

# KWETB FET

## Quality Assurance

e-zine - Winter 2025

[www.KWETB.ie/QA](http://www.KWETB.ie/QA)



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CHILL DARÁ AGUS CHILL MHANTÁIN

KILDARE AND WICKLOW  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

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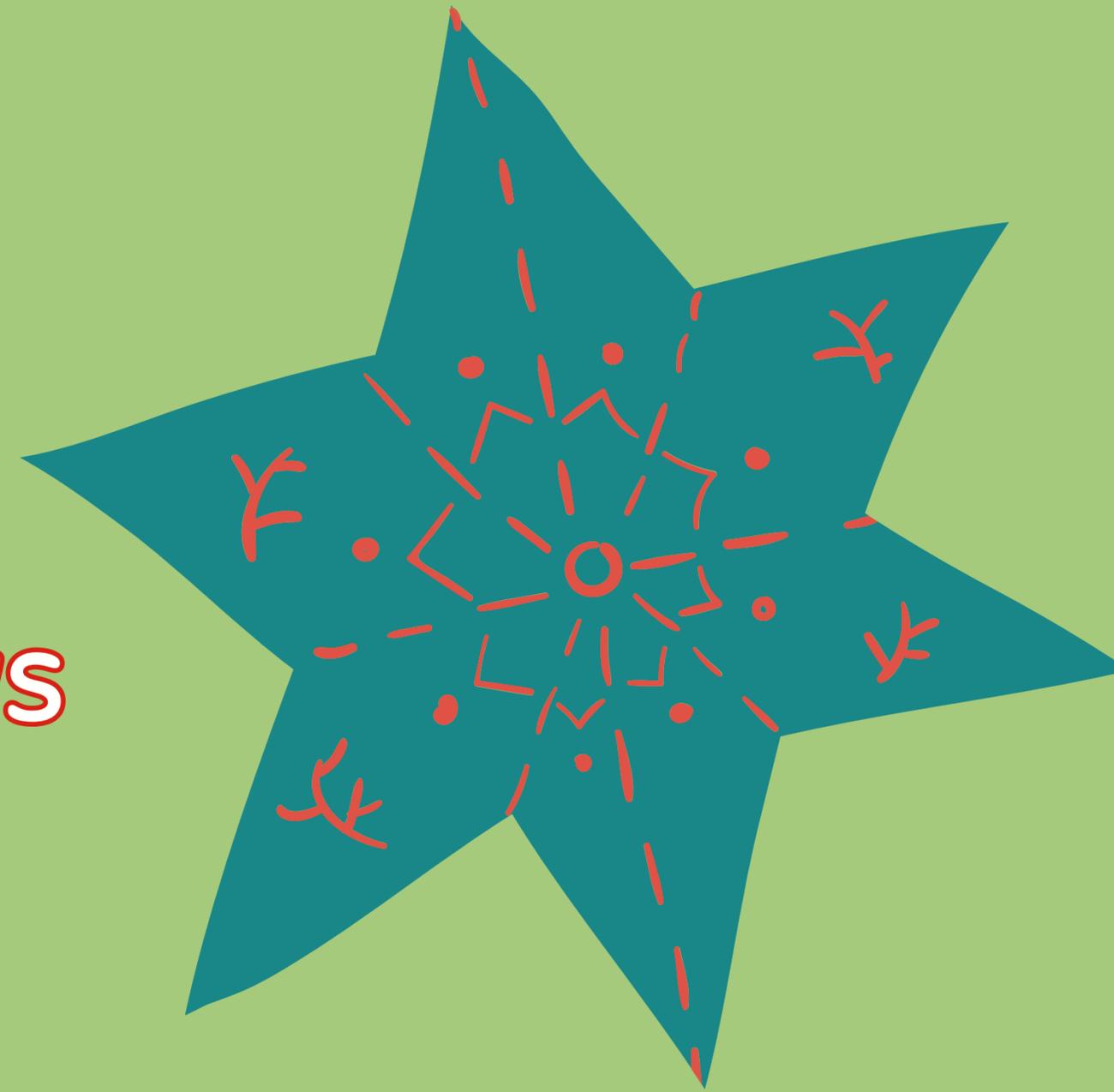
## QUALITY ASSURANCE NEWS

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# Governance of Quality News

*all*

# Governance of Quality Meetings Schedule 2026



FET Quality Governance Meeting Schedule - 2026						
Month	RAP Meetings		Quality Council	Programme Governance Subgroup	Stakeholder Engagement Subgroup	Quality Assurance Subgroup
	Further Ed	Training				
January		20th January 2026			TBC	
February	4th February 2026			11th Feb 2026		9th February 2026 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm
March		24th March 2026	11th March 2026 10:30 am - 12:30 pm			
April	8th April 2026			15th April 2026		16th April 2026 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm
May		22nd May 2026	13th May 2026 10:30 am - 12:30 pm			
June	3rd June 2026			17th June 2026		2nd June 2026 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm
July		21st July 2026				
August	28th July 2026			26th August 2026		
September		22nd September 2026	30th September 2026 10:30 am - 12:30 pm			8th September 2026 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm
October	6th October 2026			7th October 2026		22nd October 2026 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm
November		24th November 2026	25th November 2026 10:30 am - 12:30 pm			
December	1st December 2026			2nd December 2026		3rd December 2026 2.00 pm - 3.30 pm

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# Quality Assurance News

# Results Approvals

## KWETB FE Certification 2025: Celebrating Achievements

As we approach the end of 2025, it is time to reflect on the incredible achievements of our learners and the support from our centres. This year a total of 8184 portfolios was submitted for KWETB FE Certification across six certification periods.

- February – 485 portfolios presented for certification
- April – 688 portfolios presented for certification
- June – 5114 portfolios presented for certification
- August – 1422 portfolios presented for certification
- October – 288 portfolios presented for certification
- December – 187 portfolios presented for certification

These numbers are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our learners, who have shown commitment throughout the year. Each portfolio represents hours of study, practice and perseverance.

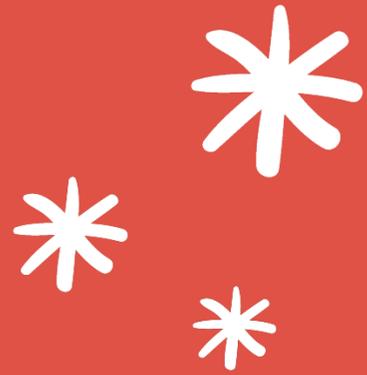
We extend our thanks to our schools and centres for their continuous support. Your efforts in providing quality education and adhering to KWETB quality assurance policies and procedures ensures that learners achieve their goals.

To all the learners, congratulations on your outstanding achievements and we wish you well on your progression, be it employment or further education.

We look forward to 2026 and the Quality Team are currently working on February 2026 certification.

The Quality Team





# Results Approvals

## KWETB Training Certification 2025: Celebrating Achievements



### Non-QQI Awards

#### QQI Awards

February: 119

April: 122

June: 557

August: 286

October: 157

December: 180

Total: 1421

#### February:

119 Accredited

35 Pre 16 Apprenticeship

Total: 154

#### April:

122 Accredited

33 Pre 16 Apprenticeship

Total: 157

#### June:

557 Accredited

53 Pre 16 Apprenticeship

215 Post 16 Apprenticeships

261 Skills Hub

Total: 1086

#### August:

286 Accredited

58 Pre 16 Apprenticeship

66 Post 16 Apprenticeships

Total: 410

#### October:

157 Accredited

37 Pre 16 Apprenticeship

195 Skills Hub

Total: 387

#### December:

180 Accredited

34 Pre16 Apprenticeship

34 Pre16 Apprenticeship

Total: 214

Total Non QQI: 2408



Please note that dates may be subject to change (by the QA office).

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

 [Download](#)



Certification Period (FET)	Submission of Estimates (FE)	Deadline for upload of Internal Verification Reports (FE)	Deadline for upload of documentation 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 submission of approved results using the RCCRS for inclusion in file upload to QQJ (T)	Deadline for submission of authenticated results to QBS/close invalid entries (FET)	Final statement of results available for download (FET)	Certificate issues by QQJ (FET)	Deadline for QQJ External Appeals application (FET)
Feb-26	12 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	13 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	15 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	19 <sup>th</sup> January – 30 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	4 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	20 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	28 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	12 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	16 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
Apr-26	20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2026	23 <sup>rd</sup> March – 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026	8 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	24 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	16 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	11 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	24 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Jun-26	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	1 <sup>st</sup> May 2026. Centers <u>must request and be approved</u>	6 <sup>th</sup> May 2026. (15 <sup>th</sup> May - if late request granted for IV submission)	5 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	11 <sup>th</sup> May – 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2026	22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026	28 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	16 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	26 <sup>th</sup> June 2026
		for late submission of IV – May 13 <sup>th</sup> - This will be depended on EA availability										
Aug-26	12 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2026	9 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	7 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	13 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	28 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2026	28 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	12 <sup>th</sup> August 2026	16 <sup>th</sup> August 2026	14 <sup>th</sup> September 2025	14 <sup>th</sup> August 2026
Oct-26	11 <sup>th</sup> September 2026	18 <sup>th</sup> September 2026	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2026	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2026	24 <sup>th</sup> September – 2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2026	6 <sup>th</sup> October 2026	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 2026	28 <sup>th</sup> September 2026	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2026	16 <sup>th</sup> October 2026	9 <sup>th</sup> November 2026	23 <sup>rd</sup> October 2026
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# KWETB Hosts EDI Event Celebrating Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion

Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board (KWETB) recently hosted an event titled Celebrating a Culture of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion, bringing together staff from across the organisation to recognise and promote EDI values.



The event marked a significant milestone, with 67 KWETB staff completing the IHREC e-Learning module on Public Sector Human Rights and Equality Duty. Certificates were presented to participants during the event, which was attended by over 50 staff from Schools, OSD, FET programmes and Quality Assurance. Members of the EDI Working Group organised and facilitated the successful occasion.





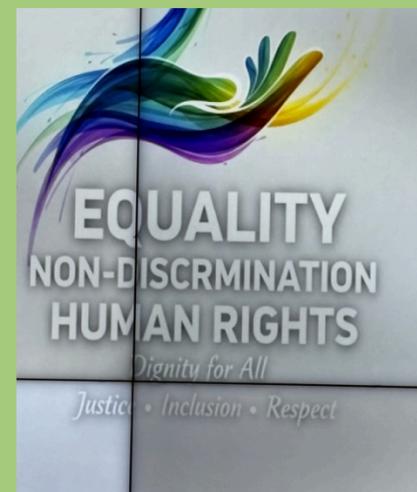
Led by KWETB Chief Executive Dr. Deirdre Keyes, the event featured an inspiring address from Bernie Bradley, the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC) Public Sector Duty Training Manager, who spoke about the importance of equality, diversity, and inclusion, the responsibility of public bodies to uphold human rights in Ireland and to continue to meet their Public Sector Human Rights and Equality Duty.

Ken Scully, Director of Schools, acted as MC for the occasion, anchoring the proceedings to a celebration of our staff cohort's completion of the IHREC e-learning module to our commitment to EDI throughout the ETB.

Dr. Keyes highlighted KWETB's core values and reaffirmed the organisation's commitment to embedding the Public Sector Duty within its Statement of Strategy, ensuring that equality and human rights remain central to all operations.



The event also featured a powerful reflection from our HR Manager Gemma Whitty, who shared her experience of completing the EDI learning module and highlighted the critical role that equality, diversity, and inclusion play within HR practices. Her perspective reinforced how EDI principles are embedded in our policies and culture, ensuring fairness and respect for all staff.



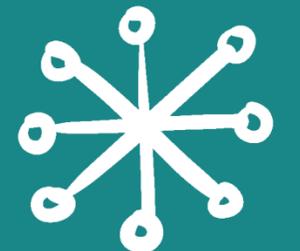
Brenda Lynch, EDI Working Group chair, thanked Bernie and IHREC for holding Irish public organisations to account to fulfil our Public Sector Duty obligations, thereby working towards eliminating discrimination in Ireland.

The event was widely regarded as a success, fostering collaboration and reinforcing KWETB's commitment to creating an inclusive culture for staff, learners and service users.

[For more photos and press release click here:](#)



# Centre News





# Supporting HSE Homecare Workers Through Education



In Summer 2023, Ann Kearney, HSE Manager of Services: Home Care Support Services, approached Naas FETC with a challenge presented to them: all HSE Homecare Workers were required to hold a QQI Level 5 Healthcare Award.

Following close collaboration between Ann and Carol Toft in the HSE, Roy Brennan in Naas FETC, and the KWETB FET management, a dedicated education programme was developed for approximately 80 homecare workers. This programme was designed to build on the learners existing knowledge and expertise, address gaps, and to fit into their daily work pattern. The programme was delivered across KWETB FET Centres in Naas, Maynooth, Athy, and Blessington.

We are delighted to share that the HSE learners in each centre have successfully completed their courses and achieved their QQI Level 5 Healthcare Awards.

At a recent awards ceremony in Newbridge FETC, Ann stated that the Kildare and West Wicklow HSE CHO Home Care Workers were the national leaders in achieving their healthcare awards, and were setting the standard for others around the country.

This photo of the Naas group proudly receiving their certificates marks a significant milestone in their professional development and in the continued partnership between KWETB and the HSE.





# New Beginnings



Newbridge FETC recently hosted a Welcome Coffee Morning to mark the beginning of the academic year. The event provided an opportunity for new and returning students to meet, connect, and share experiences in a warm and inclusive setting.



Students from many different nationalities gathered to share coffee and conversation, showcasing the vibrant diversity of our centre. This relaxed event provided an opportunity to form new friendships, exchange stories, and feel truly connected within a welcoming learning community.



One student shared:

“It was lovely to meet people from so many different countries as well as staff. I already feel more comfortable and excited about starting my course.”



Former Student Natalia shared:

“Thrilled to be back at Newbridge FETC to finish my studies! Last year was an amazing journey with incredible support—can’t wait to make this year even better!”

[www.newbridgefetc.ie](http://www.newbridgefetc.ie)





# Maths Week Ireland 2025 Celebrated at Naas Youthreach with Interactive Workshop and Ministerial Visit



Naas Youthreach celebrated Maths Week Ireland 2025 with a special interactive workshop on Thursday the 16th October 2025 which included a visit from the Minister for Further Education and Training James Lawless, TD. Maths Week Ireland is one of Europe's leading festivals of its kind, celebrating mathematics and promoting a positive attitude towards maths in everyday life, education and work. The theme of Maths Week 2025 is encouraging curiosity and confidence in maths through real-world problem-solving.



Mathematical literacy is a crucial life skill that empowers young people to navigate everyday challenges, from managing finances to making informed decisions. For learners who may not have thrived in traditional classroom settings, hands-on, creative approaches to maths can build confidence and demonstrate that mathematics is both accessible and essential for future success.

The Naas Youthreach event featured an engaging workshop delivered by Tiago Hirth, a maths enthusiast and energetic presenter known for his innovative approach to maths outreach.

Tiago's workshops demonstrate that maths is everywhere, not just in textbooks, mixing mathematical concepts with card tricks, magic and interactive demonstrations. Designed to be both educational and entertaining, Tiago's sessions make maths accessible to all participants regardless of age or ability.

The workshop focused on interactive, group-based activities that made maths enjoyable and relevant for young people.



The event took place at Naas Youthreach, Jigginstown Commercial Centre, Newbridge Road, Naas West, Co. Kildare.

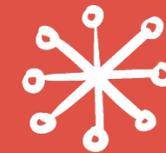
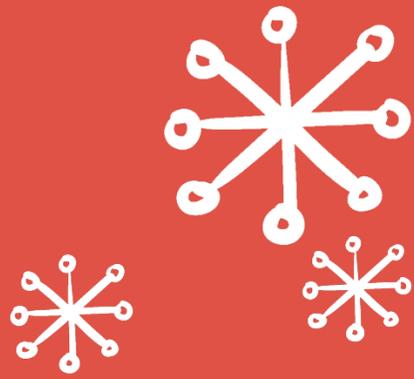
The activity was organised by SETU Calmast STEM, with Nollaig Healy coordinating the event. "Maths for All" is the guiding principle of Calmast, reflecting the organisation's commitment to inclusive and engaging mathematics education. Minister Lawless attended as guest of honour to show support for Maths Week and for the work of the Youthreach programme in promoting inclusive education.



Also in attendance were representatives from Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board was Úna Burke (Adult Education Officer) and Nollaig Healy representing (SETU Calmast)



# Bray Institute of Further Education



Pictured are BIFE Tourism, Reception and Event Management students who helped with the organisation and the running of our Graduations as part of their Event Management module recently at BIFE.

Congratulations to BIFE graduate Amanda Kelly on being selected for the Royal Ulster Academy of Arts 144th Annual Exhibition in Belfast!

Massive congratulations to BIFE Culinary Arts Student April Dickenson who competed in the Kerrygold Culinary Arts student competition at Airfield Estate.

"The brief was to use local ingredients and April used lamb from Kilmullen farm, Wicklow Way wines in her sauce, organic potatoes from Wicklow town and honey from Powerscourt estate which was wonderful to see in support of Wicklow county's food producers."



# HAPPENINGS IN WEST WICKLOW

## Further Education Students Celebrating Success in West Wicklow



Blessington and Baltinglass Further Education Centres hosted their annual QQI Awards on week of the 17 November. The Award ceremony was held in Blessington FETC on the 18 November and in Germaine's Inisfail in Baltinglass on Thursday 20 November. Certificates were presented for courses ranging from Level 2 to Level 5 across a wide variety of subjects, including Communications, Excel, Word Processing, IT Skills, ESOL, Office Skills, Horticulture, Art, Healthcare, Special Needs Assistance (SNA), Business Administration, and Employability Skills.

Annette Mangan, ALO for KWETB West Wicklow ABE Service acknowledged the hard work, commitment and dedication of all students. Anne McGrath, KWETB West Wicklow BTEI Co-ordinator pointed out. "It's more than certification—it's confidence. It's the belief in yourself and what you can do."

Many students were progressing from Level 2 through to higher levels, demonstrating the pathway and power of lifelong learning. The event was a fun and enjoyable occasion, filled with pride and celebration. So nice to see families celebrating with the students.





## Celebrity Chef Catherine Fulvio visits Blessington FETC

On 26 November in Blessington FETC, again thanks to the ALL/CIF, students across the services of ABE, BTEI, YR in West Wicklow were treated to an inspiring cookery demonstration and question and answer session with well known chef Catherine Fulvio in Blessington FETC.

The topic was how to 'Waste less and Eat Healthy'. Catherine shared her expertise and gave plenty of tips such as how to sharpen your knife, how to cut an onion without crying!

Catherine also mentioned how to store herbs and how to freeze peels to make a stock at a later date. The recipes centred around "Love Food Hate Waste", which included a chickpea curry, beef and lentil cottage pie and Smoky Chicken and Black Bean Chilli.

Everyone got a small taste of all recipes, great morning had by all.

Thanks to the ALL/CIF fund, students from Baltinglass FETC and Blessington FETC enjoyed a memorable evening at the Civic Theatre on Wednesday 19 November. The night began with bus collection in Baltinglass at 6.30pm and chocolates and a bingo quiz to set the tone! After picking up more students in Blessington FETC the journey continued with plenty more fun, chat and laughter. Arriving at the Civic Theatre in plenty of time, everyone had the chance to grab a coffee before sitting down to see the Dublin Gospel Choir. On the way home the music and singing did not stop. Music had truly broken down barriers and creating connections. These nights out are invaluable—they build confidence, encourage social interaction, and create lasting memories





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# KWETB FET!



**THE QUALITY ASSURANCE TEAM  
WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU**

**SUBMIT YOUR E-ZINE ARTICLE HERE**



## 2026 submission deadlines

Spring - 19<sup>th</sup> February

Summer - 14<sup>th</sup> May

Autumn - 10<sup>th</sup> September

Winter - 19<sup>th</sup> November

For more information contact [AislingForan@kwetb.ie](mailto:AislingForan@kwetb.ie)



Looking forward  
to your  
contributions in  
2026!





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KILDARE AND WICKLOW  
EDUCATION AND TRAINING BOARD

Thank you very much for  
an amazing year.

*Happy Holidays!*