

NEWSLETTER

Foreword

It's been a busy year for the NACED Executive with the 40 year anniversary of NACED and changes to the Executive committee. A sincere thank you to Robbie Harrold and Jacqui Connolly who step down from key roles on the Executive. Robbie was Chairperson for a decade and stewarded NACED through a lot of change in that time. Both Robbie and Jacqui remain on the Executive and will be a valuable source of advice and guidance to the organisation as we move forward.

In recent weeks, we have been in consultation with SOLAS regarding additional funding for training within our ranks and national promotion of our programmes. Hopefully, by early summer, we will have this funding in place to promote ECDL training in our centres and to train tutors for its delivery. We will also be upgrading our website and using it to assist NACED-registered schools to promote their programmes.

In addition, ICS Skills has put together three packages for NACED member schools to offer ECDL Essentials from September. This course is shorter and cheaper than the full ECDL package and is more suited to night class delivery. We hope that directors will find it easy to fit this programme into their schedules from September. NACED will be supporting this new initiative with a national social media promotion.

Finally, QQI has indicated that it will be commencing a period of re-engagement with schools in the Community and Comprehensive sector. Many schools have withdrawn from the delivery of certified further education due to staffing difficulties and increasing paperwork. We hope to work with QQI in creating pathways for schools to get involved once more in this expanding and important sector. As a higher proportion of the population returns to work, training opportunities outside of working hours will be the main chance that people have to upskill or advance their education. As providers of adult education, we have an important role to play in creating those opportunities.

Fintan Kemple, Chairperson



Pictured at the April NACED Executive Committee meeting were (l-r): Maire Walsh, Seamus Scully, Paddy Farrell, John Egan, Jacqueline Connolly, and Gene Cahill. Absent from photo: Fintan Kemple, Robbie Harrold, Donal Cremin, and Michael McNieve.

Officers



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ECDL Essentials Packages available for Community and Comprehensive Schools



ICS Skills has agreed the following terms with NACED in relation to the delivery of the ECDL Essentials package for the academic year 2015/16.

The **ECDL Essentials** package comprises the following modules:

- * Computer Essentials
- * Online Essentials
- * Word Processing
- * Spreadsheets

Classes will be offered in September 2015 and January 2016 with each school offering the course to participants with a guide price of €300.

The course should be delivered over 10 to 16 nights and schools will devise their own delivery schedule.

Schools can offer additional ECDL modules if required and obtain certification tests at the same rates agreed for the ECDL Essentials package.

Schools can choose one of the three options outlined below when registering with ICS Skills.

All students will have the option to purchase E-learning online tuition of €10 per module.

Training for ECDL Tutors will take place in Dublin, Cork and Sligo, at regular intervals throughout the year.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED



You can register your interest in running the ECDL Essential Package as agreed between NACED and ICS Skills by contacting:

NACED executive member Jackie Connolly on 01 835 3007, or by email at adulted@ashcom.ie

Or Fiona Sneddon, ICS Skills, on 087 969 0428, or by email at fiona@ics.ie

Once your school is registered, you will be advised of the training dates and locations.

Option 1:

This applies to schools that already offer ECDL to day school students and wish to operate in conjunction with the day school ECDL administrator.

School already pays the Annual Monitoring Fee of €375 to ECDL.

NACED will pay €100 for the training of the Night Class Tutor for ECDL administration.

Cost per students for ECDL Essentials package is:

- * €40 Skills Card
- * €14 for four Diagnostic tests
- * €26 for four Certificate Tests

Total cost per student €80

Option 2:

This applies to schools already offering ECDL to day school students but that wish to operate a separate Adult Education ECDL centre for administration.

The Annual Monitoring Fee of €375 is waived, for this year, in favour of a higher test unit cost.

NACED will pay for the training of one Night Class Tutor for ECDL administration.

Students availing of the ECDL Essentials bundle will pay

- * €40 Skills Card
- * €20 for four Diagnostic tests
- * €40 for four Certificate tests

Total cost per student €100

Option 3:

This applies to schools that wish to start offering the ECDL in their Adult Education Programme and do not already have ECDL being offered at their school.

The Annual Monitoring Fee of €375 is waived, for this year, in favour of a higher test unit cost.

NACED will pay €100 for the training of one Night Class Tutor for ECDL administration.

Students availing of the ECDL Essentials bundle will pay:

- * €40 Skills Card
- * €20 for four Diagnostic tests
- * €40 for four Certificate tests

Total cost per student €100



QQI

Quality and Qualifications Ireland
Dearbhú Cáilíochta agus Cáilíochtaí Éireann



SOLAS

An tSeirbhís Oideachais Leanúnaigh agus Scileanna
Further Education and Training Authority



NACED: Strategic Plan 2015-2018

The NACED Executive has devised a Strategic Plan to guide its work over the coming three years.

Key Strategic Goals

1) Succeed in having NACED recognised as a key element in the national provision of Adult and Community Education

The key objective of this goal is that NACED plans to:

- ◆ Increase NACED's profile within ACCS, DES, QQI, SOLAS and Aontas
- ◆ Halt the decline of Adult Education as a service provided through Community and Comprehensive schools and work on increasing the number of schools offering an adult education programme
- ◆ Highlight the importance of a career structure for Assistant Directors and fight for the restoration of the post structure set down in circular letter 46/00

2) Promote the importance of Certification in the provision of Adult Education

The key objective of this goal is that NACED plans to:

- ◆ Increase the number of NACED-registered schools offering QQI-certified courses as part of their Adult Education programme
- ◆ Lobby for the reduction of fees and other barriers that make it difficult for Community and Comprehensive Schools to offer QQI courses



3) Build Organisational Capacity

The key objective of this goal is that NACED plans to:

- ◆ Improve our visual profile as a national organisation by improving our Website and Newsletter
- ◆ Increase training opportunities for Directors and Assistant Directors, specifically in the areas of Management, Social Media and Advertising
- ◆ Put in place a system of Data Collection within our organisation to collate information to demonstrate and support our position within the Adult Education Sector

ACCS elects new President



Ms Antoinette Nic Gearailt, principal of The Donahies Community School, Dublin, is the new president of the ACCS.

Ms Nic Gearailt was elected at the ACCS Convention in March.

The Donahies Community School is a member of NACED and we wish Ms Nic Gearailt all the best in her new role.

Diary Date

NACED

Annual Conference 2015

Clonmel Park Hotel

Clonmel, Co Tipperary

November 26 & 27



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A new school offers Adult Education

Mountrath Community School, Co Laois, opened in 2009 with the amalgamation of the Brigidine Secondary School, St Aengus Vocational School, and the Patrician College Ballyfin.

In 2014, the school decided it was time to focus on the broader community by offering night classes. "We offered four classes initially - Computers for Beginners, Guitar, Pilates, and Sewing," said Declan Murray, adult education co-ordinator. "The classes ran for six weeks from October to mid-November 2014. In January, we ran two classes, Pilates and Sign Language. The objective was to get the programme launched, getting word out to the wider community that MCS is offering a Night Class Programme."

Declan realises that starting an adult education programme from scratch is not an easy task, between sourcing tutors and advertising as well as organising the caretaker to open and close the school building. Declan is also the school's learning support co-ordinator.

"I visited Clane Community School some years ago to see their programme and got great encouragement and advice. The benefits to a community of a successful adult education programme is fantastic."

Despite the twin challenges of operating in a small rural area and with local competition, Declan is confident that he will grow the programme year by year and is looking to encourage local people to teach classes in the school.



Declan Murray, Adult Education co-ordinator at Mountrath CS.

In addition, he sees a great advantage to linking up with other Adult Education Directors. "It is great to speak to others that have gone through the setting up process. People have been very helpful and encouraging to me, I feel I can contact a lot of people just to pick their brains about something. It's a steep learning curve but that's the business we're in, teaching and learning. I learned a lot from last year and I feel better prepared for the next programme.

It's a lot of work," he admits, "but I'm thoroughly enjoying it."

NACED Member Schools 2015

School	Director	Email	School	Director	Email
Athboy Community School	Anthony Leavy	athboyacs@eircom.net	Hartstown Community School	Andrew Farrell	adult_ed@eircom.net
Ashbourne Community School	Jacqueline Connolly	adulted@ashcom.ie	John the Baptist, Hospital	Ann Cronin	adulted@johnthebaptistscs.ie
Ashton Comprehensive School	John O'Sullivan	adulted@ashton.ie	Kinsale Community School	Linda Dreelan	info@kinsalecommunityschool.ie
Ballincollig Community School	Anne Marie Daly	adulted@balcs.ie	Malahide Community School	Robbie Harrold	adulted@malahidecs.ie
Bishopstown Community School	Michelle O'Brien	aded@bishopstown-cs.ie	Newpark Comprehensive School	John O'Neill	office@newparknightschool.ie
Boyne Community School, Trim	Maire Walsh	boyneaded@eircom.net	O'Fiaich Institute, Dundalk	Colm McCourt	night@ofi.ie
Cabinteely Community School	Paddy Farrell	ccs@io.ie	Old Bawn Community School	Louise Fitzpatrick	info@oldbawnadulthoodeducation.ie
Carrigaline Community School	Eugene Cahill	adulted@carrigsc.ie	Palmerstown Community School	Sean Clarke	seanclarke@eircom.net
Cashel Community School	Deirdre Reddan	casheladed@hotmail.com	Pobalscoil Neasain	Michael O'Donoghue	modaded@gmail.com
Clane Community School	Seamus Scully	info@clanesm.com	Pobalscoil Rosmini	Donal J Digan	adulted@pobalscoilrosmini.ie
Coláiste Chiaráin, Leixlip	Maire Ni Scanail	leixlip@adulted.ie	Portmarnock Community School	Pat McCarthy	adultedpcs@gmail.com
Coolmine Community School	Mary Quirke	adulted@coolminecs.ie	Rathmore Community School	Donal Cremin	rathmorecs@eircom.net
Crescent Comprehensive College	Susan Newman	night-classesccc@eircom.net	St Colmcille's Community School, Knocklyon	John Egan	john.egan@stcolmcillescs.ie
Douglas Community School	Jerry O'Mahony	adulted@dcscork.ie	St Louis Community School, Kiltimagh	Andrea Moloney	admin@stlouiscs.com
Gorey Community School	Fintan Kemple	info@goreyadulted.ie	St Tiernan's (Balally)	John Dillane	johndillane@eircom.net
Gort Community School	Mary Brady	info@gortcs.com	The Donahies Community School	Liam Patten	donahcs@eircom.net