

Summer Course Programme 2024 –An overview of the programme 2024

This is the second year of the three-year approval cycle which commenced in 2023 for those summer courses which carry an entitlement of extra personal vacation (EPV) days for primary teachers. Providers are advised to study the Handbook before submitting application forms for consideration this year.

Course formats for 2024

Providers may apply to run courses in the following course format:

Face-to-Face Course

- A 20-hour face to face course will run for five consecutive days (excluding weekend days). Course contact time will be a minimum of 4 hours per day.
- Further details of this course format are provided in the Handbook on page 15

Blended Learning Course

- A 20-hour blended learning course will consist of onsite learning over two days (eight hours) and remainder of the learning (12 hours) will be facilitated through 4 hour online asynchronous/synchronous learning.
- Further details of this course format are provided in the Handbook on pages 15-16

Online Learning Courses - Asynchronous

- Courses may be provided from 1 July to 16 August 2024. Further details of this course format are provided on page 16 of the Handbook

Online Learning Courses – Synchronous (Pilot Courses)

- Courses will be 20 hours in duration and will be organised into five modules which will be delivered through online synchronous learning and offline learning. Providers select the number of hours for synchronous (real time) delivery.
- Please see page 17 of the Handbook for further information on this course format

Dates for providers to note

- Application forms and Handbook for Providers will be available from Drumcondra Education Centre from 29 January 2024 onwards
- Providers should ensure their summer course application is submitted by 1 March 2024
- The summer course programme 2023 may commence on Monday, 1 July 2024, and all courses will be completed by 5pm on Friday, 16 August 2024
- Drumcondra Education Centre should be informed of any course cancellations by 21 June 2024

Categories of courses for 2024

Providers of courses for 2024 are now invited to submit applications for the following categories:

Please note that there are two new categories of courses this year (see highlighted text below):

1. The Teaching of English/Gaeilge based on the Primary School Language Curriculum / Curaclam Teanga na Bunscoile 2019. (2019)
2. The teaching of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Courses in STEM should reflect the updated Mathematics Primary School Curriculum (2023)
3. English as an Additional Language
4. Language upskilling (including French / German / Spanish) in preparation for the introduction of Modern Foreign Languages (MFL) as part of the Primary Curriculum Framework for stages 3 and 4 of primary school (NCCA, 2023; Circular Letter 0017/2023)
5. The Inclusive Classroom
6. Education for Sustainable Development
7. Teaching and learning in the other curricular areas (including creativity and innovation in teaching, learning and assessment)
8. Leadership and management in the primary school
9. Wellbeing which focuses on the implementation of the Department of Education (2022) Cineáltas: Action Plan on Bullying Ireland's Whole Education Approach to preventing and addressing bullying in schools
10. Special Education Needs

Quality assurance manuals

All providers of online courses who are applying to run new courses in 2024, or who received approval to run summer courses in 2023, must submit an updated quality assurance manual by 1 March 2024. Please see the Provider's Handbook for further details. The manual must highlight the measures the provider is taking to ensure that all course content is original to the provider and must outline how the courses devised are not breaching copyright. The provider must give an undertaking that its courses and the resources that are used are original to the provider and do not include the work of others or other organisations without written permission from the original source. The manual must also provide assurances that the provider will give full administrative access to the Inspectorate to all elements of the course.

Submitting an application to run a summer course

An electronic copy of the online application form, available on the Drumcondra Education Centre website, must be received by Drumcondra Education Centre **by 4pm on Friday, 1 March 2024**

Electronic copies should be emailed to summercourses@ecdumcondra.ie