

ACCS Education Conference "Celebrating Community and Heritage: Uniting Diversity"

The ACCS National Education Conference is dedicated to the exploration and celebration of the rich tapestry of cultural diversity that Kildare has to offer and the importance of community bonds within the educational context. Hosting the ACCS National Educational Conference in Kildare on the 1500 anniversary of St. Brigid's can serve various important aims and benefits for the local community, the county, and the education sector as a whole.

Draft Agenda

- 9.30 a.m. – 10.00 a.m. Registration, tea/coffee
Visit stalls of partners with work with Kildare Town Community School
- 10.00 a.m. – 10.10 a.m. **Welcome and Introduction**
Speaker: Paul Thornton, President, ACCS
Speaker: John Hayes, Principal & Ciaran, KTCS student
- 10.10 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. **Special Education Section, Department of Education**
Speaker: David Delaney - Mindful Spark
Wellness and Community Projects Officer, Guest Lecturer in Leadership and Creativity, Motivational Speaker – Inspiring students and staff to reach their potential.
- 10.30 a.m. – 10.45 a.m. **Teaching & Learning - UCD Innovation Academy**
Speakers: Alan Morgan & Rosie Leonard-Kane
Partnership between UCD Innovation Academy and Kildare Town Community School.
- 10.45 a.m. – 11.15 a.m. **School Tours**
Observing a school with a population of 1000 students provides a rich opportunity to witness the dynamics of a large educational institution. Through classroom visits and student demonstrations, one can gain valuable insights into teaching methodologies and student engagement. A visit to the ASD Acorn center could offer a unique perspective on supporting students with special needs.
- Observing a changeover within the school, such as a shift in leadership or structural adjustments, can provide a glimpse into the organizational adaptability of the institution. Each of these experiences offers a different angle to understand the functioning and effectiveness of the school in providing a holistic educational experience to its students.
- 11.15 a.m. – 11.30 a.m. Break for tea/coffee

11.40 am – 1.15 p.m.

Concurrent Workshops:

Spiritual Wellbeing & Peace Ambassadors - St. Brigid's Well & The Solas Centre Kildare Town

Speakers: Afri – Action from Ireland

'The Light of Peace amidst the Clouds of War'

Peace Ambassadors, Sister Rita and Sister Phil

Heritage Preservation: St. Brigid's Cathedral

Gain a deeper understanding of the importance of preserving and celebrating our cultural heritage, ensuring that it is passed on to future generations.

Speakers: Kelly Birmingham, Rev. Phil and KTCS Choir

Interactive Technology and work experience: The Irish National Stud

Providing a platform for schools to promote and to explore ways to incorporate cultural heritage into the curriculum and promote heritage education within the school.

Speaker: Cathal Beale, CEO

Leadership - Kildare Education Centre

Title: Building a school Leadership team. Utilising the Leadership and management circulars and LAOS to develop your school Leadership team.

Speakers: Siobhan Kennedy - Director of Kildare Education Centre

1.30 p.m. – 2.15 p.m.

Lunch - Champions Hall at the Curragh racecourse

2.30 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.

Final Challenge - World Record attempt

Student Voice - Peace Ambassadors Initiative - St. Brigid

3.15 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.

Concluding Remarks & Close of Conference

Speaker: John Irwin, General Secretary, ACCS