

Knowledge Sharing with Further Education Sector

id+futures

Key Team Members

Dr Nicola Maxwell, id+futures Academic Co-Director.
Dr Claire Edwards, id+futures Academic Co-Director
Helen Ryan, Principal, ETB Morrisson's Island.

Kathy Bradley, ETB Tertiary Manager.
Gobnait Burke, ETB Tertiary Manager.
Helena Farrell, ETB Universal Design Lead.

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Our Story

Working together with our friends in Cork ETB, a new 1-credit, level 9 microcredential - SS6131- Inclusive Education for People with Intellectual Disability in Further Education was designed and developed in order to enhance capacity in inclusive education in the Further Education Sector. It is designed as a pilot aimed at staff in the Cork ETB area.

Informed by the work of the id+futures project at UCC and case studies from Further Education, the microcredential introduces participants to the values and principles underpinning inclusive education, and the practices and methodologies of inclusive teaching.

Participants acquire knowledge and skills about rights-based, inclusive practices and teaching methodologies to support students with intellectual disabilities (ID) studying in the Further Education sector and encompasses the principles and values of inclusive education competencies and skills for inclusive education.

Module Goal:

To acquire knowledge and skills about rights-based, inclusive practices and teaching methodologies to support students with intellectual disabilities (ID) studying in the further education sector. The module encompasses:

- the principles and values of inclusive education”
- competencies and skills for inclusive education”

Course Structure.

The course consists of four units:

Unit 1: Intellectual Disability, Rights-Based Approaches and Inclusive Education

Unit 2: Teaching and Learning Approaches for Inclusive Co-Learning

Unit 3: Practice Insights and Examples, UCC

Unit 4: Inclusive Learning in FE: Insights from Practice

We continue to be grateful to Kathy Bradley, Gobnait Burke, Helen Ryan and Helena Farrell in Cork ETB as we work together to achieve our collective goal to bring together academic knowledge and practical materials to empower ETB staff to embark on the journey of designing an inclusive curriculum.



Key Impacts

(current and envisaged)

Equality, diversity and inclusion are core strategic objectives of all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and Further Education (FE). This microcredential has built capacity within the Cork Further Education sector by providing training which supports the development of inclusive, co-learning educational opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities.

32 ETB staff have successfully completed the microcredential in 2025/26.

We envisage that the microcredential will roll out to the Further Education sector nationally, following the pilot phase, so that capacity to enhance inclusive education can expand throughout the Further Education sector.

“Our partnership with the id+futures project is powerful because it embodies the true spirit of togetherness and inclusion. It has challenged us to manage not just with our heads, but with our hearts, ensuring that the future of education is a place where everyone can truly belong.”

Kathy Bradley, ETB Tertiary Manager.



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Cork Training Centre

