



BORD OIDEACHAIS AGUS OILIÚNA  
**CHILL DARA AGUS CHILL MHANTÁIN**

**KILDARE AND WICKLOW**  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

# FET Quality Assurance ezine *SUMMER 2023*

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# Welcome



I hope this message finds you in good spirits and health. Let me introduce you to the latest issue of our division's ezine, which focuses on the fascinating world of Artificial Intelligence (AI), our 2022 Governance Review, and the exceptional Strategic Performance results we achieved last year.

Our team's dedication and hard work have paid off, and I am proud to share that KWETB - FET has not only met but exceeded most of the strategic performance goals for 2022. The outstanding results demonstrate our commitment to excellence and continuous improvement. As we progress into 2023, these achievements encourage us to embrace the next set of ambitious targets and continue our upward trajectory.

In this issue, we will delve into the ever-evolving role of AI in education, examining its impact on various aspects of the sector, including academic integrity, functions and job changes, and more. We'll discuss the potential of AI to transform the way we teach and learn, as well as the challenges and opportunities it presents to educators, support staff, and administrators in educational institutions. As you read through the diverse range of articles and thought-provoking discussions, we encourage you to consider the broader implications of AI in education and how we, as a division, can adapt and embrace its potential to shape a more dynamic and practical learning experience for all. As you read through the articles and discussions in this issue, I encourage you to consider how AI can continue to revolutionise and shape our collective future.

Remember, our achievements result from our collaborative efforts, and I am confident that together, we will exceed expectations and set new standards for excellence in 2023.

Thank you for your dedication and exceptional work. I hope you enjoy this AI-themed issue, and I look forward to FET's continued success.

**Ken Seery**  
Director of Further Education and Training



# Quality Council News



The Quality Council met on 18th April last.

## *Items discussed:*

- The Quality Assurance team are supporting the roll out of the Quality Framework. The Governance Review has been open for consultation over the last month. Currently the feedback offered is being reviewed. Further updates will be available shortly.
- The Quality Assurance sub-groups provided an update on their work. Full details of same will be provided in the sub-groups updates section.
- An update was provided on the Governance Review.
- The next meeting is 29th June.

Catherine Byrne, Secretary  
KWETB Quality Council



# Quality Assurance Governance Groups



## Programme Governance Subgroup update

The success of the Programme Approval Hub is evident in the number of applications for programme approval requests brought to each meeting of the Programme Governance Subgroup. Most approval requests relate to adding modules to existing approved awards and adding Centres to KWETB approved awards in addition to the micro-credential awards approved over the past year. The Subgroup takes a robust approach to examining the merits of each application before submitting comments and recommendations to the Quality Council.

Following the implementation of the new Quality Framework, the Subgroup looks forward to implementing the process and procedures for new programme development, something I know will be welcome by all FET programmes and services. We will be looking to the wider FET team for expertise and knowledge in innovative programme development to review, renew and revitalise our current suite of programmes.

New members are sought for the Programme Governance Subgroup of the Quality Council, particularly from the ABE services. Please get in touch with me if you are interested in being a member and contributing to the governance process in FET.

**Brenda Lynch**

**Chair, Programme Governance Subgroup**

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## Quality Assurance Subgroup update

The Quality Assurance Subgroup met twice over last 6 weeks. Lynn Armstrong was nominated as interim Secretary. Work is ongoing to source a replacement Learner Representative. Work is continuing regarding highlighting themes on RAPs. The QASG is focusing on the Quality Assurance Framework consultation at present. The Quality Framework Review Schedule has been reviewed & approved by the QASG. The group will review changes, discuss and make relevant amendments to redraft. Presentation of redraft will be presented to the Quality Council at next meeting.

**Catriona Cullen**

**Chair, Quality Assurance Subgroup**

# Quality Enhancement

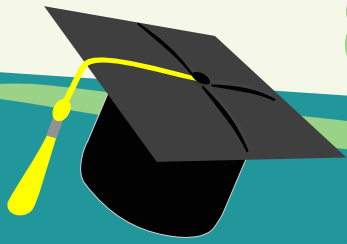


**QQI launched the Sectoral Report to complement the sixteen individual ETB reports. The report was produced by an independent team to identify system-level observations and findings.**

**Download the full report**



# FET Results & Approvals



**Well done to all learners who achieved their certification for the April certification period!**

**Twelve centres submitted learners for certification.**

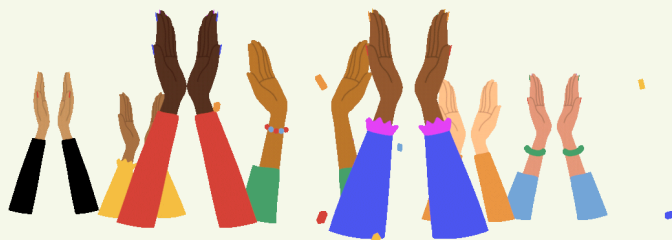
**These included Arklow ABE, Arklow VTOS/BTEI, Arklow Youthreach, Athy VTOS/BTEI, Athy Youthreach, Baltinglass ALC, Blessington FETC, Celbridge FETC, Jigginstown, Kildare ABE, Maynooth FETC, Wicklow FETC.**

**Summary of Grades submitted for April 2023 Certification**

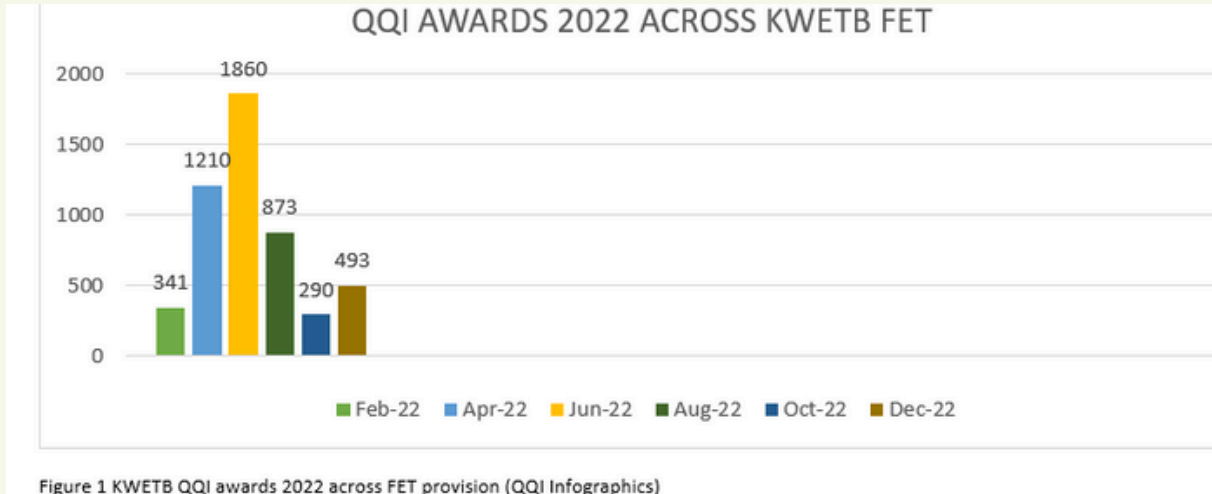
Field of Learning	Successful	Referred	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Exemptions	Totals
Core, Languages	78		34	2			114
Education, Health			108	52	26	3	189
Business, Admin			129	22	15		166
ICT			12	1	4		17
Art Craft Design			1	3	2	1	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>78</b>		<b>284</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>493</b>

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

**We are currently working on our June certification period.**

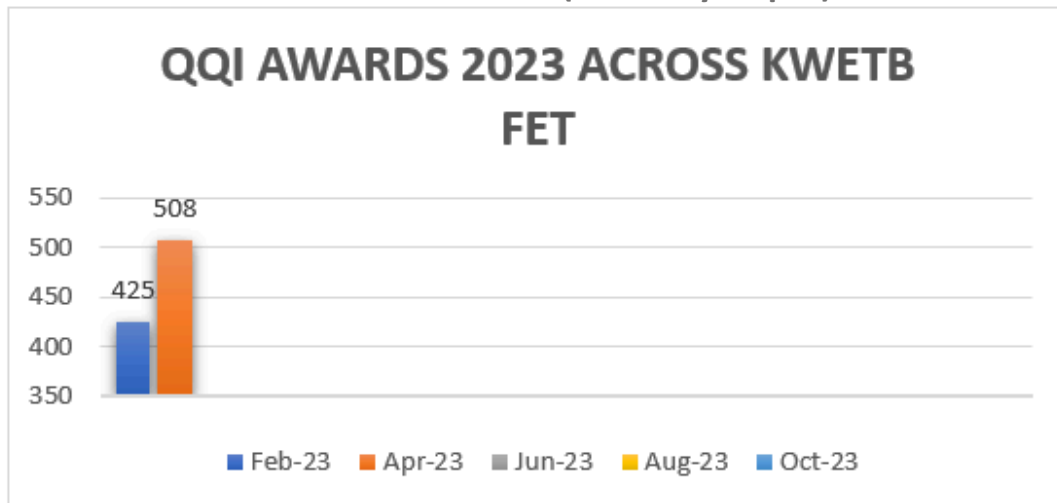


# FET Results & Approvals

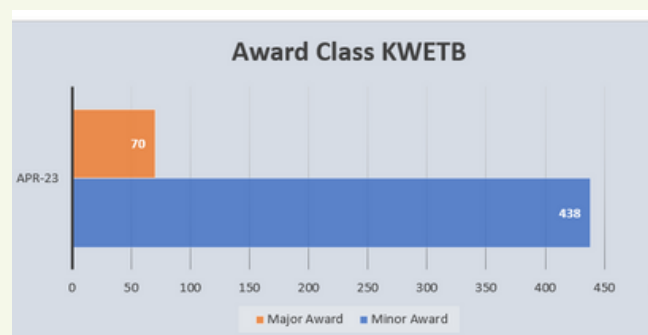


- 341 QQI awards issued to KWETB FET - Feb 2022 certification period
- 1210 QQI awards issued to KWETB FET- Apr 2022 certification period
- 860 QQI awards issued to KWETB FET -Jun 2022 certification period
- 873 QQI awards issued to KWETB FET - Aug 2022 certification period
- 290 QQI awards issued to KWETB FET - Oct 2022 certification period
- 493 QQI awards issued to KWETB FET - Dec 2022 certification period

## 2023 CERTIFICATION (February - April)



- 425 QQI awards issued to KWETB FET - Feb 2023 certification period
- 508 QQI awards issued to KWETB FET - Apr 2023 certification period



(Source QQI Infographics)

# FET Results & Approvals



## Awards Breakdown

### Breakdown of Minor Awards 2022/2023

Level of Learning	Feb		Apr		Jun		Aug		Oct		Dec	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Level 1												
Level 2	0	5	20	2	8		60		0		0	
Level 3	14	60	112	62	220		193		12		157	
Level 4	57	111	267	91	275		200		99		157	
Level 5	141	211	341	247	757		314		64		104	
Level 6	87	23	402	36	188		28		41		7	
Totals	299	410	1142	438	1448		795		216		425	

Table 2 KWETB breakdown of minor QQI awards across FET provision 2022/2023 (source QQI Infographics)

### Breakdown of Major Awards 2022/2023

Level of Learning	Feb		Apr		Jun		Aug		Oct		Dec	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Level 1												
Level 2	0	0	3	1	0		11		0		0	
Level 3	3	4	30	3	24		6		1		15	
Level 4	1	0	8	4	9		16		20		27	
Level 5	38	11	16	30	309		33		20		26	
Level 6	0	0	11	32	70		11		34		0	
Totals	42	15	68	70	412		78		74		68	

Table 1 KWETB breakdown of major QQI awards across FET provision 2022/2023 (source QQI Infographics)

# FET Results & Approvals



Breakdown Major / Minor / Special Purpose Awards into Fields of Learning 2023 (source QQI Infographics)

Major Awards at Level								Minor Awards at level							
Field	Level	Feb	Apr	Jun	Aug	Oct	Dec	Field	Level	Feb	Apr	Jun	Aug	Oct	Dec
General Learning	2		1					Generic Programmes & Qualifications	2	5	2				
Employability Skills	3	4						Business Admin & Law	3	19	16				
General Learning	3		3					ICT	3	7					
								Services	3	16	5				
								Generic Programmes	3	14	21				
								Arts & Humanities	3		8				
								Engineering	3	4					
								Agriculture	3		12				
								Social Sciences	3						
Horsemanship	4							Generic Programmes	4	42	35				
General Learning	4							Business & Admin	4	41	49				
Employment Skills	4							Services	4	6					
Sport & Recreation	4							Agriculture, Fisheries, Veterinary	4	13					
Arts & Humanities	4		1					Health & Welfare	4						
Horticulture	4							Arts & Humanities	4	5	5				
Business, Admin, Law	4		3					Natural Sciences,	4						
								Engineering, Construction	4	0					
								ICT	4	4	2				
Health & Welfare	5	9	25					Business, Admin, Law	5	63	90				
Services	5	0						Generic Programmes	5	41	29				
Agriculture & Veterinary	5	0						Health & Welfare	5	83	74				
ICT	5	0						Natural Sciences, Maths & Statistics	5	0	1				
Social Sciences	5	0						Education	5	0	3				
Business, Admin & Law	5	2	5					Services	5	0	41				
Arts & Humanities	5	0						Agriculture, Fisheries, Veterinary	5	0					
Natural Sciences	5	0						ICT	5	7					
								Arts & Humanities	5	4	9				
								Social Sciences	5	0					
								Engineering & Construction	5	13					
Engineering, Manufacturing & Construction	6	0	30					Engineering, Manufacturing, Construction	6	0	3				
Health & Welfare	6	0	2					Generic Programmes	6	7					
Business, Administration & Law	6	0						ICT	6	0					
ICT	6	0						Health & Welfare	6	0	14				
Humanities															
Education	6	0						Services	6	0					
Services	6	0						Agriculture, Veterinary	6	0					
								Education	6	0					
								Social Sciences, journalism & Information	6	0					

Table 3 Breakdown of QQI major, minor, special purpose awards across fields of learning 2023 for FET provision

# FET Results & Approvals



## Summary of programs delivered April 2023

F12's	Portfolios
ITEC Barbering	23
Culinary Skills	0
Maintenance Skills	89
Maintenance Skills	112
Maintenance Skills	4
Maintenance Skills	2
For Mention	
Advanced Big Red Cloud Payroll	2
Advanced Big Red Cloud Payroll	9
Intermediate Big Red Cloud Accounts	12
Intermediate Big Red Cloud Accounts	25
Intro to payroll	3
Intro to payroll	34
Intro to Accounts	7
Intro to Accounts	45
Barista Short Course	5
Barista Short Course	8
Barista Short Course	6
Barista Short Course	5
Barista Short Course	4
Barista Short Course	10
Barista Short Course	5
Barista Short Course	13
Barista Short Course	14
Barista Short Course	10
Barista Short Course	12
Barista Short Course	13
Apprenticeships Contributing Partners	
Software Developer	160
NHA sage 1 Naas	70
NHA sage 1 Bray	69

## Summary of Apr 2023 certification numbers per center (RAP)

Course Name	Actual Submission for April Certification components
Barbering	23
Culinary Skills	0
Maintenance Skills	112
Maintenance Skills	89
Maintenance Skills	4
Maintenance Skills	2
Total portfolios submitted Apr 2023 round RAP	
230 Portfolios	

3 providers submitted for Apr 2023 certification

# FET Results & Approvals



**Breakdown of portfolios  
and major awards.**



Course Name	Numbers of portfolios	Numbers of major award or special purpose awards	Number of learners receiving awards
Barbering	23	0	7
Culinary Skills	0	0	0
Maintenance Skills	112	14	14
Maintenance Skills	89	10	11
Maintenance Skills	4	3	3
Maintenance Skills	2	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>29 major awards</b>	<b>37 Learners</b>



**Summary of Grades submitted  
for April 2023 certification**

Course Name	Successful	Referred	Distinct	Merit	Pass	Terminated	Exemption	Totals
Barbering	23	5	0	0	0	0	0	23
Culinary Skills	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0
Maintenance Skills	0	0	36	42	34	16	0	112
Maintenance Skills	0	4	42	25	17	35	5	89
Maintenance Skills	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	4
Maintenance Skills	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>230</b>



# FET Results & Approvals



“

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



”

Field of Learning	Successful	Referred	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Terminated	Exemptions	Totals
Core, Languages	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Education, Health	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Business, Admin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ICT/Manufacturing	0	4	79	67	56	51	5	207
Art	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Science, Services	23	5	0	0	0	12	0	23
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>230</b>



## External Authentication April 2023



External Authentication	External Authenticators	Total Number Portfolios
Maintenance Skills	Rory O'Donnell 08/03/23 Very Effective	6 Learners Sampled
Maintenance Skills	Rory O'Donnell 08/03/23 Very Effective	6 Learners sampled
All on site	1 different External Authenticators	12 Learners externally authenticated

# Congratulations to all our Learners

# KWETB News & Achievements



Youthreach Athy Learners are pictured with Barry Keatley the owner of Talent Pool Virtual.

Our learners got to experience many different vehicles and machines such as Forklifts, Cranes, Bulldozers and much more all from the comfort of their classroom!

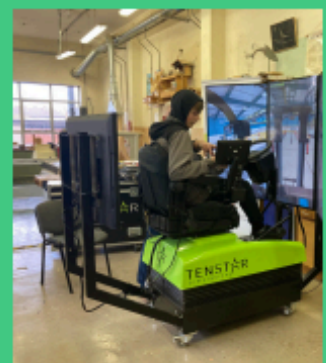
Our Learners at Youthreach Athy also have taken part in a Bricklaying construction course within Athy FETC. John the Instructor gave great lessons and provided the learners with lots of practical skills for life.

Learning construction skills is a fun and different way to learn many necessary skills for everyday life and entering the workforce such as Motor skills & improving hand eye coordination, spatial skills, social and language skills and helps to foster creative, critical thinking.

It was a day of experiential learning and fun at the same time. We also discovered a few naturals and others that enjoyed learning the basics!



# KWETB News & Achievements





Recently, Learners from Leixlip Youthreach teamed up with Fighting Words to create a screenplay.

Created over three weeks, Rusty's Journey Home is a story about friends set in 1984, Spring, Inishowen Donegal.



**Read the full  
screenplay here**



Fighting Words provides free programmes and mentoring in creative writing and related arts. Fighting Words offers a wide range of workshops, all of which are designed to promote creativity and writing as a fun and powerful means of self-expression.



Youthreach Leixlip learners held a fundraiser in Spring of 2023 for the LauraLynn charity. The fundraiser was part of our Gaisce award community challenge. Laura Lynn is a children's hospice in Ireland that was set up in 2011. We collected money from our family and friends by hosting a bake. We raised €560 through the event

We are immensely proud of ourselves and how much challenging work we put into this. We are also incredibly grateful for LauraLynn's wonderful work. If you would like to help LauraLynn there are lots of fundraising tips on their website at [lauralynn.ie](http://lauralynn.ie)



# KWETB News & Achievements



## News from Shelton Abbey Open Prison

On the morning of Saturday 3rd March 2023, a charity 5k/10K walk & run took place around the scenic grounds of Shelton Abbey in aid of local suicide awareness charity, Talk to Tom. All participants were presented with certificates by the founder of the charity, Ray Cullen, who kindly visited on the day.

**#talktotom**  
suicide prevention (0818) 303061



Later that afternoon, a family day, in conjunction with Wicklow County Council library services, took place where prisoners were joined by their families and enjoyed activities which included a guided nature walk around the beautiful grounds of Shelton Abbey, arts and craft workshops and story time for the younger children, as well as a light lunch and refreshments for all.

Recently qualified **Irish Red Cross Volunteers** were presented with awards for completing the **Community Based Health and First Aid Programme** in the presence of their families.

These awards were kindly presented by **Fergal Black, Director of Care and Rehabilitation in the Irish Prison Service.**



**Crois Dhearg na hÉireann**  
**Irish Red Cross**

This family day event was organised as part of the Irish Red Cross Mental Health Week which ran across all prisons during the week of the 27th February 2023.



**Click to find out more about  
the Community Based Health  
and First Aid Programme**



# KWETB News & Achievements



## Eco-Eats

**A SUSTAINABLE COOKBOOK  
BY WEST WICKLOW YOUTHREACH 2023**



In West Wicklow Youthreach we are committed to spreading awareness of environmental and social justice issues, this year for our annual SDG action project, our learners focused on sustainable food systems in relation to the Global Goals.

Global food systems are estimated to contribute between 23–42% of all human-made greenhouse gas emissions; so rethinking our food production and eating habits is key in order to reducing our personal carbon footprints.

Through the creation of our sustainable cookbook "Eco Eats", we explore the role that food production, food systems, and agriculture play in fighting climate change locally and globally, and the role we all play as global citizens and consumers in ensuring food security, protecting our planet's ecosystems, and the rights of workers.

Our new sustainable cookbook is packed with sustainable food facts, tips and advice, and lots of delicious recipes that are good for you, and the planet.

Explore the cookbook for yourself to start your sustainable food journey using the link or QR code below. Let's taste a better future!

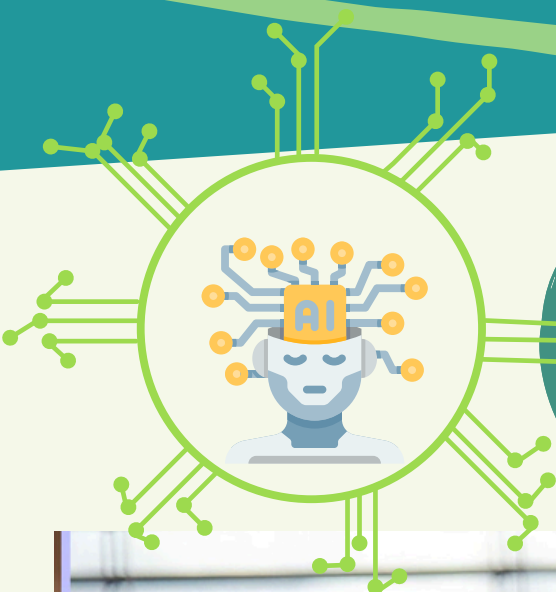
Use the QR code or visit the link below to view

[www.bit.ly/Eco-Eats-WestWicklowYR](http://www.bit.ly/Eco-Eats-WestWicklowYR)




SCAN ME

# Spotlight on....



**This edition's Spotlight on is focused on Artificial Intelligence in education. We sat down with Chat GPT to see what it has to say about its role in Further Education and Training**

***Dear Chat GPT....***



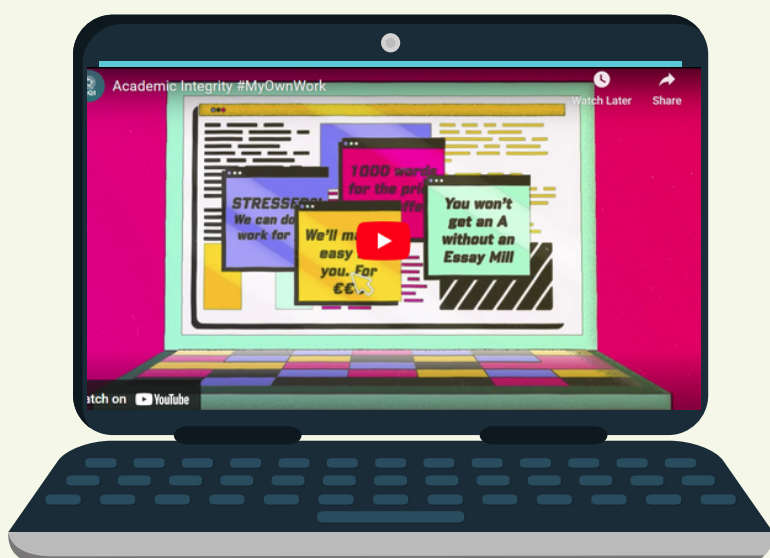
**OpenAI**  
**ChatGPT**

**CLICK ON EACH DESK ITEM TO READ ABOUT WHAT CHATGPT HAS TO SAY**

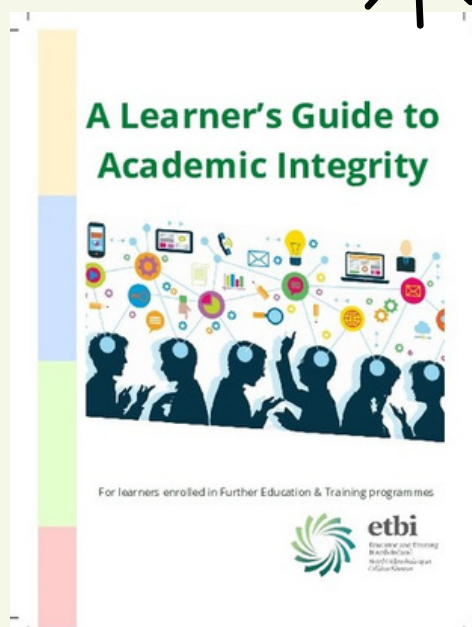
# Spotlight on....



## Further Information and Resources



**QQI Student Academic Integrity Campaign**



## The proposed AI Act 2023

For any enquiries related to the NAIN, please contact  
the NAIN Coordinator at [academicintegrity@qqi.ie](mailto:academicintegrity@qqi.ie).

# Professional Learning & Development Opportunities



# Important Dates



The second of the ETBI Academic Integrity Webinar series is scheduled to take place on the 31st May 2023, between 12.30 and 1.30pm. The session will include learner and practitioner support resources and presentations in collaboration with the ETBI Digital Library team.

Meeting invite will be emailed shortly.



**etbi**  
Education & Training  
Boards Ireland  
*Boird Oideachais &  
Oiliúna Éireann*

**Save The Date**  
**Wednesday 31 May 2023**  
**12:30 - 1:30 pm**  
**JOIN THE 4TH SESSION IN THE ACADEMIC  
INTEGRITY WEBINAR SERIES**

**FET Academic Integrity webinar  
for practitioners**

**Session includes**

- Study skills to raise awareness of academic integrity
- Resources for practitioners
- ETBI digital library upcoming guides/ resources

Webinar online meeting invite to follow

**Watch the first  
Academic  
Integrity Webinar  
here:**



ETBI FET Digital Library

Take your learning further



# Important Dates



## GATHER - Discovering Assistive Technology Together

**AHEAD**, in partnership with **AONTAS**, the National Adult Learning Organisation, and the **National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA)**, are delighted to bring you **GATHER**, a free 3 day online **assistive technology (AT)** event.

This event is aimed at further and higher education educators and support professionals including adult and community education. It will be very useful if you want to learn about technology that empowers learners who experience difficulties linked to a disability or an unmet literacy need. Learners are also welcome.



Register to attend GATHER 2023 here

# Submissions





BORD OIDEACHAIS AGUS OILIÚNA  
CHILL DARA AGUS CHILL MHANTÁIN  
KILDARE AND WICKLOW  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

## KWETB FET!

**THE QUALITY ASSURANCE TEAM  
WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU  
SUBMIT YOUR E-ZINE ARTICLE HERE**

2023 submission deadlines  
Friday 22nd September (Autumn edition)  
Friday 24th November (Winter edition)