

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

1 WEEK COURSES FOR EUROPEAN EDUCATORS (Primary and Secondary Level)

DUBLIN, IRELAND

SUNDAY 28 APRIL – SUNDAY 5 MAY 2024
SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER – SUNDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2024

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The course provides educators with:

- practical skills and teaching ideas for Outdoor Education
- an opportunity to visit an Irish school and to exchange ideas and develop links with teachers from Ireland and other European countries



COURSE CONTENT:

1. Forest School Teacher Skills Training by Forest School Ireland - practical training to give teachers the skills they need to run Forest School sessions with students of all ages
Introduction to Forest School approach to learning outdoors
 - Nature games, songs and orientation
 - How to approach hazards, boundaries, risk assessment
 - Ropes and knots
 - Tools - saws, drills, peelers
 - Fire making and safety
 - Foraging with kids and simple cooking over the fire
 - Shelter building game
 - Arts and seasonal crafts
 - Forest Bathing sit-spot
2. Observe a Forest School outdoor games session for primary school pupils.
3. Visit an outdoor activity centre: Team development & outdoor activities training
4. Lecture on the Irish Education System

5. Day visit to a primary school (ages 4-12) which engages in Forest School and Green Schools Activities. Observe outdoor lessons and opportunity for discussion with teachers on Outdoor and Environmental Education
6. Visit National Botanic Gardens. Introduction to their work with primary & secondary schools
Visit the Education Garden. Biodiversity tour of native and exotic plants
7. Introduction to Gaelic Sports and observe hurling & camogie training sessions
8. A guided walking tour of Dublin and cultural visits to National Museums

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: €1,447

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 transport to schools. 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.

Additional nights with host families can be arranged, giving participants extra time for individual research and visits. 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, learning outcomes and number of hours) will be provided and Erasmus+ documentation will be validated.



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DUBLIN
DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY	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	0930- Forest School Teacher Skills Training by Forest School Ireland - 1630 practical training to give teachers the skills they need to run Forest School sessions with students of all ages Introduction to Forest School approach to learning outdoors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nature games, songs and orientation - How to approach hazards, boundaries, risk assessment - Ropes and knots - Tools - saws, drills, peelers - Fire making and safety - Foraging with kids and simple cooking over the fire - Shelter building game - Arts and seasonal crafts - Forest Bathing sit-spot 		Optional evening in a traditional pub with Irish Folk Music
WEDNESDAY	0900- Visit a primary school (ages 4-12) which engages in Outdoor Education and Green 1430 Schools Activities. Observe lessons and opportunity for discussion with teachers on Outdoor and Environmental Education in the school		1800- Introduction to Gaelic Sports and 2000 Observe Hurling & Camogie training sessions
THURSDAY	0930- Visit an outdoor activity centre: 1430 Team development & outdoor activities training	1500- Optional coastal walk 1730	
FRIDAY	0930- Visit National Botanic Gardens 1300 Introduction to their work with primary & secondary schools Visit the Education Garden Biodiversity tour of native and exotic plants	1430- Observe a Forest School outdoor 1800 games session for primary school pupils 1800- Evaluation Session 1900	
SATURDAY	1000- Cultural visits to National Museum: Archaeology and National Museum: History & 1700 Decorative Arts and Chester Beatty (World Art Museum)		
SUNDAY	Depart Dublin		