

QUALITY ASSURANCE









BORD OIDEACHAIS AGUS OILIÚNA CHILL DARA AGUS CHILL MHANTÁIN





QUALITY AND GOVERNANCE

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KWETB Quality Council News

The KWETB Quality Council met in November and as part of its annual schedule of four meetings per annum. The main focus for the Quality Council in 2023 were:

Governance Review, Quality Framework, Reporting from the Quality Council Sub-Groups including; Stakeholder Engagement, Programme Governance, and Quality Assurance.

The Quality Council schedule of meetings for 2024 has been agreed and will see a return to in-person meetings for half of the schedule. The in-person meetings will take place in colleges or centres and will include input from the services at the meeting. It is hoped that this will contribute to increased awareness of the Quality Council. The Governance Review is on-going and it is anticipated that recommendations will be brought to the March meeting with an expected refresh of the membership of all the governance units planned for the summer.

Catherine Byrne, Secretary, KWETB Quality Council

Quality Assurance Subgroup News

The QASG group experienced a very busy and productive year in 2023. The primary focus of the QASG's activities was centred on the comprehensive evaluation of the newly developed Integrated Quality Framework, which was formally endorsed and recommended to the Quality Council for adoption in June 2023.

At the most recent Quality Council meeting in December 2023, a notable quality assurance procedure recommendation was made by the QASG. This recommendation was concerning the monitoring and reporting role of the group. The QASG acknowledged the rich data which results from the robust External Authentication processes which currently prevail in KWETB FET. After lengthy discussions and debate it was agreed to recommend a central point to share good practices and lessons learned with all. This recommendation was brought forward to ascertain a suitable mechanism to share this information within FET. It was met favourably by the Quality Council and this recommendation is currently in progress for delivery in 2024. The QASG also noted that this recommendation is also in line with the recent KWETB Inaugural Review recommendation which has recommended 'that as an ETB we enhance communication channels to ensure best practice is identified and shared between staff, peer learning is promoted, and organisational development and enhancements are widely known and understood' Looking ahead to 2024, the Quality Assurance Sub-group (QASG) will be directing its attention towards several key priorities. These include the ongoing refinement of the Quality Framework based on feedback and identified areas for improvement and a continued diligent examination of feedback and areas for enhancement from the Result Approval Panel meetings. Delivery on the QASG recommendation of sharing good practice and lessons learned every quarter with all staff in FET. The final notable priority is the ongoing joint QA/PD project which will see the development of a Guide on the use of Artificial Intelligence for publication.

Caitríona Cullen, Chair, Quality Assurance Sub-group

Programme Governance Subgroup

News

The Programme Governance Subgroup had a very productive 2023. During the course of the six meetings held in 2023, 42 Programme Change Requests were presented to the Subgroup for consideration and recommendation to the Quality Council.



2023 Change Requests statistics courtesy of Fiona Bradshaw

One New Programme Validation Request was submitted to the Subgroup in December 2023 with the decision to recommend to the Quality Council that the programme be submitted to QQI for validation. This was the L4 Foundation Award in Visual and Creative Arts which is the culmination of significant undertaken by the programme development group led by Angela Higgins and Elaine Finnerty. Well done to Angela and Elaine! We hope to see much more of this innovative new programme development. Priorities for 2024 include supporting the Quality Assurance Team to embed the Integrated QA Framework and to prioritise establishing programme/curriculum development processes.

In Subgroup member news, Ruth McSherry is stepping down as the Secretary of the Programme Governance Subgroup. Ruth has been instrumental in establishing the Programme Governance Subgroup since its inception in December 2020 providing invaluable support to the Chair and all members.

Brenda Lynch, Chair, Programme Governance Subgroup

Results Approvals

Certification in FE for October 2023 certification period

For October 2023, ten centres submitted learners for certification

Congratulations to all learners who achieved their awards

Summary of Grades submitted for October 2023 Certification										
Field of Learning	Successful	Successful Referred Distinction Merit Pas		Pass	Exemptions	Totals				
Core, Languages	53		19	9	3		84			
Education, Health			15	7	7		29			
Business, Admin			18	2	1		21			
ІСТ										
Art Craft Design										
Sport, Science, Horticulture			11	2			13			
Total:	53		63	20	11		147			

There was a range of grades across Successful at levels 2 and 3, Distinction, Merit and Pass achieved.

We are currently working on our December 2023 and February 2024 certification periods.

CERTIFICATION FIGURES FOR TRAINING

Field of Learning	Successful	Referred	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Terminated	Exemptions	Totals
Core, Languages	47	0	50	16	1	0	3	117
Education, Health	0	7	27	17	11	0	0	55
Business, Admin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ICT/Manufacturing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Art	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Science, Services	0	9	14	14	210	27	0	238
Totals	47	16	91	47	222	27	3	410

For Dec 2023 certification period, there was no assessment adjustment (only modes).



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Results Approvals

Certification in FE for February 2024 certification period

Certification was issued for the first group of learners this year.

For February 2024, nine centres submitted learners for certification

Congratulations to all learners who achieved their awards

Summary of Grades submitted for February 2024 Certification										
		Referred	Distinction							
Field of Learning	Successful			Merit	Pass	Exemptions	Totals			
Core, Languages	64		10	15	9		98			
Education, Health			50	16	9		75			
Business, Admin			64	28	17		110			
ІСТ			28	7	1		36			
Art Craft Design			20	12	8		40			
Total:	64		172	78	44		359			

There was a range of grades across Successful at levels 2 and 3, Distinction, Merit and Pass achieved.

We are currently working on our April and June 2024 certification periods.

CERTIFICATION FIGURES FOR TRAINING

Field of Learning	Successful	Referred	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Terminated	Exemptions	Totals			
Core, Languages	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Education, Health	0	15	36	25	11	23	1	73			
Business, Admin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
ICT/Manufacturing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Art	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Science, Services	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	12			
Totals	0	15	48	25	11	23	1	85			
For Feb 24 certi	For Feb 24 certification period, there was no assessment adjustment (only modes).										



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GOVERNANCE OF QUALITY REVIEW



As part of our cyclical review of Quality Assurance KWETB's launched the Governance Review on and which took place on October 12th in The Parkview Hotel, Newtown Mount Kennedy. This is Action Plan Item 2.3 in the plan devised and submitted to QQI following the publication of KWETB's review report, which is available here: <u>QQI Review Report 2022.</u>



QA team member in Inaugural Review of Quality Project Lead Angela Higgins facilitated a discussion on the current Governance structures in the ETB sector and attendees were offered the opportunity to input their ideas and opinions on how to best shape and improve our Governance structures going forward.

The QA team will be conducting further meetings with members of the Governance structure throughout December. The Director of FET, Ken Seery and Quality Assurance Lead and AEO, Catherine Byrne hosted a round table discussion and review of KWETBs current Governance of Quality practices. In attendance were members of the Quality Assurance, Programme Governance, and Stakeholder Engagement sub-groups.

Mr Alan Hogan, Quality Assurance Manager, Limerick and Clare ETB presented on his organisation's governance journey and offered valuable insights into the process. You can view Alan's slides <u>here</u>

Following this launch, the next phase is for each of the Governance Units (the Quality Council, The QA Sub-group; Programme Governance Sub-group and Stakeholder Engagement Sub-group to review their terms of reference and to make recommendations or propose changes as appropriate.

This work marks a milestone because the governance units have been in existence for four years.



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SINGLE QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK

The Quality Assurance Team are delighted to announce the launch of the KWETB Single Quality Assurance Framework. The Framework integrates relevant policies and procedures across FET.

The Single QA Framework was formally approved by the Quality Council in recommendation of the Quality Assurance Subgroup. The Single QA Framework goes live in January 2024 for new courses.

Rollout supports will be in place at centre and service level.

As part of the rollout, the Quality Team will be providing information sessions in January 2024 for:

- PLCs Principals and Deputy Principals
- Centre Coordinators
- Training Team

Following these sessions, the Quality Team will provide training and information sessions to the wider stakeholder group including teachers, trainers and resource persons.

YOU CAN ACCESS THE KWETB QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK





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QAF LEARNER PRACTICTIONER INFORMATION SESSIONS

THE SINGLE QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK WENT LIVE FOR NEW COURSES IN JANUARY 2024. SINCE JANUARY, THE QUALITY TEAM HAS CARRIED OUT FIVE INITIAL INFORMATION SESSIONS TO COORDINATORS, PRINCIPALS, DEPUTY PRINCIPALS AND THE TRAINING SERVICES AND INNOVATION TEAM.



AN OVERVIEW OF THE SINGLE QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK WAS PROVIDED AND A WORKSHOP TO DISCUSS PRACTICAL SCENARIOS WAS CONDUCTED

THE SECOND SCHEDULE OF INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR LEARNING PRACTITIONERS, CONTRACTOR TRAINING, COMMUNITY TRAINING AND GUIDANCE TEAMS COMMENCED ON JANUARY 28TH. THE FIRST INFORMATION SESSION WAS TO TEAMS FROM BRAY BAEC AND BRAY & NORTH WICKLOW YOUTHREACH.





IN ATTENDANCE WERE THE QUALITY TEAM LED BY CATHERINE BYRNE AEO, WITH THE QUALITY TEAM SANDRA CLEARY, BERNARD MORLEY, FIONA BRADSHAW, GREG BAXTER, AISLING FORAN PARTICIPATING IN THE EVENT. ALSO IN ATTENDANCE WAS CAITRIONA CULLEN AEO.

THANK YOU!

TO BRAY & NORTH WICKLOW YOUTHREACH FOR HOSTING THE EVENT.

THE NEXT INFORMATION SESSION IS SCHEDULED FOR 17TH MARCH IN ATHY FETC

THE QUALITY TEAM ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO PRESENTING THE QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK TO ALL TEAMS AND RECEIVING YOUR FEEDBACK. The Quality Assurance Team



We are pleased to announce that the ELC Programme Board have agreed to a number of amendments following the end of year two review.

Part-time Provision - The expanded range of durations, the rebalancing of classroom hours and the removal of the mandatory activities from the Placement module should support access for part-time learners.

Recognition of Prior learning - will be assessed on a case by case basis. Contact fionabradshaw@kwetb.ie for any ELC related RPL cases.

PLSS programme titles directive



Advanced Certificate in Early Learning and Care Level 5 Certificate in Early Learning and Care NFQ Levels 5 & 6 for Education and Training Boa



NL12123 Early Learning and Care Certificate, version 2.01 NL12131 Early Learning and Care Advanced Certificate, version 2.01 Sector professional terminology to be used e.g. Early years, Early childhood Care and Education but do not use tag Childcare.

Staff Qualifications - The 5 year phased approach

We are now in year 3 of the 5 year phase approach for staff qualifications requirements as outlined in the ELC programme descriptor. A briefing with Line managers has taken place to ensure we have a collective understanding of the ELC qualifications required to deliver the programme in KWETB. Staff should discuss qualifications and the possibility of PD opportunities with their Line manager.



ELC Subject Matter Experts Community of Practice updates



Session 1 October 23 -focused on the changes following the review, the group discussed how these change would impact on their learners.

Session 2 November 23 discussed the current updates within the sector. NCCAs consultation on updating <u>Aistear</u> the early years Curriculum framework. Also teaching and learning strategies on the National guidance included reflection on <u>Siolta (quality framework, Aistear</u> (curriculum framework) along the <u>Access and</u> <u>Inclusion model through Better start.</u>



Deactivation of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) (CAS Awards) December 2023 5M2009 & 6M2007 -No longer available



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KILDARE AND WICKLOW EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD



Better Start

NEWS & Achievements

Shelton Abbey

We recently received NALA Student Development funding for our family bonding/literacy project.

The amount granted was €250.00, this was used to purchase a selection of books for children.







The Woodwork and Art department came together, designed, made and decorated a beautiful book cupboard which has been placed in a communal area used during visiting times.

These books together with others purchased by the Education Unit. A selection of STEM and sensory toys donated by Wicklow County Council Library.

"This will enhance family bonding relationships and support and promote family literacy."



STORYTIME DURING WEEKEND VISITS



The Storytime cupboard will be open during weekend visits from this Saturday 28th of October.

- Choose your books/toys from the cupboard
 Give your family name and number of items borrowed to the Red Cross team member on duty
- All books and toys are the property of the
- Education Unit/Library and are on loan • We ask that you kindly return them to the
- cupboard at the end of each visit
- Enjoy everyone!

The books will be available to dads/grandads/uncles/brothers etc. to read with, and to, their children at weekends during their family visits.

This has been an extremely positive collaborative project which has resulted in a fabulous facility for all inmates and their families





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The Shelton Abbey Irish Red Cross Team were the proud winners of the Special Status Branch Award at the Irish Red Cross National Volunteer Awards, held in the Hogan Suite in Croke Park on November 11th 2023. This event was hosted by The Volunteer Support and Development Working Group in recognition of the humanitarian work and voluntary service that takes place within communities around the country

There were nine categories of awards on the day, recognising the extraordinary work being carried out in local communities in every corner of Ireland. The Irish Red Cross Special Status Award is awarded each year to a prison volunteer group which embodies the Fundamental Principles of the Irish Red Cross, demonstrating initiative and passion as volunteers.

This group of prison volunteers were nominated by the Irish Red Cross Teacher, Claire Gough and Shelton Abbey's Governor, Joseph Donoghue in recognition of the impact that their volunteering work has had on educating and empowering their entire community.

Úna Ward Teacher/Librarian, Shelton Abbey Education Unit

Arklow News



South-Wicklow ABE students and staff were delighted to receive a delivery of new books for their student library recently. The books were purchased following the ABE's successful application for the NALA Student Development

Karin Walker, ABE Service South Wicklow



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At our recent Annual Awards Ceremony we presented prizes for three competitions that we ran in the weeks leading up to Awards Ceremony Digital Media Competition Green Skills/ Sustainability Competition Innovation in Teaching Competition

Ibridge Further Education and raining Centre

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Sustainability Competition Manisha, Marianna, Garry

Winners of Green Skills/

Celbridge Further Education and Trainin Street

Winners of Digital Media competition

Mary, Hong, Manisha.

Winners of Innovation in Teaching

Jeanette, Nikola



Innovation in Teaching Prizes Dublin crystal, Voucher

Prizes Digital Rocketbook, Voucher and handmade beeswax tree candles

Celbridge Further

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KILDARE AND WICKLOW EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD



Well done to all!!

Leixlip Youthreach

Students helped to create a video snapshot of these activities, which you can view here:



Stand Up Awareness Week

In November Leixlip Youthreach celebrated Stand Up Awareness Week. Learners planned a series of events for the week as part of their Gaisce Award Community Project. Highlights included a collaborative art piece that took it's inspiration from the PRIDE flag, baking a rainbow themed cake and a movie day.

Prior to the week all teaching staff attended training hosted by Belong To the national LGBTQ+ youth organisation. The training included practical tips on how to mark Stand Up Awareness Week in addition to allowing staff share stories of their experience working on LQBTQ+ issues with young people. The theme for this year's awareness week was allyship and focussed on supporting and showing solidarity with LGBTQ+ young people.

Maths Week

In October we celebrated Maths Week. Students completed maths activities including a quiz and a mathematics-based Flip Hunt in their local community. They also solved cryptic clues using binary code, used coordinate geometry to reveal artworks, completed block coding activities to solve problems and explored symmetry by creating themed paper planes.

They also studied and built a self-supporting bridge designed by Leonardo DaVinci. A huge thank you to Rory Clarke, Maths teacher in Arklow Youthreach for providing our centre with a bridge of our own!

Stand Up Awareness Week Cake



Stand Up Awareness Week Pride Flag Art



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KILDARE AND WICKLOW EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD With thanks to Rachael Doherty and Derek O'Halloran, Educators, Leixlip Youthreach.



MAYNOOTH FETC





Welcoming students from all nationalities, cultures, and backgrounds to learn English in our Centre

Currently in one of the ESOL classes we are working on tasks, roleplay, and activities.

These practices will lead to improve everyday English so the students may integrate confidently within our community.

Our current goal is to reach QQI certification level 3.



We enjoy working within our community and providing an integrated literacy service to students with learning difficulties.

By using a tailored approach to meet the diverse needs of the learners and by developing a positive learning environment to show that certification can be achieved if we can look outside the box.

We worked on a module this year and the group achieved certification. The sense of achievement and excitement has geared us forward to hopefully completing another module. The group now knows that this can be done.

We would like to showcase our literacy and ESOL classes currently running in our Maynooth FETC. As a centre we facilitate inclusion and full participation of all learners who attend. Focusing on a positive and fun environment, we enable our learners to reach their potential and allow them to shine. "Thank to all participants in the videos and colleague Marty Ruth Fallon. A special thanks for Joe Bergin who put videos together."

Louise Quinn, Tutor, Maynooth FETC

Deirdre Curtin: 087-6270650 Avril Winters: 087-9419949 Phone: 01-6292602 Email: maynoothfetc@kwetb.ie



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Kildare and Wicklow ETB, <u>Down Syndrome Ireland (DSI)</u> and <u>Kildare Down Syndrome (KDS</u>) have partnered to devise, develop and deliver a programme of education that called

Living It Up!

The Programme has been devised:

- in response to the limited post-school options for people with an intellectual disability;
- to provide opportunities for adults with an intellectual disability to engage in meaningful education activities that support maintenance of existing skills and the acquisition of new skills;
- to maintain and improve learners social and emotional skills

The Living It Up! Pilot Programme incorporates QQI modules, DSI modules, unaccredited life skills teaching and learning, activities, community and employer engagement and other elements to be agreed as the pilot progresses.

In this Pilot there are 2 Programme Options: Horticulture Programme and the Life Skills with Technology Programme. Both programmes incorporate a wide range of educational and life skills outcomes with progression routes including FE programmes, supported employment, community or voluntary work and maintenance programmes.

Both Programmes commenced in September with the Horticulture streams taking place in Sallins and Donadea. The Life Skills with Technology is delivered in partnership with Pfizer Newbridge and takes place in the Pfizer facility in Newbridge.

This video captures the learner experience at the beginning of this very exciting Pilot Programme.

> KWETB Living it Up! & Life Skills Programmes A bespoke educational programme in partnership with KWETB

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and Kilda

Brenda Lynch, AEO, Kildare.



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CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF LITERACY PROJECTS IN KILDARE AND WICKLOW, FUNDED BY THE ADULT LITERACY FOR LIFE COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION FUND 2023

THE QUESTIONS MATTER CONFERENCE 2023 ON DECEMBER 12TH, 2023, LAUNCHED AN EXCITING NEW MEDIA LITERACY MICROLEARNING SHORT-COURSE USING WHATSAPP FOR ADULT EDUCATION TUTORS, LITERACY EDUCATORS AND PRACTITIONERS. THIS INITIATIVE, FUNDED BY THE ADULT LITERACY FOR LIFE (ALL) COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION FUND 2023, WAS A SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION BETWEEN 80:20 EDUCATING AND ACTING FOR A BETTER WORLD, KWETB BRAY ADULT LEARNING CENTRE, NALA AND BRAY AREA PARTNERSHIP. TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS NEW QUESTIONS MATTER COURSE ON MEDIA LITERACY AND TACKLING DISINFORMATION, CLICK <u>HERE</u> HTTPS://8020.IE/PROJECTS/QUESTIONING-MATTERS/





IT WAS GREAT TO CELEBRATE THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE WORKING WORDS SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT LITERACY PROJECT, A COLLABORATION BETWEEN KILDARE LIBRARY SERVICES AND KWETB, FUNDED BY THE ALL COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION FUND 2023. IT WAS GREAT TO CELEBRATE THE SUCCESS OF THE HEALTH LITERACY AND DIGITAL SKILLS PROJECT, A COLLABORATION BETWEEN NEWBRIDGE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE AND PLATINUM CLUBHOUSE, FUNDED BY THE ADULT LITERACY FOR LIFE (ALL) COLLABORATION AND INNOVATION FUND 2023.



Adult Literacy for Life



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ERASMUS+ 2023



29

"Great to learn with colleagues"

"Inspiring and uplifting to meet and get to know other colleagues"



"Understanding peers' roles and their challenges within. Brought personal focus back to reflect within"

ERASMUS 2023: BAVARIA, A COLLEAGUES REFLECTIONS:

Seven colleagues from Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board recently had an interesting trip to see how vocational schools work in different countries as part of FET Erasmus Mobility. The team visited ISB, a Bavarian State Institute, BSZ Wasserburg, and BSV Miesbach, both vocational school centres in South Bavaria. Upon reflection, it is considered that the strengths of the three- pillar school system in Germany fall within the remit of its dual approach to learning.

I found that the integration of work related specific subjects, as part of the second level curriculum is reflective of economic need.



Staatsinstitut für Schulqualität und Bildungsforschung München





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This means that students are well educated and have developed critical thinking skills because they are not 'educated to rote learn towards one State exam, the Leaving Certificate. Rather, the youth is prepared and readily equipped for the world of work. society and economy.

In Ireland, however, whilst the dual system of German education shares many valuable similarities, overall, there needs to be a change in thinking with regard to the 'point's race'. This trip has reminded me that the leaving certificate does not define a person or their capabilities. Like Germany, our country, in particular our second level school system needs to prepare our youth for the careers that they desire rather than forcing them to focus on





points.

There needs to be more emphasis considered on curriculum development and change. As a country we are undergoing a significant educational policy shift under the guidance of Minister Simon Harris, I look forward to this change- I believe that Erasmus trips encourage participants to think critically, reflect and then act to create change in a positive way, to benefit the learners. In acting now, we can ensure a better future for our youth.

Tracy O Shaughnessy -Senior Training Advisor/ Solas Authorised Officer



QUALITY GUIDES

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Quick Guide

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Available on The PD Hub

A Quick Guide to Multimodal Evidence with Recommendations for Video and Audio.

This guide was developed based on themes arising from RAPs and the Assessment Process.

LEARN MORE

Learning Enhancement and Development



A Quick Guide to Authorship and Digital Signatures together with authorship templates for use.

LEARN MORE

A brighter future, learning enhancement and development with KWETB. Todhchaí níos gile, feabhsú agus forbairt foghlama le KWETB.

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

We are thrilled to share some exciting news with you! LEAD – our new centre for Learning Enhancement and Development - is now officially present on social media.

You can find us on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. We invite you to follow our growing community in whatever social space you use and engage with the content as suits you.

We will continue with updates, events and information here in the FET PD Hub, where we encourage you to ask questions, share resources, PD events or anything else you feel would be useful to your FET colleagues.

Here are the links to our pages: 🔗 linktr.ee/leadwithkwetb

- Instagram: instagram.com/leadwithkwetb
- Facebook: facebook.com/leadwithkwetb
- Twitter: twitter.com/LEADwithKWETB

We're on a mission to provide you with up to date information, resources and tips and tricks to save you time and to enhance learning for all FET learners across KWETB. Follow along to keep up to date with the latest news from LEAD.

Learn on

Socials

But that's not all! We want to hear from you too. Please do share your thoughts, experiences, feedback and ideas, your input is valued and appreciated. If you have an idea for content or have some to share, please do get in touch.

Help us to continue to build our online community together. Follow socials, engage with the content, your contributions and engagement are very important to us. Thank you for your ongoing dedication to FET learners, and we're looking forward to connecting with you on our social media platforms.



A brighter future, learning enhancement and development with KWETB. Todhchaí níos gile, feabhsú agus forbairt foghlama le KWETB.







INDUSTRY NEWS

QQI published A Review of the Landscape of **Practice Supporting Access Transfer and Progression** in Irish Education and Training

QQI NFQ 20th

ber 2023

OF OUALIFICATIONS





National Skills Bulletin 2023 - SOLAS National Skills Bulletin 2023 2.55 million 2023 marked the 20th anniversary of the -158,000 s Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). To celebrate the 38% anniversary QQI hosted workshops and a conference at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Golden Lane Dubli **Anniversary Conference** 565.500 NATIONAL FRAMEWORK 37.000 SOLAS

> **SOLAS and The National Skills Council** recently published the National Skills Bulletin 2023

5thVPLBIENNALE

National Skills Council

May 6-8 May 2024, Ireland

The 5th Validation of Prior Learning (VPL) Biennale which is due to take place in Lyrath Estate,

<u>Kilkenny.</u>

A call for contributions is open which is seeking input for the programme of sessions. Early bird rate of €270 available up to 1st February 2024 (€400 thereafter). A bursary scheme has been established which invites applicant to apply for financial support to participate in the conference



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IMPORTANT DATES

KWETB CERTIFICATION SCHEDULE FET 2024



KWETB Certification Schedule FET 2024 (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug Certification)

Certification Period (FET)	Submission of Estimates (FE)	Deadline for upload of Internal Verificati on Reports (FE)	Deadline for upload of documentati on for online EA (FE)	Latest date for packs to be returned to TSO (T)	EA Period (FE)	RAP (FE)	RAP (T)	Latest date for TSO submissio n of approved results using the RCCRS for inclusion in file upload to QQI (T)	Deadline for submission of authenticate d results to QBS/close invalid entries (FET)	Final statemen t of results available for download (FET)	Certificate s issues by QQI (FET)	Deadline for QQI External Appeals applicatio n (FET)
Feb-24	Friday 8 th December 2023	Friday 12 th January 2024	Thursday 18 th January 2024	Monday 8 th January 2024	22 nd January- 2 nd January 2024	Tuesday 6 th February 2024	Monday 22 nd January 2024	Friday 26 th January 2024	12 th February 2024	16 th February 2024	4 th March 2024	23rd February 2024
Apr-24	Thursday 22 ^{ed} February 2024	Friday 8 th March 2024	Thursday 14 th March 2024	Monday 4 th March 2024	18 th March – 29 th March 2024	Tuesday 2 nd April 2024	Monday 25 th March 2024	Thursday 28 th March 2024	12 th April 2024	16 th April 2024	7 th May 2024	26 th April 2024
Jun-24	Monday 25 th March 2024	Friday 3 rd May 2024 Centers <u>must</u> request	Thursday 9th May 2024 (17th May - if late request granted for	Tuesday 7 th May 2024	13 th May - 31 st May 2024	Tuesday 4 th June 2024	Thursday 23 rd May 2024	Tuesday 28 th May 2024	12 th June 2024	16 th June 2024	7 th May 2024	28 th June 2024
		late submissio n for IV - June 15 th May. This will be dependen t on EA availabilit y)	IV submission)									
Aug-24		Thursday 4 th July 2024	Thursday 11 th July 2024	Monday 8 th July 2024	15 th July - 26 th July 2024	Tuesday 30 th July 2024	Monday 22 nd July 2024	Friday 27 th July 2024	12 th August 2024	16 th August 2024	2 nd September 2024	30 th August 2024

Please note that dates may be subject to change.

When deciding on your submission date, remember to factor in other important dates e.g. CAO offer rounds, conferral dates, etc.



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