

Consultative Conference on Education 2025

Comhdháil Chomhairleach ar Oideachas 2025

*Ar scáth a chéile a
mhaireann na daoine*

Fáilte

Dear delegate,

We are delighted to welcome you to Sligo for the 2025 INTO Education Conference. This year's theme is *Special Education and Inclusion*. Our title *Ar Scáth a Chéile a Mhaireann na Daoine* reminds us of the importance of supporting each other and of the value of community.

Now, more than ever, special education and inclusion are central to teaching and learning. Inclusive practice means adapting the environment to the learner, and teachers do this every day, offering consistent support within the school community, even when external services and resources remain stretched. Our principals, mainstream teachers, special class teachers and special school teachers work hard to ensure that all pupils, regardless of ability, are supported and feel valued in their classrooms and schools.

Our speakers and workshops have been selected to support collaboration and to deepen our collective understanding of inclusive educational environments that nurture all pupils' learning, while supporting the work you do every day.

We look forward to your participation and engagement.

Yours sincerely,



Anne Horan

Anne Horan
INTO President



John Boyle

John Boyle
INTO General Secretary

Clár

Friday, 21 November

2.30pm	Registration and workshop selection
3pm	Conference opening Anne Horan, INTO President Alice O'Donnell, Cathaoirleach, INTO Education Committee Presentation by INTO Education Committee Eileen Duffy, District 6 Niamh Campion District 1 Máirín Ní Chéileachair, INTO Director of Education, Equality Research and Learning
3.50pm	Coffee break
4.20pm	Discussion groups
5.40pm	Keynote address: <i>Inclusion of plurilingual skills in linguistically diverse classrooms: educational capital for all learners</i> Dr Déirdre Kirwan
6.15pm	Launch of Irish Teachers' Journal
6.30pm	Wine reception Kindly sponsored by Comhar Linn INTO Credit Union

Saturday, 22 November

9.30am	Workshop A
10.45am	Coffee break Kindly sponsored by Comhar Linn INTO Credit Union
11.15am	Workshop B
12.30pm	Presentation to the INTO bursary winners
12.45pm	Keynote address: <i>Special Education or Inclusion - A journey in a changing landscape</i> Professor Emer Ring
1.30pm	Críoch

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General Information

Registration

Registration opens at 2.30pm on Friday, 21 November. We ask you to assist INTO staff by checking your delegate card, which is in your pack, prior to your arrival at the registration desk.

Conference evaluation

Delegates will be contacted after the conference with a link to a short online questionnaire for the purposes of evaluating the conference.

Car park

There are 320 complimentary car parking spaces available on site.

Trade stands and exhibitors

A number of exhibitors will be in attendance. We encourage you to visit these during your breaks.

Wine reception

The wine reception has been kindly sponsored by Comhar Linn INTO Credit Union.

Absence from school

The Department of Education and Youth has given approval for leave of absence for delegates to attend the conference.

A copy of the letter is available on the Education Conference page on the INTO website. However, substitute cover is **not** available.

INTO communication policy

Please be advised that photography and videography will be taking place at this event.

These materials may be used by the INTO and included in publications, media materials, promotional materials, digital platforms and social platforms. If you do not wish the INTO to use your image, please go to the registration desk and inform staff.

The INTO can then take reasonable steps to comply with your wishes.

Discussion groups: Friday, 4.20pm

The discussion groups will give delegates an opportunity to give their views and opinions on the important theme of *Special Education and Inclusion*.

Please refer to your name badge (A-G) to find your assigned discussion group.

Workshops: Saturday, 9.30am and 11.15am

Delegates are asked to choose two workshops from the list below at registration.

Due to space limitations in the venue, each workshop will have a maximum number of delegates and will operate on a first come first served basis at registration.

For full details and a description of the workshops visit our dedicated conference web page at www.into.ie.

Discussion Groups and Workshop Venues

Room	Discussion Group Friday 4.20pm	Workshop A Saturday 9.30am	Workshop B Saturday 11.15am
Main Hall	N/A	<i>An Introduction to NCSE Relate</i> NCSE	<i>An Introduction to NCSE Relate</i> NCSE
Benbulbin 1	A	<i>Behaviour as Communication</i> DCU	<i>Behaviour as Communication</i> DCU
Ben 3 Bar	B	N/A	N/A
Ballincar	C	<i>Digital Tools to Support Inclusive Classrooms: UDL in Action</i> Oide	<i>Digital Tools to Support Inclusive Classrooms: UDL in Action</i> Oide
Knocknarea 1	D	<i>Igniting the Fire! Transforming Learning through Inclusive, Integrated Arts Practice</i> Froebel/Maynooth University	<i>Igniting the Fire! Transforming Learning through Inclusive, Integrated Arts Practice</i> Froebel/Maynooth University
Knocknarea 2	E	<i>Researchmeet</i> INTO Bursary Winners	<i>The Role of the SENCO</i> INTO
Brickleve	F	<i>Revised SET Guidelines</i> NEPS/DEY	<i>Revised SET Guidelines</i> NEPS/DEY
Dartry	G	<i>With the right opportunities, all learners can thrive: A hands on, inclusive approach to teaching through trial</i> University of Galway	<i>With the right opportunities, all learners can thrive: A hands on, inclusive approach to teaching through trial</i> University of Galway