analytical Chemistry from UCC.

Nora Stapleton @norastapleton
Former Rugby Union player Nora Stapleton represented Ireland at the 2014 Women’s Rugby World Cup in France on the team that famously beat the All Blacks. She currently works for the Irish Rugby Football Union as a Women and Girls Rugby Development Manager having announced her international rugby retirement in 2017. Nora is one of seven Irish players named in the first ever Women’s Barbarians squad.

Catherina McKiernan @cat_mckiernan
Catherina was born and educated in Cavan. She played Gaelic Games before taking up athletics at school and progressing to national and international prominence. She was a highly successful cross country runner, collecting four world silver medals and a gold at the European Cross Country Championships during her career. She won the Belfast International Cross Country twice consecutively in 1992 and 1993, became the 1994 Eurocross champion, and was also a two-time winner of Cross Internacional de Itálica (one of Spain’s most prestigious meetings). Catherina is now a running instructor that offers workshops on ChiRunning.

Rachel Ruddy @rachruddy
Rachel Ruddy combines a career as a Physiotherapist with the demands of inter county Gaelic Football. She has played both Camogie and Gaelic Football for Dublin, and this year won her second All Ireland Medal with the Ladies Gaelic Football team, beating Mayo in Croke Park with record breaking numbers in attendance. She works as a Physiotherapist in Crumlin Children’s Hospital, and this year was delighted to bring the cup back to her patients and colleagues on the morning after the All Ireland Final. She has been nominated for an All Star this year, and previously won an award in 2010. Rachel plays Camogie and Football with her club Ballyboden St Endas, and was a football county finalist this year.

Tony Sweeney @tsweeney1
Tony Sweeney is a former primary teacher. He has experience working with teachers through in-service and pre-service on the PE Curriculum and currently works full-time with the Froebel Department of primary and Early Childhood Education in Maynooth University as a lecturer in PE and ICT. His M.Ed investigated the challenge of including children with special needs in mainstream primary PE Classes. Outside of work, he has trained, managed and coached Camogie at school, college and club level, and is currently enjoying working with an Under 16B team in Ballyboden St. Endas, Dublin.
Gender Equality in Education: 21st Century Challenges

This presentation tackles some of the key obstacles to gender equality in education, and explores the possible responses by schools to deal with these issues. In doing so, it suggests alternative ways of thinking about and dealing with sexism, and offers some concrete proposals regarding how schools can create and develop genuinely gender-progressive cultures for young people’s educational, social and personal development.

Dr Debbie Ging is Associate Professor of Media Studies at Dublin City University. Her current research is concerned with gender and social media, and addresses issues such as cyberbullying, gender in education, online misogyny, eating disorders and the sexualisation of children. Debbie is a co-author of the first government-commissioned report on the sexualisation and commercialisation of children in Ireland. Together with Dr. Eugenia Siapera, she is currently guest-editing a special issue of the journal Feminist Media Studies on Online Misogyny, and co-editing a book on the same topic. Debbie is Ireland Corresponding Editor of the Journal Men and Masculinities. She is a member of the National Anti-Bullying Research and Resource Centre and of the Institute for Future Media and Journalism (FuJo) in DCU.

Keynote Speaker: Dr Debbie Ging

Simon Lewis is the Principal of Carlow Educate Together NS. Over the last 15 years, he has given talks and courses to teachers, agencies and businesses in all aspects of ICT in education. He also works with universities and colleges on delivering guest lectures and supervising theses. Simon has worked with several agencies to advise on their use of ICT including the NIPT, Educate Together, Hibernia College and INTO. He has also authored and contributed to a number of educational books and magazines and educational software. He blogs at Anseo.net and runs the teacher resource site, Mash.ie.

Rozz Lewis has taught in various settings such as disadvantaged, special school setting, denominational and rural. She was a school principal for 5 years and was delighted to return to teaching in Portlaoise Educate Together NS. She has trained and worked with the PDST, INTO, NCTE and local Education Centres. She has designed and delivered courses in the area of literacy, educational technology, SPHE, Emotional Intelligence and Visual Arts. She has also worked as a tutor with Hibernia College in the areas of Literacy, Visual Arts and SPHE since 2008.

#TeachMeet

Facilitators
Conference Workshops

Using methodology of drama and theatre to approach issues around gender equality

Facilitator: Mary Duffin, Smashing Times Theatre

Mary Duffin, a drama facilitator with Smashing Times Theatre and Film Company, will present an introductory theatre workshop using the methodology of drama and theatre to approach issues around gender equality, diversity and identity. This will be an active participative workshop including theatre games and other elements of drama and performance. Participants are requested to wear comfortable clothes that allow movement.

Mary Duffin is a dramatist who is passionate about drama & story in all its forms. Her varied work ranges from street to stage to screen. In street theatre, Mary is an experienced director, performer, choreographer & event manager for both private companies and community projects. Mary was also one of the founding members of the Waking the Feminists movement and was part of the research team that produced the Gender Counts report that was launched recently.

Supporting Gender Diverse Students

Facilitator: Catherine Cross, Transgender Equality Network Ireland

School is a place where children are taught to respect one another and to learn to work together regardless of their differences. Learning about gender diversity is part of that work, creating a more tolerant, inclusive, and accepting school environment teaches all children to recognise and resist stereotypes.

This workshop will focus on de-bunking the myths around gender diverse students and aims to provide a useful resource with activities that teachers can use to support students who are gender variant.

Catherine Cross is the Family Support & Education Officer with the Transgender Equality Network Ireland. Catherine works with primary and secondary schools across Ireland, advising on policy, delivering training to staff and advocating on behalf of families who are looking for support for their gender variant child. She has trained in Intellectual Disability Practice. She obtained a BScA in Social Policy and Economics, and a MSocSc in Rights and Social Policy from Maynooth University, and currently teaches Social Policy part-time at Maynooth University. She is also the parent of a transgender child.

Introduction to Development Education

Facilitator: Vicky Donnelly, Galway One World Centre

This workshop will provide an introduction to development education and some of the issues and concepts that underpin a global justice perspective. Focusing on gender equality, and refugee and migration issues in particular, participants will have an opportunity to explore some tried and tested methodologies that will transfer to primary and secondary classrooms. The session will be lively and engaging, and aims to leave you feeling motivated and more confident about finding ways to address big issues with young people.

Vicky Donnelly is the coordinator of the Galway One World Centre, and has been delivering the Global Teachers Award CPD programme at schools and teacher-training colleges around the country for the last 5 years. She has over 20 years' experience facilitating groups to explore local and global justice issues, such as refuge and migration, debt and trade justice, human rights and anti-racism/diversity perspectives. Vicky has a particular interest in creative and engaged approaches to development education, and also facilitates sessions on participatory methodologies.

When gender creates controversy: Classroom strategies in/ for Ethical Education

Facilitator: Sandra Irwin-Gowran, Educate Together

This workshop will explore strategies that can be used in the classroom to address difficult or controversial issues that arise in the context of gender and gender equality including how a teacher can manage controversial issues through creative and critical thinking and other strategies. This is a showcase workshop for the newly available online course for teachers of Ethical Education funded by the European Union Erasmus+ project. The workshop will be of interest to teachers of all levels.

Sandra Irwin-Gowran joined Educate Together as the Education and Support Manager in June 2016. Part of her role is to manage the Erasmus+ project, a key outcome of which is the development of an online course to support teachers in Ethical Education. The project is being developed with partners from Italy, Slovenia and Croatia. Sandra has worked as a second-level teacher and as a curriculum and policy developer across a range of areas including citizenship, equality and human rights, specifically on LGBT and poverty issues.
Launch of Erasmus+ funded Ethical Education online course

We are delighted that this year’s conference includes the official launch of our new online course in Ethical Education for teachers. A central part of the Education & Support programme is to provide support and guidance to teachers in Ethical Education. To facilitate the development of new and increased resources for teachers in the area of Ethical Education, Educate Together led an application to the Erasmus+ programme for a project entitled LITTLE: Learn Together to Live Together, Teachers Leading Ethical Education for an Inclusive Society and was awarded a grant of €284k to fund the project. Along with the online course for teachers, the three-year project will also involve the development of a Teacher’s Guide for Ethical Education.

Over the last year, the Education & Support team have been working with our LITTLE project partners in Slovenia, Croatia and Italy to develop an online course which focuses on developing teachers’ capacity to lead learning in Ethical Education at both primary and second-level.

The course contains six one-hour interactive modules designed to enhance teachers’ learning and skills in teaching Ethical Education and in particular, focuses on teaching methodologies and approaches that can be used in the classroom.

LITTLE Online Course Modules

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

The course is free to access through Educate Together’s Moodle Resource Bank and resources relevant to each module are also available to download from the course home page: www.learning.educatetogether.ie.

Top of the class
Ireland’s leading education sector specialist law firm

Eversheds Sutherland is a leader in the provision of legal services to the education sector. Our Education Unit is headed up by Margaret Gorman who, with her team, provides expert legal advice to institutions at all education levels, including hundreds of primary and secondary schools, across all stages of their activities. We understand education law and, we always, ensure that our advice addresses our clients’ specific needs. We have unmatched knowledge of the education sector and are known for the exceptionally high quality of our work. We engage very closely with our clients to ensure that our advice is delivered on time, in a cost efficient way.

For more information or to receive our education law articles and updates, please contact:

Margaret Gorman
Partner, Head of Education
+353 1 664 4325
margaret.gorman@eversheds-sutherl...n

Bernard Martin
Senior Solicitor, Education
+353 1 664 4338
bernard.martin@eversheds-sutherl...n

eversheds-sutherl...n.ie
Illuminate English Literacy with Starlight, Folens new core Primary English programme.

Aligned to the 2015 language curriculum, Starlight provides a seamless blend of digital and print resources. Every unit is centred around a theme so that each of the three strands – oral language, reading and writing – can be taught in a completely integrated way.

Coming Soon for J1 to 2nd Class

Try our digital resources TODAY go to FolensOnline.ie/starlight

To book a digital demonstration contact your local Folens Representative