

Teaching pupils with ASD (Primary)

This course examines the Triad of Impairments associated with Autism (Social Interaction, Social Communication and Social Imagination) and how they impact upon a child's ability to learn, communicate and behave. Course participants will look at ways to improve social skills and combat behaviour difficulties in children with ASD through the use of social stories, visual timetables and the creation of an ASD-friendly classroom. Teachers will learn occupational therapy exercises and techniques that can help children with sensory issues to remain calm and engaged.

Code: LC18-09SP
Date: Monday, 26th February
Venue: Mullingar ETNS, Mullingar
Time: 7.00p.m. - 9.30p.m.
Tutor: Laura Clyne

Teaching pupils with Dyspraxia (Primary)

Learn the many ways in which dyspraxia can impact upon a child's life in school, and learn how to recognise common traits associated with dyspraxia. Strategies aimed at improving hand-eye-coordination, gross-motor movements, fine-motor movements, attention, personal organisation skills, and sensory perception will be discussed. Practical advice on useful resources and best practice will be shared. Special focus will be given to the areas of handwriting and physical education-teachers will learn how to structure programmes to suit the needs of children with dyspraxia in a whole-class setting.

Code: LC18-10SP
Date: Monday, 12th March
Venue: Mullingar ETNS, Mullingar
Time: 7.00p.m. - 9.30p.m.
Tutor: Laura Clyne

Introduction to Dabledoo Music

This course will introduce teachers to a new online resource, specially designed for primary music education. Using a range of free interactive, online resources we will look at all areas of the primary school curriculum. Participants will become familiar with the dabledoomusic.com website and it's technical setup in the classroom, gain experience with a range of simple classroom instruments and learn how to organise group performance and composition in the classroom. This course is designed to be accessible and engaging for all primary school teachers regardless of prior musical experience.

Code: LC18-14SP
Date: Tuesday, 20th March
Venue: Athlone Education Centre
Time: 7.00p.m. - 9.30p.m.
Tutor: Shane McKenna

Nutrition for Teachers

Every time you eat is an opportunity to nourish your body, and optimum nutrition is not about the weight you lose, but the life you gain! In this workshop we will explore the science behind nutrition for each individual, and how to use food to enhance your body and mind. We will also explore a variety of resources that support us in teaching nutrition at school through the SPHE curriculum. We will look at healthy lunch recipes for the busy teacher and you will make some delicious, nutritious high-energy snacks to bring with you to school the following day! Teas and coffee will be available on arrival.

Code: LC18-12SP
Date: Tuesday, 20th February
Venue: Athlone Education Centre
Time: 7.00p.m. - 9.30p.m.
Tutor: Ciara Delaney

A Whole School Approach to the Promotion of Effective Comprehension Instruction in the Primary School

In the first of two presentations Dr Martin Gleeson will provide an overview of the elements underpinning an integrated approach to effective comprehension instruction, including word identification, fluency, vocabulary development, comprehension strategy instruction, text structure, the promotion of a dialogic classroom, self-selected opportunities for children to engage with high quality children's literature on a daily basis, adapting to the new literacies of the twenty first century and planning in the context of the Primary Language Curriculum.

The promotion of a strategic approach to children's comprehension development will be explored with reference to the Building Bridges of Understanding programme, while participants will engage with a range of high quality children's literature in the promotion of a dialogic classroom. Planning will be addressed in the context of the language elements in the Primary Language Curriculum.

Code: LC18-11SP
Date: Monday, 5th March
Venue: Athlone Education Centre
Time: 7.00p.m. - 9.30p.m.
Tutor: Dr. Martin Gleeson

Adapting to the New Literacies of the Twenty First Century – Implications for Effective Whole School Policy

Building on the approaches to effective comprehension instruction identified in the previous presentation, the focus of this session will be on the promotion of children's knowledge of text structure from the earliest stages of their literacy development, illustrated with examples of children's reading and writing development in a range of genres. The capacity of children to engage productively in the literacy practises of the twenty first century will be explored with respect to their ability to acquire the key skills of locating, evaluating, synthesising and communicating information in a digital environment.

Code: LC18-19SP
Dates: Tuesday, 10th April
Venue: Athlone Education Centre
Time: 7.00p.m. - 9.30p.m.
Tutor: Dr. Martin Gleeson

Number Talks (All Primary Classes)

Do you want to promote the development of mental calculation strategies in your class and school? Do you want to enable the children in your class/school to become mathematically accurate, efficient and flexible in their thinking?

Would you like to do all this using an approach that works equally well in a whole class situation or with a small group?

Would you like to be equipped to do all of this in one practical and productive session?

Then this session on Number Talks is for you!

In this session, you will explore number talks, experience them for yourself, receive suggestions on how to use them with your class/groups and will have access to a whole suite of number talks resources, in fact, all you'll need to get number talks up and running in your class/school. Participants are encouraged to bring an internet enabled device to this session.

Code: LC18-18SP
Date: Wednesday, 21st February
Venue: Athlone Education Centre
Time: 7.00p.m. - 9.30p.m.
Tutor: Claire Corroon

Practical Guide to Assessment in Special Education

This course gives a broad overview of commonly used assessments in the Primary School. Teachers will receive an opportunity to familiarise themselves with assessment materials and receive guidelines on how to best administer these assessments. Course participants will learn how to use results of assessments in literacy, numeracy and other areas to inform their planning for Student Support Files. Teachers will learn how to use assessments for screening purposes and to help them decide upon pupils who need additional support within schools.

Participants in this course will

- Learn how to assess reading comprehension using the York Assessment for Reading Comprehension (YARC)
- Learn how to identify a child's reading age using the British Ability Scales 3 (BAS 3) Word Reading Test
- Learn how to conduct a running record and find the instructional reading level for children
- Become familiar with different screening tests such as Middle Infants Screening Test (MIST), Test 2r, Dyslexia Screening Test, Non-Word Reading Test.
- Discuss how to use results of assessments to plan for success in literacy.
- Identify ways of formally and informally assessing Numeracy
- Identify ways of assessing other skills such as social skills, gross and fine motor skills, handwriting, memory.

Code: LC18-08SP
Date: Wednesday, 21st March
Venue: Athlone Education Centre
Time: 7.00p.m. - 9.30p.m.
Tutor: Laura Clyne

A Balanced Approach to Literacy Development in the Early Years

As part of the National Literacy Strategy, NEPS have developed a new on-line resource for use by teachers in Irish primary schools. The Balanced Approach to Literacy Development in the Early Years draws on international research, evidence based practice and samples of that practice in Irish primary schools to give a coherent and comprehensive guide to teachers. It is also aligned with the new Prim. Language Curriculum.

This is a resource that can be used by class teachers working with children from Junior Infants to First Class. It may also be helpful to schools who have identified the need to improve reading standards as part of the school-self-evaluation process. Some schools may also like to use the resource to support the work of a professional learning community focusing on literacy.

This resource contains:

- Suggestions for developing practice
- Supporting resources and materials
- 32 short video clips of best practice in action, showing teachers and children in Irish classrooms
- Summary of research evidence practice in action

Code: LC18-16SP
Dates: Monday, 5th March
Venue: Mullingar ETNS, Mullingar
Time: 7.00p.m. - 9.30p.m.
Tutor: Christina Devane

Wellbeing Day Retreat

Teachers are like candles, they burn themselves out to light the way for others. This Wellbeing Day Retreat is all about learning how to maintain and enhance your wellbeing! A profound sense of wellbeing can be achieved by everyone. It is characterised by a consistent, clear, high level of energy, emotional balance, a sharp mind, a desire to maintain physical fitness and a direct awareness of what suits our bodies, what enhances our health and what our needs are in any given moment. Topics explored on the day will include nutrition, mindfulness, stress management, self-care, yoga and meditation. This is an active workshop, so please wear clothes appropriate for practising yoga - no yoga experience necessary and all yoga equipment will be provided. A light lunch will be provided during the day and teas and coffee will be available on arrival.

Code: LC18-13SP
Date: Saturday, 10th March
Venue: Shamrock Lodge Hotel, Athlone
Time: 10.00a.m. - 4.00p.m.
Tutor: Ciara Delaney

CONTACT DETAILS



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