



BORD OIDEACHAIS AGUS OILIÚNA
CHILL DARA AGUS CHILL MHANTÁIN

KILDARE AND WICKLOW
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

QUALITY ASSURANCE

E-ZINE



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Quality Assurance Sub-group

The Quality Assurance Subgroup (QASG) held its first meeting of the year online on 12th February 2025. The meeting began with the introduction and welcome of the following new QASG members: Deirdre Curtin, Eilis Clare, Christine Wray, Tracy O'Shaughnessy, and April White. It was noted that some of the new members have prior governance group experience, and collectively, the group brings a broad range of expertise from across FET, all of which will enhance and support the work of the QASG in 2025.

Following this, the group reviewed the Terms of Reference for adoption. Next on the agenda was the vacant role of QASG Secretary. April White kindly volunteered for the position, and her nomination was duly noted and approved by the QASG members.

The next agenda item was the presentation of the newly drafted policy on 'Learner Engagement in Assessment and Achievement of All Learning Outcomes' by the Quality Assurance Team. This policy was developed in response to a recurring theme identified in the Results Approval Process (RAP) during 2024. Further clarification and communication regarding this policy were deemed necessary for discussion at the next QASG meeting. Additionally, a communication strategy and an implementation plan for the policy will be considered in due course.

The draft KWETB Learner Handbook was then presented for review. The QASG provided feedback on the new handbook, and further revision of the draft was noted as necessary. A follow-up is expected at the next QASG meeting.

Finally, the KWETB Action Plan for Blended Learning was presented to the QASG for noting. The action plan was submitted to QQI in January 2025, and it was noted that all ETBs are at similar stages nationally.

Caitríona Cullen, QASG Chair



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RESULTS APPROVALS

Summary of Grades submitted for February 2025 Certification								
Field of Learning	Successful	Distinction	Merit	Pass	Referred	Exemptions	Total	Actual
Core, Languages	90	11	3	1			105	105
Education, Health		102	37	14	2		155	153
Business, Admin		97	25	8	6		136	130
ICT	3	62	17	5		3	90	87
Art Craft Design	6	2	2		2		12	10
Sport, Science, Services, Horticulture								
Engineering								
Micro Qualifications/Special Purpose Awards								
Total:	99	274	84	28				485

CERTIFICATION IN FE FEBRUARY 2025 CERTIFICATION PERIOD

The first Results Approval Panel meeting for Further Education was held on 4th February.

Results were approved for the February certification period, with seven centres submitting a total of 485 learner portfolios for approval.

A range of grades were achieved, including successful at levels 2 and 3, and Distinction, Merit and Pass grades across programmes at levels 3,4,5 and 6.

February marks the first of six certification periods of 2025, and we are currently working on estimates for April certification.

Congratulations to all learners on their achievements and to the tutors and centre staff for their dedication and hard work in ensuring these successes.



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ERASMUS+

*Visitors
from
The
Netherlands*



In January, two colleagues from a VET college in the Netherlands, MBO Utrecht visited centres in Kildare in Wicklow. As part of KWETB's ongoing Erasmus+ projects we have developed relationships with a number of VET institutions across Europe. MBO Utrecht hosted recently hosted staff on an Erasmus+ Mobility, and it is wonderful to see this relationship grow. Thank you to all of the centres who hosted our guests, and to all of the staff who provided presentations regarding their work.

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During March, a number of staff travelled to Latvia to visit a host partner in Liepāja, Liepājas Valsts tehnikums, (LVT).

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Topics discussed were for integrated further education and training services, approaches to governance, quality and operations in an integrated FET/VET college, and partnerships between Liepājas Valsts Tehnikumam and employers through in-company visits.



Another of our established Erasmus+ partners, a sister organisation of LVT, Rigas Technical College has hosted our staff previously.

This May 14 Principals from the Association of Colleges of Latvia will visit KWETB. Topics such as: Irish processes in quality assurance in VET programmes, the Micro credential approach in Ireland, apprenticeships and links with employers, Social inclusion, assessment, digitalisation, and curriculum development will be discussed.

We look forward to welcoming our Latvian colleagues to KWETB in May!





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ERASMUS+

Erasmus+

Enriching lives, opening minds.



During the months of March and April 26 staff will travel on 3 further Erasmus+ Mobilities. These include I.T.E Giambattista Bodoni, Italy, La Reunion, France, and Oulu, Finland.

These Mobilities are the final trips of our 2024-2025 Erasmus+ Project. A total of 47 staff travelled on 7 Mobilities during this time. In addition, KWETB hosted two incoming Mobilities with 16 delegates.

VOCATIONAL COLLEGE



Thank you to all who applied and participated, and we look forward to working towards our future Mobilities in Autumn 2025.

BREAKING NEWS

We are delighted to announce that KWETB has been approved Accreditation for our Adult Education Erasmus+ Mobility Projects.

This is in addition to our VET Accreditation. Being an Accredited organisation with Erasmus+ means that we can apply for even more projects specifically targeted to our organisational needs. Thank you to all who contributed in the application for Accreditation.

More information about upcoming Mobilities to be published soon.



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TOY BOXES FOR WOMEN'S REFUGE

Athy students came together to plan to give back to their local community. Students decided to design and make two toy boxes, decorate and fill them with toys and homemade mince pies and biscuit cakes with the help of their woodwork tutor Tom and cookery tutor Claire. They donated them to the two local women's refuge just in time for Christmas.

The students spent weeks planning and decorating the boxes before putting them together to get the finished piece. Students stenciled drawings of Garfield, Mickey and Minnie Mouse and lots of other cartoons on to the boxes

With thanks to Noreen Cooke

What our students had to say

I really enjoyed drawing, painting and making the buns for the toy boxes. I enjoyed working with everyone on the project.

-Oscar Webster



I enjoyed drawing and painting the toy box and putting it all together. I really liked being able to work on the project and I feel I got to make new friends from it.

-Malia Cullen

We made toy boxes for the local women's refuge centre. We wanted the boxes to represent peace and hope for all the women and children so we drew lots of different characters and pictures on the box. We enjoyed designing the boxes and bringing it all together. We really liked that we were giving back to the community at Christmas time.

-Megan and Lia



LEIXLIP YOUTHREACH

CHARITY FUNDRAISER



Congratulations to Leixlip Youthreach student council on their fantastic Christmas fundraiser. With the support of students and staff they raised a whopping €185 for Depaul Ireland homeless charity.

DEPAUL

Homelessness has no place



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Kildare Traveller Action (KTA)



2024 ALL CIF - Project Petals and Pixels



Newbridge FRC in collaboration with Platinum Clubhouse and Kildare Library Services.

In collaboration with KWETB and CKLP, created culturally appropriate literacy supports (story cubes, worksheets, and a book for children on Traveller culture), and organized literacy-friendly workshops for Traveller parents on how to support their neuro-divergent children in education.

Newbridge Family Resource Centre



Newbridge Family Resource Centre

In collaboration with HSE Platinum Clubhouse and Newbridge Library a Horticulture and Digital Literacy programme Petals and Pixels – Growing and digitally capturing the beauty of your garden.



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Camphill Communities of Ireland

In collaboration with Naas General Hospital Choir
(Development of Choir, Lámh training and
Community Performances)



2024 ALL CIF Project - Finding Your Voice



Camphill Communities of Ireland (The Bridge, Dunshane and Grangebeg) in collaboration with Naas General Hospital Choir.



**Kildare Library Services in collaboration with HSE
Platinum Clubhouse and Newbridge Family Resource
Centre ran a health literacy programme:
We Can! Women's Health Across The Lifespan**

IMPORTANT

DATES



FURTHER EDUCATION
SUPPORT SERVICE

Seirbhís Tacaíochta
don Bhreisoideachas

The FESS team have released their FESS PD calendar Spring 2025 which is now online.

Sessions include #AI #Assessment
#Feedback #Rubrics
#ActiveTeachingandLearning
#TransversalSkills

Please book at this link:

[FESS PD Calendar Spring/Summer 2025](#)

The deadline for the
summer edition of the FET
Quality Assurance eZine is:
2nd May

You can submit your article
by clicking [here](#), or by
emailing
AislingForan@KWETB.ie



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