

Call Out for Creative Clusters Facilitators Creative Clusters 2025/27

Announcing a wonderful opportunity for creative practitioners and educators with a passion for facilitation, a love of creativity and enjoy working with schools. Your local Education Support Centre is looking for Creative Clusters Facilitators. Closing date for expression of interest Thursday 12th June 2025.

Creative Clusters is part of the Creative Ireland, Creative Youth Plan 2023–2027 and is led by the Department of Education and Youth in partnership with the Education Support Centres Ireland network. Creative Cluster Facilitators support, inspire, connect and mentor teachers, as school representatives to their Creative Clusters throughout the two-year journey.

Creative Clusters Facilitators are provided with:

- 1-day training into the role of Creative Cluster Facilitator
- 1-day Workshop with your Creative Clusters and with other Clusters and Facilitators in your ESCI region
- Funding to host 3 Meetings in Year 1 and 2 Meetings in Year 2 of the Creative Cluster at your local Education Support Centre.
- Facilitators receive a fee of €300 inclusive of travel per training/workshop events and cluster meetings.

Help to bring creativity in learning to children and young people, teachers and school communities across Ireland through Creative Clusters, join us today!

Creative Clusters Overview

Creative Clusters is a two-year broad creativity programme focused on building creative educational communities of practice. Creative Clusters are composed of between three and five schools/settings. Clusters can be made of all primary, all post primary schools, special schools or Youthreach centres or a combination of settings. Over two-years, Creative Clusters experiment, risk take, innovate and collaborate on a project which helps them address a common issue or challenge.

Creative Clusters are Professional Learning Communities where children and young people have an active and collective leadership role. Through their Creative Clusters, schools collaborate to innovate, plan, enact and reflect on context sensitive, new approaches to creative learning. In Creative Clusters leadership and responsibility are shared between young people and adults











Creative Clusters Facilitator Role

The Creative Clusters Facilitator is appointed by the local ESC and their role is to facilitate, inspire and give practical advice to teachers and schools in their Cluster. They may act as a critical friend to the Cluster, challenging their thinking and promote young people's participation in decision making and encourage creativity in learning. Creative Cluster Facilitators cannot be a staff member from the Creative Cluster schools.

Overall Support

- Facilitators lead Creative Cluster Meetings and manage administrative requirements e.g. ensure Attendance Sheets are complete and sign *Certificate of Attendance*.
- Supporting the Creative Cluster to meet the aims of the programme, to experiment, risk take and collaborate on their project.
- Support the Cluster to reflect, assess learning and take measures to support the sustainability learning within and after the Cluster lifetime.
- Work with the Cluster on the design, planning and budgeting of the project ensuring each school has an agreed plan of work to implement between meetings.
- Link the Cluster with local, regional and national opportunities to engage with arts, creativity and culture.
- Prompt Creative Clusters to progress and complete required documents.
- Ensure Image Consent is in place for images shared with ESC.
- Communicate with the Director and ESC, sharing progress, challenges, successes and achievements.
- Share events, celebrations and "outputs" of Creative Clusters with the ESC and NAE so that they might attend and/or share on social media networks

Specific Requirements

- Creative Cluster Meetings
 - \circ $\;$ Liaise with Cluster to establish dates and times for Cluster Meetings.
 - Liaise with local ESC to organise the Cluster Meetings and documents.
 - Prompt teachers to book substitution cover.
 - Prompt Lead School Coordinator to take substituted days.
 - Support the Clusters in establishing and using systems of information sharing e.g. Google Drive, One Drive, WhatsApp etc.
 - Financial: supporting the Cluster in ensuring that funding is planned for, accessed, records kept and advising them of sources of funding.











Creative Clusters Facilitator Expression of Interest Letter

Interested parties apply for the Creative Clusters Facilitator role via an Expressions of Interest Letter sent to the Director of your local Education Support Centre no later than **5pm on Thursday 12th June 2025.** Expressions of interest should be in the form of a letter of max 600 words, accompanied by a CV or short bio with links to images or samples of relevant work.

In your letter of application, please:

- 1. Outline your motivation in applying for the role of Creative Clusters Facilitator. Please include your interest and /or experience in working with teachers and schools to support them in embedding creativity in learning and teaching.
- 2. Outline the professional experience in creative practice, education or facilitation that demonstrates your skills in, or across, these areas. Demonstrate a track record of **minimum of three years' professional practice** in creative practice or education.
- 3. Demonstrate an interest in / commitment to the **principles of Creativity and Arts in Education** and to enhancing the lives of children and young people through arts/creative practice and professional learning for teachers.

The role of Creative Clusters Facilitator for this Creative Youth initiative is limited to **two** Facilitators per full-time Education Support Centre area for the 2025 / 2027 Creative Clusters. Please ensure that it will be possible for you to meet all requirements of the programme before applying.

Final decision on offers of this role will be taken by the Director of the local Education Support Centre. Any queries in relation to Creative Clusters should be directed to your local full-time Education Support Centre.

Please use the link below for Education Support Centre details. <u>ESCI - Education Support Centres Ireland - ESCI - Association of Teacher Education Centres Ireland Irish</u> <u>Education Centre Network - CPD Courses</u>







