

1 WEEK COURSE
ON TEACHING PUPILS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

DUBLIN, IRELAND 2023

Sunday 23 April - Sunday 30 April
Sunday 12 November - Sunday 19 November

Teachers of pupils with special educational needs (primary & secondary level), headteachers and other educators are invited to attend this course.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course aims to provide teachers with:

- an insight into Special Education in Ireland
- an opportunity to exchange ideas and develop links with Irish teachers and special needs teachers from other countries
- an opportunity to gain new teaching ideas and techniques for working with and motivating pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities

COURSE CONTENT:

1. **Lecture on the Irish Education System**
2. **Lecture & discussion on Special Needs Education in Ireland** and techniques for teaching a variety of special needs with the SEN (Special Educational Needs) Co-ordinator of a Secondary School
3. **Workshop** on supporting pupils with learning differences
4. **Visit to a secondary school.** Observe lessons with integrated special needs pupils
or
Visit a Youthreach Centre for students aged 15–20 with learning or behavioural difficulties
5. **Visit to a Vocational Training Centre** with discussion on provision in vocational colleges for students with special educational needs: learning support for students with learning difficulties, strategies to motivate students and help them overcome their barriers to learning and to prepare them for the world of work;
Observe lessons and opportunity for discussions with learning support staff
or
Visit to a Primary School. Observe lessons with integrated special needs pupils and opportunity for discussion with teachers and learning support staff
6. **Visit to a special school**, such as a specialist autism school
or
Visit to a Learning Centre for Young People aged 13-15 who cannot access mainstream education due to educational, emotional, social or behavioural challenges. Presentation on the work of the centre
7. **Feedback discussion on school visits & opportunity for teachers of different nationalities to exchange experiences.**
8. **A guided walking tour of Dublin** and cultural visits to National Museum: Archaeology, National Museum: History & Decorative Arts, Chester Beatty Library & National Botanic Gardens

LOCATION

DUBLIN, Ireland: Population: 1,228,000.

Famous for its cultural heritage and charming hospitality, Dublin is a lively city with a rich history, situated on the east coast of Ireland. Notable historic sights include its elegant Georgian squares, Dublin Castle, Christ Church Cathedral, the Book of Kells at Trinity College, Kilmainham Gaol and National Museums. Temple Bar is a busy riverside neighbourhood with live Irish folk music venues.

Close to the city are the beautiful hills and lakes of Wicklow Mountains National Park and attractive coastal scenery.



TOTAL PRICE: €1447

The price includes:

(a) COURSE FEE to include:

Full programme of study sessions and visits as itemised above.

NB. Participants are responsible for paying their own daily transport costs, including visits to schools.
Any optional visits are not included in the price.

(b) HOST FAMILY ACCOMMODATION to include:

Full board Accommodation with a local family (inclusive of registration fee): 7 nights
(Teachers may request to be the only guest of their mother tongue or to stay in the same family as a colleague).

Host families are carefully selected and offer a friendly welcome and opportunities to chat and learn more about life in Ireland today. Participants often find that the experience of staying with a host family is one of the most memorable aspects of the course. Accommodation is in single rooms (unless participants request to share). Breakfast, packed lunch and evening meal are provided by the host family. (Food allergies, likes and dislikes are taken into account.)

Please note that many suitable residential areas are not within walking distance of the city centre and most host families are a bus ride from the city centre/tuition centre. A travel pass for all Dublin public transport costs €32 per week and can also be used to visit nearby coastal villages, beaches and cliffs.

Accommodation can be provided for family members (but not unaccompanied children) subject to availability. (Rates on request).

Participants wishing to arrange their own (hotel or self-catering) accommodation may pay a fee for the course only.

TRAVEL:

Participants are responsible for arranging their travel to and from Ireland.
Express buses run from Dublin Airport to the city.

PAYMENT:

Full payment will be due 2 months before the course begins, or for teachers awaiting funding: as soon as the grant is received.
No refund for cancellations within 5 weeks of arrival. Applicants are strongly advised to take out cancellation insurance.
Postponement due to Covid-19 will be possible if necessary.

PREPARATION:

Participants are asked to complete a questionnaire before the course starts in order to ascertain their level of experience and training, the age groups and types of learners they teach and their expectations from the course. This helps trainers to respond to participants' individual needs and ensure that the most relevant areas are carefully integrated.

EVALUATION:

At the end of the course teachers participate in a detailed evaluation of the course.

FOLLOW UP:

At the end of the course teachers are asked to consider which aspects of the course will be the most relevant to their own teaching situations. On their return they are invited to keep a record of how they have been able to utilise ideas gained on the course in their own classrooms. They are encouraged to share their experiences with their fellow participants by email.

CERTIFICATE & ERASMUS+ VALIDATION:

A certificate of attendance (stating course content and number of hours) will be provided and Erasmus+ documentation will be validated.

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DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY & DATE	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
SUNDAY			Arrive Dublin
MONDAY	0930- Welcome and Introduction 1015 1030- Lecture: The Irish Education System 1230	1400- Guided Walking Tour of Dublin 1630	
TUESDAY	1000- Visit to a Secondary School 1400 Observe lessons with Integrated Special Needs Pupils and opportunity for discussion with learning support staff or 1000- Visit to a Youthreach Centre for students aged 15–20 with learning or behavioural difficulties 1400		Optional evening in a traditional pub with Irish folk music
WEDNESDAY	1000- Visit to a Special School (such as a 1230 Specialist Autism school) Observe lessons and opportunity for discussion with teachers or 1000- Visit to a Learning Centre for Young 1230 People aged 13-15 who cannot access mainstream education due to educational, emotional, social or behavioural challenges	1400- Lecture & Discussion on Special Needs 1700 Education in Ireland and techniques for teaching a variety of special educational needs with a SEN (Special Educational Needs) Co-ordinator of a Secondary School	
THURSDAY	0900- Visit to a Vocational Training Centre 1400 Discussion on provision in vocational colleges for students with special educational needs: learning support for students with learning difficulties, strategies to motivate students and help them overcome their barriers to learning and to prepare them for the world of work. Observe lessons or 0900- Visit to a Primary School 1400 Observe lessons with integrated Special Needs Pupils and opportunity for discussion with teachers and learning support staff		
FRIDAY	0930- Workshop on supporting pupils with 1200 Learning Differences	1500- Feedback discussion on school visits- 1600 draw comparisons with Special Education in the different countries represented and opportunity for teachers of different nationalities to exchange experiences 1600- Evaluation Session 1700	
SATURDAY	1000- Cultural visits in Dublin: National Museum: History & Decorative Arts, 1700 National Museum: Archaeology, Chester Beatty Library or National Botanic Gardens		
SUNDAY	Depart Dublin		