

## TEACHING ENGLISH AT PRIMARY LEVEL: CREATIVITY IN THE CLASSROOM

1 & 2 WEEK COURSES FOR TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AT PRIMARY LEVEL (Ages 3-11)

Dublin, Ireland 2024

Ireland, the EU country where English is the native language, is the ideal location for professional development courses for teachers of English.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES:

These courses aim to provide teachers of English at primary level with:

- a range of new ideas, practical classroom skills and materials for teaching English to young learners
- an opportunity to improve their own language skills and to acquire language for the primary classroom
- an insight into Primary Education in Ireland
- an opportunity to exchange ideas and develop links with teachers from primary schools in other European countries
- cultural background to Life in Ireland



### COURSE CONTENT:

1. **Practical Methodology Workshops on Teaching English as a Foreign Language at Primary Level** conducted by expert teacher trainers with many years of experience in training European teachers of English and a wealth of exciting ideas to impart.

Emphasis will be on motivating pupils through a variety of child-centred activities which engage their imaginations and creativity.

Plenty of practical ideas will be demonstrated and considered and teachers will be encouraged to participate. Many aspects will be covered including:

Developing listening & speaking skills;  
Songs, rhymes & chants; poems;  
Drama and role play;  
Storytelling activities;  
TPR (Total Physical Response) Activities;  
Games;  
Drawing and craft activities; using pictures  
Teaching vocabulary;

CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning);  
Increasing motivation;  
Learner autonomy;  
Co-operative learning;  
Using authentic materials;  
Correction and feedback strategies;  
Textbooks for young learners;  
Using technology.

Digital and other resources will be shared and created together with participants and the trainer will provide a bank of useful websites and reference materials for further professional development.

2. **English Language Training** including Listening and Speaking Skills, Pronunciation and Intonation, Grammar Review, Vocabulary and Language for the primary classroom and storytelling (2-week courses only)
3. **Lecture on The Irish Education System:**
4. **Visit to a primary school** with an opportunity to observe lessons (2-week term-time courses only)  
or  
**Workshops**
5. **Lecture on Irish History, Culture & Traditions** (2-week courses only)
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. Cultural visit to Wicklow Mountains National Park and Glendalough monastic site & lakes (2-week courses only)
8. A guided walking tour of Dublin and cultural visits to National Museum: Archaeology, National Museum: History & Decorative Arts and Chester Beatty (World Art Museum) and 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.



## 2024 DATES:

### 1-week courses

#### Spring

Sunday 25 February – Sunday 3 March  
 Sunday 10 March – Sunday 17 March  
 Sunday 24 March – Sunday 31 March  
 Sunday 7 April – Sunday 14 April  
 Sunday 21 April – Sunday 28 April  
 Sunday 5 May – Sunday 12 May

#### Summer

Sunday 16 June – Sunday 23 June  
 Sunday 30 June – Sunday 7 July  
 Sunday 14 July – Sunday 21 July  
 Sunday 28 July – Sunday 4 August  
 Sunday 11 August – Sunday 18 August  
 Sunday 25 August – Sunday 1 September

#### Autumn

Sunday 29 September – Sunday 6 October  
 Sunday 13 October – Sunday 20 October  
 Sunday 27 October – Sunday 3 November  
 Sunday 10 November – Sunday 17 November

### 2-week courses

#### Spring

Sunday 25 February – Saturday 9 March  
 Sunday 10 March – Saturday 23 March  
 Sunday 24 March – Saturday 6 April  
 Sunday 7 April – Saturday 20 April  
 Sunday 21 April – Saturday 4 May  
 Sunday 5 May – Saturday 18 May

#### Summer

Sunday 16 June – Saturday 29 June  
 Sunday 30 June – Saturday 13 July  
 Sunday 14 July – Saturday 27 July  
 Sunday 28 July – Saturday 10 August  
 Sunday 11 August – Saturday 24 August  
 Sunday 25 August – Saturday 7 September

#### Autumn

Sunday 29 September – Saturday 12 October  
 Sunday 13 October – Saturday 26 October  
 Sunday 27 October – Saturday 9 November  
 Sunday 10 November – Saturday 23 November

## TOTAL PRICE:

**1 Week: €1,447**

**2 Weeks: €2,195**

### 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 primary 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 or 13 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).

Alternatively on summer courses between 16 June and 18 August:

**Self-catering accommodation in a university residence** in a central location - single bedroom with ensuite shower/ wc; no meals provided (inclusive of registration fee):

**Total fee: 1 week course + 7 nights self-catering accommodation: € 1,479**

**Total fee: 2 week course + 13 nights self-catering accommodation: € 2,239**

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. Suggestions for optional pre-course reading are given.

### OUTCOMES:

By the end of the course participants will have:

- Gained a wide variety of new ideas, skills and materials for teaching English to young learners
- Updated their knowledge of the English Language, life in Ireland and the Education System
- Established links with other teachers from different European countries

### EVALUATION:

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

### FOLLOW UP:

Throughout 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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**2 WEEK COURSE FOR TEACHERS OF ENGLISH AT PRIMARY LEVEL**  
**DUBLIN**  
*DRAFT PROGRAMME*

DAY	MORNING	AFTERNOON	EVENING
SUNDAY			Arrive Dublin
MONDAY	0930- Welcome and Introduction 1015  1030- Lecture on the Irish Education 1230 System	1400- Guided Walking tour of Dublin 1630	
TUESDAY	0930- Workshop on Teaching English 1300 as a Foreign Language at Primary Level	1400- Workshop on Teaching English 1700 as a Foreign Language at Primary Level	Optional evening in a traditional pub with Irish folk music
WEDNESDAY	0930- Workshop on Teaching English 1300 as a Foreign Language at Primary Level	1400- Workshop on Teaching English 1700 as a Foreign Language at Primary Level	
THURSDAY	0930- Workshop on Teaching English 1300 as a Foreign Language at Primary Level	1400- Workshop on Teaching English 1700 as a Foreign Language at Primary Level	
FRIDAY	0930- Workshop on Teaching English 1300 as a Foreign Language at Primary Level	1400- Workshop on Teaching English 1700 as a Foreign Language at Primary Level	
SATURDAY	1000- Cultural visits in Dublin: National Museum: History & Decorative Arts, 1700 National Botanic Gardens, Chester Beatty (World Art Museum)		
SUNDAY	Free for individual research or optional visits eg. Book of Kells at Trinity College or Howth & Howth Head (east coast)		
MONDAY	0930- Lecture on Irish History, Culture 1230 and Traditions	1400- Visit National Botanic Gardens and 1700 Introduction to their work with Primary & secondary schools Visit the Education Garden Biodiversity tour of native and exotic plants	
TUESDAY	0900- Day visit to a primary school 1400 Observe lessons and opportunity for discussion with teachers (in term time) or Workshops		
WEDNESDAY	0930- English Language Training 1230	1330- English Language Training 1630	Optional evening in a traditional pub with Irish folk music
THURSDAY	1015- Cultural visit to Wicklow Mountains National Park and Glendalough monastic site & 1700 lakes		
FRIDAY	0930- English Language Training 1300	1500- Social History of Dublin Life 1615 at 14 Henrietta Street  1630- Evaluation Session 1730	
SATURDAY	Depart Dublin		

**TEACHING ENGLISH AT PRIMARY LEVEL: Creativity in the Classroom**  
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*DRAFT PROGRAMME*

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SUNDAY			Arrive Dublin
MONDAY	0930- Welcome and Introduction 1015  1030- Lecture on the Irish Education 1230 System	1400- Guided Walking tour of Dublin 1630	
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SATURDAY	1000- Cultural visits in Dublin: National Museum: Archaeology, National Museum: History & 1700 Decorative Arts, Chester Beatty (World Art Museum) or National Botanic Gardens		
SUNDAY	Depart Dublin		

