

Prison Education Service, Ireland



Prison Education Service  
*I r e l a n d*

Directory of Prison Education

2005



Issued by Prison Education In-service Committee

# INTRODUCTION TO DIRECTORY

This is the seventh edition of the Directory of Prison Education, issued by the Prison Education In-Service Committee. Peter Doyle, Head Teacher at the Curragh Prison, has been centrally involved in compiling all editions to date and I wish to thank him for this excellent work.

Great care has been taken to ensure the information herein is accurate and up-to-date, but if changes are needed I would urge readers to let Peter know so that we can get it correct next time. Peter can be contacted at [doyp@indigo.ie](mailto:doyp@indigo.ie) or the Education Unit, Midlands Prison.

This Directory is probably most useful as a reference tool for those of us working in prison education. But it also serves a role in indicating the extent and nature of prison education to others within the prison system and beyond it. Further information may be found in a wide range of reports, articles and other publications that have come out in recent years, a selection of which are listed at the end of this directory. Copies of these are generally available from the Co-ordinator of Education's office at the Prison Education Service, Block 5, Belfield Office Park, Beaver Row, Dublin 4 ([kmwarner@irishprisons.ie](mailto:kmwarner@irishprisons.ie)). Some of these articles and reports, and other information, are also available on the website for the Prison Education Service which has recently been initiated, [www.pesireland.org](http://www.pesireland.org).

Like this Directory, prison education is changing and developing all the time. Some of that change is chartered in the Report on 2004 given at the start of the directory. A particularly sad change is the demise of two enormously successfully education units at the two prisons whose closures were made permanent in recent weeks, the Curragh Prison and Fort Mitchel, Spike Island.

Kevin Warner,  
Co-ordinator of Education

June 2005.

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# Report on the Prison Education Service for 2004

## The Prison Education Service

The Prison Education Service consists of a partnership between the Irish Prison Service and a range of educational agencies from the community. Vocational Education Committees and Public Library Services make the largest contribution to, and are the mainstay of, the Prison Education Service. The Co-ordinator of Education within the IPS has an overall responsibility for the education of prisoners. Policy is drawn largely from the Council of Europe Recommendation and Report, *Education in Prison (1990)* and the *Strategy Statement for the Prison Education Service for 2003-2007*.

The Department of Education and Science provided an allocation of 214 whole-time teacher equivalents to the prisons through the VECs in the academic year 2003/04 and again in 2004/5. This included provision for the summer months and also enabled special teaching arrangements where the prisoners are segregated (e.g. Portlaoise, Mountjoy, Wheatfield, Limerick, Cork). However, just 209 wte of this allocation was activated, as the Special Unit for 16 and 17 year olds at St Patrick's Institution was not opened. In addition, four full-time librarians, employed by Dublin Public Libraries, work in prisons in the Dublin area.

Other agencies also contribute significantly to prison education, for example:

- The Open University, which caters for about 75 prisoners annually on degree-level distance education courses;
- The Arts Council, which provides writers' workshops and artists' workshops;
- Other third-level colleges, such as the National College of Art and Design, which is involved in Portlaoise, Midlands and Training Unit prisons.

## The Curriculum

Objectives, methods and course content are largely those of adult education. Set courses and examination work are but a part of prison education because of a high level of turnover in the population of most prisons, and because of prisoner's special needs and interests. The emergence of FETAC accreditation has opened up new possibilities which are now widely used in prison education. A high degree of curriculum and teaching material development is essential in prison education. This is facilitated through extensive in-service support, covering internal and external courses for teachers and via a range of structures, including the Prison Education Council and "development workers" in areas such as the Arts and Physical Education.

Full details of what is taught in prisons may be found in the Directory of Prison Education (see below). In broad terms, courses may be classified as follows:

- Basic Education, including Literacy and Numeracy
- General subjects, e.g. English, History, Geography, Mathematics, Languages, Computers
- Physical Education, Home Economics and Health Education

- The Arts, e.g. Visual arts, Music, Drama, Creative Writing, Photography
- Practical subjects, e.g. Woodwork, Metalwork, Horticulture
- Courses that address particular problems or needs that prisoners have, e.g. Pre-Release courses, Addiction Awareness, Childcare, Group Skills, Anger Management.

**Participation in Education in Prison**

Participation in education generally varies with factors such as facilities, turnover of population and segregation. At the end of 2004, 51% (compared to 54% in 2003) of all prisoners were involved at some level. Almost half of these, (i.e. 24% of the total prison population), were intensively involved, i.e. for more than 10 hours per week of classes, so that education was almost certainly their main activity in prison. (This figure was 27% in 2003). Such an overall level of involvement in education whilst in prison is very high by international standards. The pattern of participation for each particular prison may be seen in Table A:

<i>Prison</i>	<i>(a) Participation</i>	<i>(b) Population (24/11/04)</i>	<i>(a)÷(b) Percentage Participation</i>	<i>(c) Intensive Participation: No. Involved for 10 Hours or more per week</i>	<i>(c) ÷ (b) Rate of Intensive Participation</i>
<i>Arbour Hill</i>	108	135	80%	50	37%
<i>Castlerea</i>	109	214	51%	43	20%
<i>Cloverhill</i>	0	406	0%	0	0%
<i>Cork</i>	174	271	64%	64	24%
<i>Dochas</i>	78	95	82%	55	58%
<i>Limerick (M&amp;F)</i>	134	286	47%	95	33%
<i>Loughan House</i>	35	58	60%	10	17%
<i>Midlands</i>	237	443	53%	61	14%
<i>Mountjoy (Male)</i>	210	468	45%	120	26%
<i>Portlaoise</i>	85	117	73%	16	14%
<i>Shelton Abbey</i>	41	54	76%	25	46%
<i>St. Patrick's Institution</i>	92	187	49%	53	28%
<i>Training Unit</i>	58	96	60%	25	26%
<i>Wheatfield</i>	263	372	71%	159	43%
<b>TOTAL</b>	1,624	3,202	51%	776	24%
<i>% Participation excluding Cloverhill = 58%</i>					
<i>% Intensive Participation excluding Cloverhill = 28%</i>					
<b>% participation overall = 51%</b>					

Participation in education is counted as involvement in at least one structured class in the sample week. However, most of those taking part in education do so on a daily basis, as may be gauged by the measure of "intensive participation." As may also be seen from Table A, the figures for overall participation would have been considerably higher (58%) (62% in 2003) if Cloverhill Prison was excluded from calculations, as an Education Unit for that sizeable<sup>5</sup>

prison has not yet been opened. A very extensive library, which includes a wide range of material in the various languages and cultures of that prison's population, is, however, available in Cloverhill.

The reduction in the figure for overall participation in education by just over 100 (from 1,731 in 2003, to 1,624 in 2004), as well as the other falls in the various rates given above, would appear to arise largely from the temporary closure of Fort Mitchel and The Curragh prisons in the early part of 2004. As will be seen from last year's report, these locations had been among those with the highest levels of participation. In the past year, other Education Units did increase the involvement of prisoners in their programmes to some extent (from 1,557 to 1,624), but lacked the capacity to compensate sufficiently for the withdrawal of these two successful units from the system.

### Library Services

The quality of library services available in prison is very uneven. In some prisons, a high-quality and dynamic professional service in good facilities is available, while in others there is scarcely a service to speak of. Generally, the critical factor now is whether, and to what extent, professional input and guidance is available from public library services. In 2000, a structural plan was agreed between the IPS and the City and County Librarians with prisons in their areas. This sought to build, in the rest of the country, on models that are already deemed to work well, e.g. the involvement of full-time qualified librarians in the larger Dublin prisons, and of a part-time library assistant from Co. Cavan Library Service in Loughan House, a relatively small location. Financial constraints at IPS have inhibited the roll-out of this plan to date, but provision has been made to commence the funding of this plan in 2005. A further serious difficulty in 2004 was that library services were seriously disrupted as a consequence of the industrial dispute between the POA and the IPS.

### Publications

In 2003, two key documents for prison education were completed by working groups. A Strategy Statement for the Prison Education Service for 2003 to 2007 was finalised. In tandem with this, a detailed description of the curriculum that has developed within prison education, entitled *Prison Education in Ireland: a Review of the Curriculum*, was written. Both of these are now printed and available from the Co-ordinator of Education's office (see address below)

Further information on prison education may be found in a range of other recent publications:

- *The Directory of Prison Education, 2005*
- *The Prison Adult Literacy Survey: Results and Implications*, a report on comprehensive research by Mark Morgan and Mary Kett (Irish Prison Service, 2003) and *Guidelines for Quality Literacy Work in Prisons* (Prison Education Service, 2002)
- *Physical Education in the Irish Prison System: The Challenges Ahead, a report of the Physical Education Development Group (2000)*
- *Another Place: A First Anthology of Creative Writing from Irish Prisons*, edited by Jane Meally and Bernadette Butler (2001)
- Four articles on aspects of Irish prison education published in 2001 and 2002 in the North American quarterly *Journal of Correctional Education*

*Copies of these publications may be obtained from the Co-ordinator of Education, Prison Education Service, Block 5, Belfield Office Park, Beaver Row, Dublin 4, or by e-mail from [mlsymes@irishprisons.ie](mailto:mlsymes@irishprisons.ie).*

*Kevin Warner  
Co-ordinator of Education  
Irish Prison Service*

# Arbour Hill

Arbour Hill  
Dublin 7

Head Teacher: Una Lyes

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## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Domhnall Mac Mathúna	Physical Education
Aine Cowley	Home Economics/Health Ed/Fetac/Food Hygiene Course/Pre-Release
Chris Jones	Art
Alan Roberts	Philosophy/Irish/Group Skills
Sheila Ronan	English/Study Skills/Open Learning/Basic Maths/Fetac
Helen Cawley	Computers/Open Learning/C.P.C/Desktop Publishing
Jimmy O'Rourke	Basic Education/Literacy/Pre-Release Course
Breda Doran	English/Literacy/E.S.O.L.
Johnny Norris	Music/Guitar
Cormac Behan	Politics/CSPE/Current Affairs/History
Zachary Sex	Art/Pottery
Michael Roddy	Maths/Accountancy
Jim Doolan	Art
Phil Ryan	CPC
Florence Abecassis	English, French
Noelle O'Neill	English, FETAC
Leo Ryan	Creative Writing
Carole Gasparly	Home Economics & Craft

The Education Service in Arbour Hill Prison started in 1976 with three teachers from the City of Dublin V.E.C. This number has now grown to 19 between part-time and full-time teachers. The provision of a purpose-built Education Unit in 1984 contributed to the rapid development of a service, which is an important and constructive influence in the lives of the prisoners.

- With the co-operation of the prison staff, approximately 85% of the 140 prisoners attend the wide variety of classes and courses on offer. Many students concentrate on improving literacy levels, while a number have completed Open University degree courses and gone on to do post-graduate study.
- Catering and Cookery courses have given training to many students who are awarded certificates by the Further Education and Training Council (FETAC).
- Each year a number of prisoners take part in a concert or Art Exhibition where creative talents in art, music and drama are used to advantage. Rapid changes in Information Technology have been recognised and students have access to a well-equipped computer area in the Centre.
- Because many students in Arbour Hill are serving long sentences, the Physical Education teacher, working in conjunction with officers in the gym, provides a health and fitness programme tailored to individual needs.
- A stable population enables teachers to plan courses and with the cooperation of the students, see them through to completion. The adult student is given another chance to achieve in education.
- More recently, there has been a development in the number of group-work courses on offer. This work can be seen as a response to the needs of the prisoners to improve social and interpersonal communication skills.

Arbour Hill is a prison for adult males, many of whom are serving a sentence for sex offences. Of the total population of 140, approximately 30 are serving a life sentence. Teachers are involved in the development and implementation of a wide variety of courses catering for the needs and interests of the students. Several courses are run in a multidisciplinary way with other services, such as Group Skills and Thinking Skills. A Pre-Release programme and manual have been developed recent years.

There is a sex offender treatment programme that caters for a group of eight sex offenders run by the psychology and probation and welfare services. The course runs from September to July of each year.

# Castlerea

Castlerea,  
Co. Roscommon

Head Teacher: Riona Finn (094) 9625291

Telephone: (094) 9625290

Fax: (094) 9625401

Email: [edcastlerea@oceanfree.net](mailto:edcastlerea@oceanfree.net)

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Riona Finn	Head Teacher
Niamh Mulhern	Physical Education
Bernadette Butler	English/Literacy/Drama/Creative Writing, Drama
Mary O'Shea	Art/Career Guidance
Acting Head Teacher	
Charles Taylor	Computers/Irish/Geography/Music
Teresa Raftery	Yoga
Padraig Fahy	Horticulture, R. E., History
Vincent Hunt	Woodwork
Brid Curley	Home Economics
Joanne Foley	Art/Crafts
Kieran Melody	Stone Carving
Dave Patton	Bog Oak Carving
Graeme Fontaine	Stained Glass
Teresa Cunningham	IT/ULC
Paddy Healy	Maths/Computer/Business Studies/ECDL
Phil O'Brien	C.P.C/Computerised Accountancy
Sam Patterson	French/German/Pre-Release, TEFL
Clare Connolly	Psychology/Personal Effectiveness/Development
Sean Butler	English/Literacy
Mark Dodd	CPC (Haulage Lic)
Julie S Rodgers	Home Economics
Malachy Costello	Art
Des Philips	Woodwork
Mercedes Taffe	Boxercise

Castlereagh Prison is a committal prison, for approximately 200 inmates, situated just outside the town on a spacious site. There is also an "Open House" area called "The Grove" which has its own education facilities serving three different groups of prisoners. The Education Unit offers a wide choice of subjects and the opportunity to sit state examinations. Other courses also on offer include NCVA/FETAC, ECDL, Certificate of Professional Competency, Open University and Pre-Release Course.

# Cork

Rathmore Road,  
Cork

Head Teacher: Colm O'Herlihy

Telephone: (021) 4503237/451 8859

Fax: (021) 450 3279

Email: cpreduc@iolfree.ie

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Catherine Coakley	Deputy Supervising Teacher/Art Teacher
Donagh O'Sullivan	Woodwork
Maria Hegarty	Art
Mary Mulholland	Home Economics/Health
Caroline Lucey	Home Economics/Pre-Release
Sinead O'Rourke	P.E/Health/Maths/Smoking Cessation
Kathleen Melia	English/Literacy/Geography, ESOL
Margaret Hanratty	English/Irish/History
Edel Cunningham	Home Economics/ESOL
Noel Shine	Music
Margaret Kelleher	Literacy/English
Billy Foley	Art
Therese Cooper	Pottery
Claire O'Reilly	Pottery
Hugh Lorigan	Pottery
Paul Larocque	Computers/Art
Farad Raissa	Computers
Mary O'Shea	Life Skills/Relaxation/Personal Development/Childcare/Men's Health
Donncha Tangney	Basic Science/Environmental Studies
Emer Toomey	Pottery
Catherine O'Leary	Crafts
Frances Russell	Post - release Services Co-ordinator

Cork is a closed committal prison.

It contains two school centres, one for the main body of the prison, the other for the segregated prisoners. There is a night programme taking place three evenings per week.

# Curragh - TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Most of the Curragh teachers are currently based at The Midlands Prison

Curragh Camp,  
Curragh,  
Co. Kildare

Head Teacher: Peter Doyle

Telephone: (045) 441473

Fax: (045) 441999

Email: edcurr@hotmail.com

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Catherine White	Basic English and Numeracy
Paschal Fitzpatrick	Ceramics/Stain Glass
Denise Raftery	French/German/Spanish/Maths
Miriam McLoughlin	Art/Craft/Thinking Skills
Eamonn Parker	Computers/Maths/Thinking/Skills/Pre-release Group Skills/OU Coordinator (Assistant Head Teacher)
Kevin Berns	Music
Ronan Coleman (Assistant Head Teacher)	Physical Education/Geography/Fetac/Open Learning
Lindeke Hell	Horticulture
Ellen Kelly	Sociology/Current Affairs/English/Drama
Nuala Connolly (Assistant Head Teacher)	Home Economics/Health Education Educational Guidance
Mary Leahy	Ceramics
Marie Lennon	Yoga
Micheal Rowley	Art/Craft
Mary Maher	Computers/Home Economics

The Curragh is a closed prison with a population of approximately 100. Almost all of its population is serving time for a sex offence.

The programme ranges in content from Basic Education to Open University support. Examinations include Junior and Leaving Certificate, N.C.V.A at foundation and level 1 and 2. Other features of the programme are:

Pre-Release  
Group Skills  
Thinking Skills

These programmes are run on a multidisciplinary basis with the prison. There is also a Sex Offender Programme run by the Psychology and Probation and Welfare service.

# WOMEN'S EDUCATION CENTRE

## Dóchas Centre

North Circular Road,  
Dublin 7

Head Teacher: Marcie Barron

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Fax: (01) 806 2973

Email: [education@dochascentre.ie](mailto:education@dochascentre.ie)

### Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Maria Azambuja	Jewellery Making
Helen Cawley	Office Skills; Computer (beg); Telephone & Reception Skills; FETAC IAS/NCVA
Louise Condon	Home Economics/FETAC IAS/NCVA
Mary Clarke	Parenting
Noeline Cunningham	Computers Beginners, FETAC NCVA ECDL, MOS
Nick McEvoy	Drug Awareness
Jane Garland	Art/Tie Dye/Pottery/Screen Printing/General Crafts/FETAC IAS/NCVA
Eleanor Jones	Stain Glass/Batik
Martha Morrison	Fabric Craft
Leonie Keoghan	Leather Craft
Norette Kirby	Photography
Ann O Giosain	Typing/Word Processing Pitmans
Margaret Hannigan Murphy	Literacy/ESOL/University of Cambridge
Michael Roddy	Maths/Numeracy
Denise Ryan	Open Learning
Seán Twohig	Woodcraft/FETAC IAS/NCVA
Paula Egan	English, Examinations
Heather Darling	Tai Chi, Meditation

Dochas Centre, formerly known as "Mountjoy Women's Prison" is the main prison for women in Ireland. It was opened in the year 1999 to accommodate 80 women. At present it has a population of approximately 90 women.

The Education Centre runs a broad education programme which caters for remand, sentenced, juvenile and adult women. Students attend classes voluntarily, and can attend a wide range of academic and practical skills courses. Many are accredited by bodies such as FETAC (NCVA and FAS); Pitmans; Open University; Leaving and Junior Certificates etc.

# Fort Mitchel Spike Island - TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Cobh,  
Co. Cork

Head Teacher: Pam Lorenz

Telephone: (021) 437 8666 (Prison)

Email: edfort@oceanfree.net

Education Centre Telephone/Fax:  
(021) 437 8223 or 021 437 8225

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Martina Carroll	Drama
Veronica Hoen	Art/Photography/Ceramics
Bernie O'Reilly (Assistant Head Teacher)	English/History/Geography
Jerry O'Sullivan	Computers/Addiction Awareness
Fiona Crowe (Assistant Head Teacher)	Home Economics/Crafts/CSPE/Somerset Thinking Skills/NCVA Coordinator
Des O'Brien (Assistant Head Teacher)	Maths/Music
Denis Leahy	Creative Writing/Literacy/Pre-Release
Ger Gibbons	P. E./Health & Fitness Ed/Smoking Cessation
Philip Heinhold	Addiction Awareness/Woodcraft/Health Education/ Interpersonal Skills
John Clarke (Assistant Head Teacher)	Woodwork/Mechanical Drawing
To be filled	Art/Craft/Design
Donald Kelleher	Horticulture
Ciaran Lynch	Literacy/Anger Management
Mike Lyons	Literacy/Music/Communication Skills CSPE/Somerset Skills
Patsy Horgan	Anger Management/Pre-release/Health Ed.
Susan Dineen	Home Economics/Crafts/Parenting/Child Development
Martin O'Donoghue	Woodwork/Post Release

Fort Mitchel Spike Island caters mainly for male juvenile offenders with approximately 10% over the age of 21.

We aim to encourage all offenders to attend school for some part of the week for classes. We pay particular attention to basic literacy, drug and alcohol addiction education, and pre-release courses. We run a broad general education programme involving all the above subjects, and offer Junior Cert, Leaving Cert, Fetac/NCVA, ECDL and First Aid certification as appropriate.

#### POST RELEASE

We also offer Post-release support work (supported by Co. Cork VEC) to those in the Cork/Waterford area, a Post Release community employment scheme outside the prison offering woodwork skills, a physical education programme and work/training in Cork. We also offer a family support group.

# LIMERICK

Mulgrave Street,  
Limerick

Head Teacher: Camilla McGourty

Telephone/Fax: (061) 204720 (Main Office)

Email:

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Paula Rafferty	Art/Craft
Arthur Ellis	Tailoring
Tadgh Ferriter	Yoga
Tricia Mangan	P.E., Business Studies
Nick Gudge	Tai Chi/Business Studies
Jim Hanley	Music/Music Technology/Computer Education
Joe Hardiman (Assistant Head Teacher)	Computers/Woodcraft
J. J. Hegarty (Assistant Head Teacher)	Art/Craft/Multi Media
Eamonn Hehir (Deputy Head Teacher)	English/History/Literacy/Numeracy
Deirdre Ni Chinneide	Home Economics/Irish
Noel McCormack	P.E./Social Studies/Geography
Brian Mulcahy	Music/Music Technology
Anna Maria Murphy (Assistant Head Teacher)	Home Economics/Health Education/Literacy/Numeracy/ Parenting/Childcare/Pre Release
Breda Spaight	Literacy/Creative Writing
Michelle Ryan	Yoga/Languages (German/Spanish/French) TEFL/Literacy
Lorraine O'Flannagan	Drama/Creative Writing
Janet Fulop	Literacy/Numeracy/English/Women's Studies/Media Studies
Aine O'Halloran	Aerobics/PE
Emer Toomey	Art/Craft/Ceramics

Limerick Prison is a high security sentence and remand prison catering for approximately 220 prisoners including approximately 20 women prisoners.

The main focus of the education centre is adult basic education and promotion of core skills.

Complementing basic education are a range of programmes representing the following focus.

- Wide range of formally validated programmes such as Leaving Certificate, Junior Certificate, Trade Exams, Fetac, City & Guilds, Open University, etc.
- Personal Development courses
- Promotion of cross curricular integrated programmes
- Promotion of Liaison (networking) between all the agencies in "Prison Life"/Pre-Release/Drug Awareness Courses.

# Loughan House

Blacklion  
Co. Cavan

Head Teacher: Brenda McMullan

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Email: [brendamcmullan@eircom.net](mailto:brendamcmullan@eircom.net)

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Mary Cochrane (Assistant Head Teacher)	Home Economics/Health Education
Marie Finan (Assistant Head Teacher)	Art/Craft/Educational Guidance
Mandy Currans	Literacy/General Subjects
Thomas Doonan	Woodwork
Susan McGovern Fitzpatrick	Numeracy/Maths/Horticulture
Hugh McCabe	P.E./Hill Walking
Padraig Sheridan	Music
Conn Tinney	Computers/Open Learning Centre

Loughan House is an Open Centre with capacity for 85 men. Features of its programme include:

- ECDL
- Fetac (Foundation Level) +Level I
- Open University Support
- Open Learning Centre
- Pre and Post Release

This course is run four times per year in conjunction with the Linkages service to prisons, Probation and Welfare, and has inputs from FAS, Social Welfare, Health Board, Mabs etc. Practical training opportunities, e.g. Safepass, Forklift Training and First-Aid courses are also available to participants.

- **Community based activities**

- These include pre-booked guided tours to educational places of interest in three neighbouring counties, e.g. Cavan County Museum, Sligo Arts Centre and the Organic Farm, Leitrim, to name but a few.
- Day/Weekly release to local education centres, e.g. Fermanagh College and Manorhamilton Arts Centre, etc. where appropriate.

# Midlands Prison

Dublin Road,  
Portlaoise  
Co. Laois

*Most of the Curragh teachers are now based at the Midlands. (See the Curragh Prison above)*

Head Teacher: Seán Wynne

Telephone: (0502) 72171

Fax: (0502) 72174

Email: mided@eircom.net

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Claire Fahy	Pottery
Pierce Nolan (Assistant Head Teacher)	Materials Technology Metal/ Technical Drawing/Information Technology/Student Liaison
Breda Delaney	Home Economics/ Homecrafts/Parenting/Health Education/Consumer Education
Deirdre Dowling (Assistant Head Teacher)	Business Studies/Computers/ Accounting/Student Liaison
Linda Tynan (Deputy Head Teacher)	English/Literacy/Educational Guidance
Martin Keating	Science/Maths/Geography/ Horticulture
Monica Hyland (Assistant Head Teacher)	English/Literacy/Student Liaison
Kevin Sheehy	Materials Technology/Construction Studies/Pyrography
Miriam Conway	Home Economics/Home Crafts/Consumer Education/ Skills for Living/Health Education
Breda Sexton	Drama/Personal Development
Nicholas Cruz	Spanish/Yoga
Anita Hanahran	English/Literacy
Neville Thompson	Creative Writing/Drama
Mary Young	Music/Irish/Parenting/Open University Co-ordinator
Vera McHugh	Creative Writing/English/Literacy

Jennifer Duffy	Art
Ann Van Dorpe	French, E.S.O.L.
Irmgard Smith	German
Bairbre Sexton	Drama/Personal Development
Aoife Duffin	Sociology/History
Laura Dowling	Physical Education
Anita Higgins	Computers
Aidan Hogan	Materials Technology/Metal/ Technical Drawing/Maths
Catherine Casey	English, Literacy
Elaine Carry	Home Economics/Home Crafts/Consumer Education
Michelle Mullins	Multi-media

The Education Centre strives to provide a broad curriculum of a high quality and sufficient flexibility to meet the needs of learners.

All prisoners who express an interest in attending are invited to an informal but detailed interview to help build an education profile and to encourage the prospective student to commit to realistic goals and targets.

Students who wish are entered for examinations accredited by the following bodies:

Further Education and Training Awards Council (FETAC)  
 Department of Education and Science  
 Open University  
 Leinster School of Communication  
 The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music

# Mountjoy (Male)

North Circular Road,  
Dublin 7

Head Teacher: Ciarán Leonard

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(01) 830 1175

Email: [mjoyed@eircom.ie](mailto:mjoyed@eircom.ie)

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Larry Carolan	Music
Anne Costelloe (Assistant Head Teacher)	English/O.U./Geography/Medical Unit Supervisor
Cathy O'Flaherty (Assistant Head Teacher)	Guidance/Pre-Release/Addiction Support
Orla Brennan	Physical Education
Martin Fahy (Acting Assistant Head Teacher)	Computers/IT Development
Mary O'Reilly (Acting Deputy Head Teacher)	Home Economics
Margaret Hannigan	English/Literacy/FETAC
Geraldine Meehan	Business Studies/Maths
Monica Giblin	Literacy/Computers/FETAC
Padraic Gibbons	P. E./Maths
Josephine Rice	Home Economics/Pre Release/Health Ed/Stained Glass
Marie Breen	History/Maths/Numeracy
Cormac Behan	History/CSPE/Politics
John Brobbel	Art
Noelle O'Neill	Sociology/Study Skills/Fetac
Anne O'Giosain	Word Processing
Brian Kenealy	Music/English
Paula Egan	English/Creative Writing/Literacy/FETAC/History
Gearóid de Broitúin	Irish
Florence Abecassis	English/Literacy/French
Margaret Byrne	English/Drama
Zachary Sex	Art

Eleanor Jones	Art/Crafts
Ruth Jacob	Relaxation
Carol Betera	Art
Brendan Moore	Addiction Awareness

Mountjoy is in a period of transition. An ambitious development plan is in place. Currently there are 500 inmates in the prison, most of whom are over 21 years of age and the length of sentences vary from a few months to life imprisonment.

The Education Unit has been in formal existence since 1979 and today there are over 26 full-time and part-time teachers offering a wide choice of subjects. The curriculum ranges from Literacy and Basic Education to degree-level and students can opt for part-time or full-time courses. Many of these courses are accredited and students sit the usual state examinations if they so wish. The services of other accrediting agencies are used, these include: Open University, N.C.V.A., RIAM, Maynooth College, City and Guilds, Pitmans and RSA. In addition, some courses are accredited from within the CDVEC.

The Education Unit employs a liberal Adult Education model of education that is characterised by voluntary student participation, a broad curriculum, student autonomy in subject choice, student identification of their own needs and an emphasis on meeting the specific educational needs of all students. There are approximately 160 students enrolled at any one time.

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# Portlaoise

Dublin Road,  
Portlaoise  
Co. Laois

Head Teacher: Mark Kavanagh

Telephone: (0502) 20607

Fax: (0502) 20461

Email: eduport@eircom.net

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Gabi Gillessen	Yoga
Martina Boland	Sociology/Music
Barbara Carroll	Irish/History
Martin Cooney	Music
Jonathan Cummins	NCAD (National College of Art/Design)/Multi-media
Natasha Fischell	NCAD/Art
Sharon Grant	Music
Timmy Gleeson	Music
David Higgins (Deputy Supervising Teacher)	Tech Drawing/Maths/Engineering Theory/Pyrography
Pauline Hyland	Art, Signwriting, Cartooning, Ceramics
Maggie Duignan	NCAD/Art
Julie Shiels	NCAD/Ceramics
Stella Kemp	Yoga
Niall McElwaine	Business Studies/Computers
Jane Meally (Acting Assistant Head Teacher)	English/Creative Writing
Ellen O'Sullivan	English/OU Liaison
Orla Calt	Home Economics/Home Crafts
Jim Doolan	Art
Bredha Sexton	Drama/Personal Development
Irmgard Smith	German
Mary Kelly	English
Ann Van Dorpe	French
Jane Whelan	Maths/Numeracy/Geography/Pre-Release
Jim Yorke	Photography
Evelyn Dunne	Maths/Computers
Helena Kirwan (Assistant Head Teacher)	Computers/Business Studies
Brian Davis	Spanish

Shane Molloy  
Aidan McFall  
Eimear Bergin  
John Gleeson

Physical Education  
PE/Sports Injuries  
Business Studies  
Computers

Portlaoise is a high security prison in which the inmate population is divided into nine separate groupings:

- Covers the continuum from adult basic education right up to Open University degree level.
- Agencies involved include Laois VEC, N.C.A.D., Open University and the Arts Council.
- Examinations taken include Leaving Certificate, Junior Certificate, N.C.V.A. (Foundation, Levels 1 and 2), C.P.C, G.C.S.E. and A levels, Guild Hall London Speech and Drama examinations.

# Shelton Abbey

Arklow,  
Co. Wicklow

Head Teacher: Patsy Breen

Telephone: (0402) 32140

Fax: (0402) 91563

Email: [edshelton@eircom.net](mailto:edshelton@eircom.net)/[pbreenshelton@eircom.net](mailto:pbreenshelton@eircom.net)

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Patsy Breen	P.E., Health Ed, Pre-Release Group work
Gaye Enright	Literacy, General English, Geography, Health Ed and P.E.
Isabella O'Malley	Woodwork, Maths, Technical Drawing, CAD
Pearl Maher	Art, Crafts and Pre-Release Planning
Michael Wadden	Computer Studies
Paul Smith	Cookery
Marie Paule Tyrrell	French
Linda McGrane	Literacy/Food & Nutrition
Maurice McDonagh	Sculpture
Jerome Perrot	P.E./Health Related Fitness
Elizabeth O'Byrne	Life Skills/Group Work/Addiction Awareness
Pat Power	History

Shelton Abbey is an Open Prison with a very high turnover. As a result of this, the overall focus of the education programme is directed towards preparation for release. Specific courses in pre-release cover addiction awareness, personal development, life skills and preparation for work. N.C.V.A. Is currently being followed at foundation and level 1. O. U support is also available.

# St. Patrick's Institution

North Circular Road,  
Dublin 7

Head Teacher: Tom Duffy

Telephone: (01) 806 2939/(01) 806 2833

Fax: (01) 830 1175

Email:

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Deirdre Cunningham	Art/Craft
Eileen Burke	Crafts/Food and Nutrition/Home Economics
Eileen Dwyer	Geography/Basic Education/Pre-release course
Jim O'Rourke	English/Literacy/Communications
John Quinn	English/Literacy/History
Geraldine Meehan	Maths
Margaret Sweeney	English/Literacy/Pre-release course
Johnny Norris	Music
Orla O'Reilly	Literacy/History
Mary Clarke	French/Social Studies/Copping On
Paul Treacher	Maths/Numeracy.Crafts
Leonie Keoghan	Home Economics
Maria O'Gorman	History/Literacy
Zachary Sex	History

St. Patrick's Institution has 204 offenders aged from 16 to 21.

The main Education Unit has twelve classrooms, including Home Economics Room, Art Room and Computer Room.

We offer a variety of subjects up to Junior Cert and Leaving Cert standard and usually thirty or so sit for their Junior Cert in June.

A long and ever-expanding list of FETAC courses is on offer.

Literacy work, both as an end in itself and as an element of almost everything else we do, continues to demand a large amount of our time, perhaps as much as half.

Pre-release, Art, Home Economics, Crafts, Music and Pottery are offered and much appreciated.

Teachers also operate in the C base where a room is made available. On occasion, we reach out as far as the cells themselves.

# Training Unit

Glengarriff Parade,  
North Circular Road,  
Dublin 7

Head Teacher: Stephen O'Connor

Telephone: (01) 806 2943

Fax: (01) 806 2943

Email: [tunit@eircom.net](mailto:tunit@eircom.net)

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Bernie Masterson	Art
Gordon Carroll	Literacy/English/NCVA
Brian Kelly	Computers/Business Studies/Pre-release
Peter Gargan	Maths/History/Philosophy/Social Studies
Frank Allen	English/Basic Education/Creative Writing/ Drama/Public Speaking
Anne O'Giosain	Typing/Word Processing
Gerry Hendrick	Music/Guitar/Sound Recording
Mary Clarke	French/Parenting
Brigid McKeever	PE
Conor Rowley	Personal Development
Margaret Joyce	Pre-employment
Nick McEvoy	Addiction Studies
Annette Byrne	Literacy/Irish/Pre-release
Florence Abecassis	English/Literacy/French

The Training Unit is a pre-release prison situated in Glengarriff Parade, Dublin 7. In 1996 the 96 bed facility became the first drug free prison in the country. The unit contains an industrial training workshop and an education center staffed by City of Dublin VEC teachers. In the education center, the curriculum aims to cater for the diverse needs of the student population. Literacy classes are provided through one to one and group classes and students can progress to a number of certification options including FETAC, Junior and Leaving Certificate. In terms of preparation for the world of work, students can take courses in photography and a range of courses in information technology. In the case of the latter, the certification options include ECDL, Pitman and MOUS.

In addition to courses of a vocational nature, the education center also provides a number of courses which cater for the needs of students in respect of personal and life-skills development. Included in these are drama, public speaking, art, parenting, addiction studies, music and physical education.

Educational events are a feature of the provision. An Arts week is held every June and has as a focal point a visual arts exhibition. Health and Fitness Week is held twice a year and like Arts Week involves guests from the community who provide workshops and lectures on a variety of related topics. A public speaking competition is held with students for City of Dublin VEC colleges every year and provides another opportunity for students to integrate with the wider educational community. Music students produce music CDs, the songs of which are sometimes composed by the students themselves. In addition to these activities, the education centre organises, on an occasional basis, exhibitions of art and photography in community locations. The daytime CDVEC art provision is complemented by a course run by NCAD.

As a pre-release facility, strong links are fostered with relevant agencies and organizations. A pre-release team liaise with educational and training institutions as well as post - release centres such as the Pathways centre to ensure that students can progress post release. In this respect, strong links have also been established with the Educational Trust.

# Wheatfield

Wheatfield Prison  
Cloverhill Road  
Clondalkin, Dublin 22

Acting Head Teacher: Bonnie Magrath

Telephone: (01) 623 2737 (Head Teacher)  
(01) 623 5401 (Staff Room)

Fax: (01) 623 3506

Email: edwheat1@eircom.net

## Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Catriona Bale	Art
Cathy Boyle	Computers
Karen Cotter	Art/Potter
Colm Gallagher	Maths/Health Related Fitness/Biology/PE
Maeve Donnelly	First Aid/Health Related Fitness/ PE
Brenda Fitzpatrick	History/Computers/OU Co-ordinator
Helen Hunt	Literacy /English/Drama/Fetac Co-ordinator
Bonnie Magrath (Acting Head Teacher)	Literacy/Open Learning Centre
Margaret Joyce	Literacy/Pre-release
Gerard McElligot	Chess/Open Learning
Michelle Tyrell	Home Economics
Brendan Moore	Addiction Studies/Addiction Counselling
Jimmy O'Rourke	Literacy/Pre-release work
Alan Roberts	Group Skills/Philosophy/Irish
Laurena McCormack	Home Economics
Ann Tomany	Home Economics/Health Education
Catherine Byrne	Maths/Computers
Paul Byrne	Music
Jack Caesar	Literacy/Geography/Spanish
Mary Lennon	Literacy/English
Breda Doran	Literacy/English/Spanish/Open Learning
Paul Treacher	Woodwork/Photography
Sean Tuohig	Woodwork/Maths
Sonja Kryzanowski	Computers/Literacy/Open Learning
Brendan O'Hara	Horticulture, Maths, Science
Robert Robinson	Literacy, English, Computers, Career Guidance
Margaret Ryan	History/O.U. Coordination/Pre-Release Group
Brendan Tyrell	Music

Wheatfield Prison is a closed institution with 360 inmates.

## Co-ordinator of Education, Irish Prison Service

Kevin Warner  
Coordinator of Education  
Prison Education Service  
Block 5  
Belfield Office Park  
Beaver Row  
Dublin 4

Tel: (01) 461 6188

(Mob) (for messages): 087 253 9995

Fax: (01) 260 4967

E-mail: kmwarner@irishprisons.ie

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## CDVEC Organiser of Education City of Dublin, V.E.C.

Vincent Sammon  
CDVEC Organiser of Education  
Teachers Centre  
Mountjoy Prison  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

Tel: (01) 806 2920  
Fax: (01) 830 1175  
E-mail: prisoned@indigo.ie

Secretary:  
Denise Ryan  
Teachers Centre  
Mountjoy Prison  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

Tel: (01) 806 2833  
Fax: (01) 830 1175  
prisoned@indigo.ie

# In-service Support

In-service support takes two forms:-

A. External support where fees/part fees will be paid from the Prison Education In-service Budget for courses deemed relevant to the work of prison teachers, i.e. Third Level Study, seminars, conferences, skills training, professional development, etc.

B. Internal support falls under the remit of the in-service committee. The committee aims to respond to requests for in-service training from prison teachers by providing a diverse range of courses, workshops, subject meetings, etc. In the past, courses have ranged from induction for new teachers, to courses focusing on the particular demands of those working with juveniles, as well as those which focus on particular subject areas. Each year the committee produces a report which outlines the proposed courses which took place during the previous year. More information on any of the above can be found in this report, a copy of which is available in all units.

C. The current In-service Committee is as follows:

Anne Costelloe (Mountjoy)

Jimmy O'Rourke (Wheatfield/Arbour Hill)

Anna-Maria Murphy (Limerick)

Eamonn Parker (Curragh - currently based at The Midlands POD))

Kevin Warner (Co-ordinator of Education, IPS))

# Teacher Allocations for Prison Education 2004/2005

Unit	Whole-time Equivalents	
Cork	18.10	
Curragh	10.20	
Castlerea	14.52	
Fort Mitchel	14.04	
Loughan House	9.52	
Limerick	16.05	
Portlaoise	18.60	
Shelton Abbey	7.21	
Midlands	24.00	
 <b>Dublin City (76.98)</b>		
Arbour Hill	10.05	]
St. Patrick's Inst	10.05	]
Training Unit	7.5	]
Dochas Centre	7.0	]
Mountjoy (Male)	17.28	]76.98
Wheatfield	17.10	]
CDVEC Organiser of Education	1.0	]
Cloverhill	7.0	]
Overall Total:	<u>209.22</u>	

# Post Release Support Projects for Prisoners

## Pathways Project, Dublin

The Pathways Project was an EU funded project for prisoners and ex-prisoners which is now funded by the Department of Education through the City of Dublin, V.E.C. Its main aim is the social and educational reintegration for the client group.

The project was established in March 1996 for two years and had two main objectives:

1. To enhance and improve existing educational provision in prisons.
2. To provide socio-educational guidance and support mechanisms to ex-prisoners on release.

The first objective led to the organising of Open Learning Centres at Mountjoy and Wheatfield, developing materials in CD ROM format and developing Pre-release courses.

### Post-Release Centre

The second objective was the establishment of a Post-Release Centre in Granby Row, off Parnell Place, near the top of O'Connell Street, Dublin, which still continues. The aim is to help, support and advice ex-prisoners on matters concerning employment, training and educational courses, accommodation, social welfare, etc. They are also given support in terms of personal development, gaining confidence and heightening self-esteem as well as personal and vocational guidance counselling.

All participants who attend on a voluntary basis are given a timetabled programme of classes/activities to suit their needs and this forms part of their preparation for referral. Classes/activities may include; Post-Release sessions, personal development, English Creative Writing, Study Skills, Computers - Open learning sessions, Photography, Social Studies, French, History, Cookery, Art, Drama, Music, Video Production, Physical Education, T'ai Chi and Outdoor Pursuits.

### Staffing

#### a. Full-time Staff

Project Manager	Tom Lonergan
Administrative Secretary	Josephine Callaghan
Community Support Workers (ex prisoners)	Siobhan Brett, Rodney McCreery

#### b. Part-time Staff

Addiction Counsellor	Brendan Moore/Nick McEvoy
Vocational Guidance Counsellor	Finola Butler

Part-time teacher for specific classes/activities

Tel: (01) 872 6499

Fax: (01) 872 6194

E-mail: [pproject@indigo.ie](mailto:pproject@indigo.ie)

# Educational Trust

The Educational Trust is an independent body established to support ex-prisoners and their families who experience social exclusion as a direct or indirect result of imprisonment or other contact with the criminal justice system. The Educational Trust provides limited financial support for education to individual ex-offenders, and ex-prisoners and family members in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Financial support is available for further education on release (within 5 years of release or due for release within the next year) if no other source of finance is available. Grants can cover course fees and subsistence; or other costs such as travel, childcare and books that are unobtainable elsewhere. Capital costs or computer equipment are not covered.

The aims of the Educational Trust are to:

- Increase access of ex-prisoners, ex-offenders and immediate relatives to quality training and education
- To enable recipients to compete successfully for employment
- To enable recipients to channel skills, knowledge and experience back in to the community and workforce.

Those interested should apply on an official application form. Applications are assessed and final decisions will be made by the Trustees.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from the Assessor at:

Educational Trust  
PACE  
7 Upper Leeson Street  
Dublin 4

ROI Ph: (01) 668 1890

Fax: (01) 660 2864

Educational Trust  
C/o NIACRO  
169 Ormeou Road  
Belfast  
BT7 1SQ  
Northern Ireland

Ph: 0232320157 + 44 28 90 32 01 57

Fax: 0232234084 + 44 28 90 23 40 84

Email: [fiona@niacro.co.uk](mailto:fiona@niacro.co.uk)

## Expac

The Ex-Prisoners Assistance Committee (Expac) based in Monaghan Town is committed to helping former prisoners access training and education in order to help with their resettlement post release. Expac does not provide training or education in-house but has established a working relationship with other relevant agencies that do so and therefore offers advice and encouragement to those in the ex-prisoner community willing to avail of educational and /or training opportunities.

Expac also participates in the work of the Education Trust and has considerable experience in making referrals for course funding to that body. In the past, Expac has succeeded in obtaining financial assistance for courses as diverse as HGV licences and university degrees.

Expac is always happy to receive inquiries from ex-prisoners (and/or their families) about matters relating to education or training. Those interested in contacting the group should contact Eugene Byrne at:

Expac  
59 Glaslough Street  
Monaghan  
Tel: 047 72182  
Email: [Eugene@expac.ie](mailto:Eugene@expac.ie)

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## H.O.P.E. Voluntary Project, Cork

HOPE is a voluntary organisation begun in 1996, on the initiative of Fort Mitchel teachers, to support ex-offenders and their families. At the time, a number of concerned people saw the need to create a base where young people who were leaving prison with little opportunities or options could access advice and support, to help them reintegrate back into the community and find training and education possibilities.

Today the project has two strands: (1) A post release project which supports young ex-offenders with education and training, counselling and a community employment scheme. The CE scheme offers woodwork skills and training, work experience and preparation for work courses, as well as a physical education programme in the community. (2) A parent support group. This group meets one evening a week to support each other but also provides education and life skills programmes, as well as occasional activity based weekends away.

This project is supported by Co. Cork VEC, FAS, The Prison Education Service and the Department of Community Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs.

For further information contact HOPE Project 087 617 6187

# Pace

## WHO WE ARE

PACE is a voluntary organisation for the care and education of offenders, founded in 1969 by a group of people who were concerned about the difficulties faced by those leaving prison. PACE believes the need for its organisation is as great, if not greater today, than it was then.

There are two main aspects to the work of the organisation.

PACE runs a hostel at Priorswood House where those coming out of prison are helped to adjust back to a normal life.

PACE runs a training workshop at Santry, where various skills can be acquired which increase the possibility of finding work. The work of these two operations is co-ordinated at the PACE Head Officer in Upper Leeson Street.

PACE is funded by the Probation and Welfare Service of the Department of Justice, FAS and by the various fund-raising activities of the organisation itself.

PACE is funded by the Probation and Welfare Service of the Department of Justice, FAS and by the various fund raising activities of the organisation itself.

PACE is conscious of the importance of research in providing objective factually based guidance for its policy and decision making. It is also conscious of the importance of having good links with other voluntary organisations both at home and in Europe; PACE undertake and co-operate in projects that meet these ends.

## THE WORKSHOP

The Workshop had its origins in one of the outbuildings at Priorswood House. It has since developed into a much bigger operation, moving to premises in an industrial unit at Santry in 1984. The range of courses now offered has been greatly expanded with the co-operation of FAS and CDVEC, in response to the changing needs of the trainees.

Courses are offered in woodwork, metalwork, computer skills, literacy, numeracy, life & social skills, home maintenance and arts & crafts.

The workshop caters for 24 trainees, and has four full time staff, assisted by teacher provided by CDVEC

Irene O'Reilly, Manager

Lisa Cuthbert  
Director  
Head Office  
7 Upper Leeson Street  
Dublin 4  
Dublin 9

Workshop  
Unit A3  
Santry Hall Industrial Estate  
Swords Road  
Santry

(01) 660 2870

(01) 842 8151/842 7997

## Dillon's Cross Project, Cork

The Dillon's Cross Project is a pre and post release course available to prisoners and their families. Prisoners attend courses pre-release in the Education Unit of Cork Prison and their families attend courses in the Mayfield/Blackpool area.

The project is funded through the "Back to Education Initiative" of the Department of Education and Science, Cork City Partnership and Cork Drugs Task Force, and FAS which, through the establishment of "ring fenced", Special Category Community Employment Schemes enables progression from Adult Community Education, the further training.

The Dillon's Cross Project was cited as a model of good practice in relation to prisoner and ex-prisoner education, in the most recent White Paper on Adult Education.

Eibhlin Davitt  
Jane Farran  
Noel McCarthy

Childcare/Communication  
Childcare/Work Preparation  
Counselling

(The Dillon's Cross Project caters for the female relatives of prisoners and for ex-prisoners).

### Post Release Services Co-ordinator

Frances Russell (021 451 8814)

The post release project is an Adult Education Project which facilitates the education of prisoners and ex-prisoners from the Cork area, for re-settlement in the community. It is attached to the Dillon's Cross Project, is administered by the City of Cork V.E.C., and is managed by Cork Prison Education Service. The project aims to fill a gap in service provision in the area of post-release adult education, training and resettlement for ex-prisoners. The Co-ordinator arranges visits or meetings with the following services: Homeless Services, Further Education, Special Category C.E. Schemes, Health Services, Community Welfare Services, FAS, Local Employment Services, Cork Simon Community, Cork Alliance for Sexual Health, Citizens Advice Bureau. The Safe Pass for Building Sites course is now available for prisoners whose release dates are imminent.

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## VTOS

### Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme (VTOS)

The Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme (VTOS) is a European Social Fund supported intervention in the Irish labour market to enable, as a priority group, unemployed people who have been on the Live Register for at least six months to access education and training with a view to progression to employment. Ten per cent of places may be allocated under certain conditions to a wider category of unwaged people including lone parents and people in receipt of Disabled Persons' Maintenance Allowance who are seeking employment. In all cases, the minimum age for participation in VTOS is 21 years.

VTOS can offer Post-release opportunities for students of the various education units across the prison service. For more information on VTOS and the courses they offer you can log on to <http://www.iol.ie/~hkvotos/list.html>.

# Prison Education Council

Kevin Warner  
Co-ordinator of Education  
Irish Prison Service  
Block 5  
Belfield Office Park  
Beaver Row  
Dublin 4

Camilla McGourty  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Limerick Prison  
Mulgrave Street  
Limerick

Stephen O'Connor  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Training Unit  
Glengarriff Parade  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

Peter Doyle  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Curragh Prison  
(Closed April 05).  
now at Midlands Prison

Marcie Barron  
Head Teacher  
Women's Education Centre  
Dochas Centre  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

Vincent Sammon  
Organiser of Education  
Mountjoy prison  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

Pam Lorenz  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Forth Mitchel  
Spike Island  
(Closed April 05)

Ray Mulholland  
Head Teacher  
Shanganagh Castle  
(closed December 02)

Sean Wynne  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Midlands Prison  
Portlaoise  
Laois

Ciaran Leonard  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Mountjoy Prison  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

Una Lyes  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Arbour Hill Prison  
Arbour Hill  
Dublin 7

Colm O'Herlihy  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Cork Prison  
Rathmore Road  
Cork

Brenda McMullan  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Loughan House  
Blacklion  
Co. Cavan

Tom Duffy  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
St. Patrick's Institution  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

Bonnie Magrath  
Acting Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Wheatfield Place of Detention  
Clondalkin  
Dublin 22

Patsy Breen  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Shelton Abbey  
Arklow  
Co. Wicklow

Evelyn Conway  
Senior Librarian  
Library Office  
Mountjoy Prison  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

Diana Purcell  
O. U. Liaison  
Killyon House  
Hill of Down  
Co. Meath

Anne Costelloe  
In-service Committee Rep.  
Education Unit  
Mountjoy Prison  
North Circular Rd,  
Dublin 7

Riona Finn  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Castlerea Place of Detention  
Castlerea  
Co. Roscommon

Gerry Maher  
County Librarian  
Laois County Library  
Aras an Chontae  
John Fintan Lawlor Avenue  
Portlaoise  
Co. Laois

Mark Kavanagh  
Head Teacher  
Education Unit  
Portlaoise Prison  
Portlaoise  
Co. Laois

Joan O'Shea  
Head Teacher  
St Patrick's Special Unit  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

# Irish Prison Education Association

The Irish Prison Education Association was established in November 2004. It is a branch of the European Prison Education Association (EPEA) and hopes to establish itself as the professional body representing Irish prison educators.

At the inaugural conference, a constitution was agreed and officers elected. Dr. Ted Fleming, Acting Head of the Department of Adult and Community Education in NUI, Maynooth addressed the members on the topic of *Prison and Civil Society: A Dialogue with Educators*.

The aims of the association are:

- To act as a recognised branch of the European Prison Education Association (EPEA)
- To promote education in prison according to the Recommendations No. R (89) 12 of the Committee of Ministers to the members states of the Council of Europe (1990)
- To promote education in Irish prisons as set out in the *Strategy Statement of the Prison Education Service 2003-2007*
- To support and assist the professional development of persons involved in education in prison
- To act as an advocate on behalf of educators in Irish prisons
- To support penal reform.

Full membership is open to individuals involved in the field of prison education in Ireland. Associate membership is open to others. All full members of the IPEA will automatically be members of the EPEA.

The following were elected as Officers of the Association at the inaugural conference:

Chairperson and EPEA Liaison Person: Cormac Behan

Secretary: Paula Egan

Treasurer: Marie Breen

EPEA Liaison Person: Zachary Sex

It was agreed that any member of the EPEA Steering Committee would also sit as a member of the IPEA Executive Committee. Accordingly, Anne Costelloe is also a member of the IPEA Executive.

We are planning to have our next AGM in the Autumn. It will be open to all members and we would encourage all those involved in prison education to join and get involved in the organisation.

Further details and an application form can be had from Paula Egan at Mountjoy Education Centre. The IPEA can also be contacted via email at [ipea99@eircom.net](mailto:ipea99@eircom.net). You can keep up to date with the activities of both the EPEA and the IPEA at [www.epea.org/ipea](http://www.epea.org/ipea).

# The Open University

The main channel for the provision of Third Level Education in Irish prisons is the Open University. Since 1985, OU degree level courses have been followed in 12 penal institutions and the range of courses has widened so that by 2003, a whole range of courses were being followed by up to 80 prisoners. The attractions of the Open University to the prison education service can be summarised as follows:

- A wide range of courses (see sample list below)
- A strong emphasis on student support and guidance
- Lack of formal entry requirements
- Courses can be continued after release or transferral

Most courses run from February to October, however, new presentation dates are being introduced. Application forms must be submitted to Diana Purcell (see p.33) in early summer. Further details regarding applications and the interview process can be found on the Course Reservation Forms available in all Education Unit.

## Useful details:

### Regional Centre:

The Open University in Ireland  
40 University Road  
Belfast  
BT7 1SU

Tel: 04890245025

Fax: 04890230565

E-mail: ireland@open.ac.uk

### Dublin Enquiry and Advice Centre:

The Open University in Ireland  
Holbrook House  
Hollis Street  
Dublin 2

Tel: (01) 678 5399

Fax: (01) 678 5422

A sample of Open University Courses studies in prisons:

Course Code	Name of Course
A103	Introduction to Humanities
A206	The Enlightenment
A210	Approaching Literature
A213	World Religions
A216	Art and its Histories
A220	France, British Isles 1620 - 1714
A297	Reading Classical Latin
AA302	Musicians at Work
B200	Understanding Business Behaviour
D215	Shape of the World. Human Geography
D216	Economics, Changing Economies
D218	Social Welfare, Power, Diversity
D315	Crime, Order & Social Control
D317	Social Psychology
D820	Philosophy of the Social Sciences
DD100	Introduction to Social Science
DD201	Sociology & Society
DSE212	Exploring Psychology
ED209	Child Development
K100	Understanding Health & Social Care
K260	Understanding Death and Dying
L130	Get Ahead in German
L140	Fresh Start in Spanish
M203	Introduction to Pure Mathematics
M206	Fundamental of Computing
M337	Complex analysis
M358	Relational databases
M381	Number theory, mathematical logic
M458	Database Computer Project
MA290	Topics in the History of Mathematics
MST121	Using Mathematics
MT262	Putting Computer Systems to Work
MU120	Open Mathematics
S103	Discovering Science
S204	Biology
S205	The Molecular World
S260	Geology
S280	Science Matters
T172	Working with our Environment
T173	Engineering the Future
T223	Microprocessor based computers
T305	Digital Communications
U206	The Environment
U213	International Development

# Vocational Education Committees

## Involved in Prison Education

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Keadue  
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Naas  
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Roscommon

(0903) 26151

Hugh O'Brien  
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Co. Wicklow V.E.C.  
Wicklow  
Co. Wicklow

Ph: (0404) 20460

IVEA: Michael Moriarty  
General Secretary  
McCann House  
99 Moorhampton Road  
Donnybrook  
Dublin 4

(01) 496 6033

# Library Services to Prisons

Library Services are a key element of the Prison Education Service. Nearly every prison now has a library, operated on a teamwork basis, by library officers and librarians from the public library service in the community. Libraries in prison aim to provide a level of service that is on a par with that of libraries in the community, including, in several of the more modern libraries, the provision of computerised self-learning facilities.

In several prisons, specially designed modern libraries are now operating, and more are planned in some of the new and renovated prisons. Elsewhere, facilities are more improvised, but there has generally (at least until recently) been steady progress towards regular opening hours and professional-level membership, issuing and request samples. Many prison libraries also organise exhibitions, lectures and other activities.

At Wheatfield the library service also manage an Index Unit where offenders are trained to input information from old school registers. The finished product, a hard copy printout of the names listed in the registers in alphabetical order, is presented to the school involved. Dublin Corporation Public Libraries and the National Archives are also presented with a copy of the information on disc.

Professional leadership for libraries in prison is provided by the public libraries services from the community in different ways throughout the country. The most significant involvement is from Dublin Public Library Services, who assign three full-time librarians to the prison libraries in Dublin, Portlaoise and The Curragh. Laois County Library oversee and advise on the service to the Midlands Prison in Portlaoise. Elsewhere City or County librarians, or another librarian from library headquarters, oversee and advise on the service to prisons. In Loughan House, Co. Cavan Library Service assign a part-time library assistant to run the prison library, and this arrangement is planned for some of the other small prisons throughout the country.

Dublin Area, Portlaoise & Curragh

Evelyn Conway & Betty Codd  
Senior Librarian & Assistant Librarian  
Library Office  
Mountjoy Prison  
North Circular Road  
Dublin 7

Ph: (01) 806 2837  
e-mail: library.office@eircom.net  
or exconway@irishprisons.ie

Una Gomez  
Assistant Librarian  
Wheatfield Place of Detention  
Cloverhill Road  
Dublin 22

Ph: (Direct) (01) 620 9406/  
620 9400, ext 307

Co. Wicklow

Brendan Martin  
County Librarian  
Wicklow County Library  
Boghall Road  
Bray  
Co. Wicklow

(01) 286 6566

E-mail: library@wicklowcoco.ie

Co. Roscommon

Richie Farrell  
County Librarian  
Roscommon County Library  
Abbey Street  
Co. Roscommon

(090) 662 6100

Cork City

Eamonn Kirwan  
Librarian  
Cork City Public Libraries  
Grand Parade  
Cork

Ph: (021) 492 4900

Laois

Gerry Maher  
County Librarian  
Laois County Library  
Aras an Chontae  
John Fintan Lawlor Avenue  
Portlaoise  
Co. Laois

(0502) 64000

Co. Cavan

Patsy McGrory  
Library Assistant  
Loughan House  
Blacklion  
Co. Cavan

Limerick City

Dolores Doyle  
City Librarian  
Limerick City Library  
The Granary  
Michael Street  
Limerick  
(061) 407501

# Art Development

Art development in the prison education service is concerned with enhancement and support art learning and teaching. This made possible through a number of facilities.

## 1. The Artists in Prisons Scheme

An initiative to revitalise this scheme has resulted in an expanded panel of artists who work in a wide variety of media. In recent years there has been a marked increase in the use of the scheme by art teachers throughout the country. This has led to an increase in funding by the Arts Council, facilitating a rise in the base fee per project, but also allowing for more projects to be run this year. The funding by the Arts Council is matched by the Department of Justice.

## 2. Exhibitions

On three occasions in the past, Kilmainham Gaol has been a venue for exhibitions of Art by people in prison and the gaol has become a pivotal venue showing art that is made in a prison environment. The Curator has also made the gaol facilities available to the Art Teachers for use as a meeting venue.

Kilmainham, with its permanent exhibition of Irish Penal history, has a large throughput of both Irish and foreign visitors, who get a chance to see work made by people in Irish Prisons. A major national exhibition of art from Irish Prisons opened in Kilmainham in March 2005, before going on to the Sirius Arts centre in Cobh later that month, and finally to the Kerry Literary and Cultural Centre, Listowel for the month of June.

## 3. Conferences and In-service

In conjunction with the Prison Education In-service Committee, Art teachers gather frequently to formulate and exchange ideas, and to plan projects such as exhibitions.

Visual Arts Development Worker:      **Veronica Hoen**

Tel      **021 4821619**

Mob.    **087 9687929**

Email   **veronica\_hoen@eircom.net**

# P. E. Development

Domhnall Mac Mathúna - National Advisor on Physical Education and Sport

Domhnall advises on curriculum development and the implementation and organisation of programmes. He also acts as advisor to the IPS on the selection and allocation of equipment for Physical Education Programmes nation-wide.

He is secretary of the Physical Education Development Group, who are responsible for the formulation of reports, guidelines and recommendations on planning, implementing and evaluating aspects of Physical Education, Physical Recreation and Sport within prisons. The PEDG has recently produced a *Handbook of Best Practice* for PE in prisons.

PEDG - Arbour Hill Prison, Dublin 7

Tel/fax - (01) 670 3557

E-mail: pedg@eircom.net

## P. E. Development Group

Kevin Warner	Co-ordinator of Education (Chairperson)
Domhnall Mac Mathúna	Arbour Hill (Secretary)
TJ Walsh	(Governor, Portlaoise Prison)
Joe McDermott	(Governor of Training, Beladd House, Portlaoise)
Teresa Richardson	(PE Department, IT Tralee)
Dr. Ann Hope	(U.C.G.)
John Shelly	Principal Officer, Irish Prison Service
Ned Whelan	Governor, Wheatfield Prison

# Writers in Prison Scheme

This scheme enables teachers to invite published writers into their units. The writer might perform a reading of his/her work, hold a workshop or engage in drama work.

The names of writers qualified to enter the prisons under this scheme are published in The Directory, a copy of which is available in each Education Unit. Further copies can be obtained from Poetry Ireland, 120 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2 (Ph: 01 478 9974)

The Writers in Prison Scheme is **co-funded by the IPS and the Arts Council**. The Arts Council insists that for visiting writers to qualify they must be either:

- (a) Listed in The Directory, or
- (b) Be published by an established publisher

If you want to invite a writer in to your unit:

Check the writer's willingness/availability to visit. It might be worth mentioning to him/her that you have to seek permission from the Arts Council. This is not usually a problem if the writer fits into the above categories. Apply to the co-ordinator (name and address below) of the scheme, who will then relay your request to the Arts Council. When feedback has been received, the co-ordinator will inform the teacher in question and the visit can go ahead. The teacher or write then fills in a payment claim form (contact Bernadette Butler), which should be forwarded to the Arts Council (name and address below). A brief report (a paragraph) of visit should be sent to the co-ordinator.

In April 2000, the first Prison Literary Week took place, involving sixteen writers visiting five separate prisons. Due to the success of this venture, the Prison Literary Week is now an annual event.

The present co-ordinator of this scheme is:

**Bernadette Butler**  
Education Unit  
Castlerea Prison  
Co. Roscommon

Ph: (094 96) 25290

Fax: (094 96) 25401

Payment claim forms should be returned to:

**Writers in Prisons**  
The Arts Council  
70 Merrion Square  
Dublin 2

Ph: (01) 661 1840

# Public Library Services

## Involved in Prison Education

Deirdre Ellis King  
Chief Librarian  
Dublin City Public Libraries  
Library Headquarters  
138-144 Pearse Street  
Dublin 2

(01) 671 4800

Josephine Brady  
County Librarian  
Co. Cavan Library Service  
Farnham Street  
Cavan  
Co. Cavan

(049) 31799

[Library@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:Library@laoiscoco.ie)

Gerry Maher  
Chief Librarian  
Laois County Library  
Aras an Chontae  
John Fintan Lawlor Avenue  
Portlaoise  
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(0502) 72340

Liam Ronayne  
City Librarian  
Cork City Library Service  
Grand Parade  
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E-mail: [citylibrary@corkcity.ie](mailto:citylibrary@corkcity.ie)

Ruth Flanagan  
County Librarian  
County Cork Library Service  
County Hall  
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(021) 546499

Richie Farrell  
County Librarian  
County Roscommon Library Services  
Roscommon  
Co. Roscommon

(0903) 26100

Dolores Doyle  
City Librarian  
City of Limerick Library Service  
The Granary  
Michael Street  
Limerick

(061) 314668

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## NCAD AND ARTS COUNCIL

National College of Art and Design  
100 Thomas Street  
Dublin 8

(01) 671 1377

Professor Brian Maguire, Head of Fine Art

The Arts Council  
70 Merrion Square  
Dublin 2

(01) 661 1840

# Strategy Statement on Prison Education for 2003 to 2007

## Introduction

Policy documents, strategy statements, business plans and so forth are prominent in all quarters nowadays. This kind of taking stock, collectively asking and answering questions like "What's our purpose?", "What do we want to achieve?". "How do we get there?", was far less common over twenty years ago when we made our first venture into this area. From 1981, meetings took place in every Prison Education Unit in the country, out of which a paper was drafted, circulated, redrafted several times and finally issued by the Department of Justice as 'Policy Document on Prison Education' (1984). It was something of a novel event at that time.

The participation of prison educators themselves in that process was crucial. It meant the document spoke from the very experience of teaching and learning within the prison context. I believe it helped give us all a sense of direction in our work. As time went on, the ideas set down in the early 80's were developed and refined. In 1990, the Council of Europe published 'Education in prison', a Recommendation and report, that complemented what we were seeking to do in Ireland.

The next milestone was the Department of Justice's 'The Management of Offenders', which appeared in 1994. The chapter on prison education in that built on the policy document of ten years earlier, yet still reflected the 'adult education' philosophy of the original, which was (and is) very much the consensus approach within prison education. We then entered the era of the 'business plan' in the public sector generally, but those formulated for prison education remained true to earlier values, while also facing up to new challenges and experiences. The most recent of these documents was 'Strategy Statement, 1999-2001 (updated in February 2000).

We have taken time and care with the Strategy Statement now produced here for 2003 to 2006. Again, there has been detailed consultation within prison education, but also beyond it - within the wider Irish Prison Service, with education authorities and with the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, which retains responsibility for policy. The feedback from all of these was greatly appreciated, and, I think, is fairly reflected in the document now issued. I hope this Strategy Statement will help give encouragement, direction and stiff challenges to all who work in prison education. I also expect that, along with a very detailed review of the curriculum just now being completed by the Prison Education Service, it will give those beyond our service a fuller sense of what we are trying to do.

Finally, I want to thank the committee which worked with me on the formulation of this strategy Statement, who are listed below. In particular, I want to express my appreciation for Camilla McGourty, who chaired the committee, and Anne Costelloe, who acted as secretary and main author.

The Prison Education Service is a partnership between the Irish Prison Service and a range of educational bodies. The Prison Education Service works, in particular, in conjunction with the Regimes Directorate of the Irish Prison Service. The Vocational Educational Committees (VECs), the Department of Education and Science and the Public Library Services are the major contributors to this partnership. Also involved are the Open University, the Arts Council, the National College of Art and Design (NCAD) and many other public and community groups.

Prison education has expanded and developed in recent decades. The Prison Education Service plays an integral role in all prisons<sup>1</sup> and the majority of those in custody participate in educational activities on a voluntary basis. Underpinning this is the professional expertise of prison educators together with the design and delivery of a curriculum that is relevant to the needs of those in custody.

The Prison Education Service has developed within a framework based on the principles and ideas advocated in the Council of Europe Recommendation (89) 12 and its accompanying report, *Education in Prisons (Strasbourg 1990)*<sup>2</sup>. The aim and objectives of the Prison Education Service, as outlined in the Management of Offenders (1994), can be summarised as follows:

#### AIMS

To provide a high quality, broad and flexible programme of education that meets the needs of those in custody through helping them:

- Cope with their sentence
- Achieve personal development
- Prepare for life after release
- Establish the appetite and capacity for lifelong learning

*Prison Education will continue to:*

- Design and deliver relevant programme that cater for the needs of the whole person.
  - Widen access and increase participation in education.
  - Ensure that those with basic education needs are prioritised.
  - Adapt programmes to take into account the diversity of the student body, their views and the complex nature of prison life.
  - Facilitate ongoing curriculum and staff development.
  - Promote the principles of adult and community education.
  - Extend library services and upgrade provision in line with best practice in the community.
  - Prepare those in custody for reintegration into the community.
  - Advance interaction between those in custody and the wider community.
  - Foster co-operation and promote best practice among those working in prison education.
- 
- Support a multidisciplinary and partnership approach within the prison system to promote positive sentence management for all those in custody.

#### RESOURCES

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<sup>1</sup> No Education Centre has been provided at Cloverhill Prison but plans are underway to rectify this.

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix 1.

*The achievement of these goals is dependent on the following:*

- Provision of appropriate education facilities in all prisons and places of detention as well as full consultation in the planning and design of new ones.
- The necessary allocation of teaching posts by the Department of Education and Science to the VEC's.
- The appropriate funding of libraries and librarians by the Irish prison Service.
- The appropriate funding of educational fees, equipment and materials by the Irish prison Service.
- The backing of developmental, support and liaison structures (e.g. In-service support, Prison Education Council, Physical Education Development Group) by the Irish prison Service and education bodies.
- The involvement of prison officers (e.g. School officers, library officers, gym instructors) in the provision of education.

## **FOCUS AREAS**

*The following developments and strategies will be prioritised over the next three years.*

Increase participation in education among those in custody from the present rate of 50% to 55% by the end of 2006.

Facilitate each Education Centre in the production of an annual plan. These plans will be developed locally by the teaching staff in consultation with relevant agencies and will complement the Business Plan for that prison. Each plan will be agreed with the Education Centre's VEC, prison Governor and the Co-ordinator of Education. This development will be in place by the end of 2005.

Continue the development of an individual learning plan for each student by the end of 2005. These plans will be developed by the student in consultation with teaching staff and will involve ongoing evaluation, monitoring and review.

Publish the Curriculum Review Group Report during 2003 and promote this report as a guide to good practice.

Publish the Guidelines for Adult Literacy Work in Prisons by the end of 2003 and encourage the application of its recommendations and conclusions. Evaluate and disseminate the findings of the Prison Adult Literacy Survey (PALS) (i.e., the commissioned research into literacy levels among those in custody) by the end of 2003. Derive plans for developing literacy provision in light of the research findings by 2004.

Implement recommendations of Physical Education Development Group as outlined in its publication; 'Physical Education in the Irish Prison System: The Challenges Ahead' (2001) by the end of 2004.

Strengthen and develop the well-established pre and post release programmes available through the Education Centres in order to prepare those in custody for release and support their transition to educational and other constructive endeavours after release.

Promote and develop other well-established programmes on offer in Education Centres, such as Addiction Studies, Health Education, Family Matters, Group Skills, etc.

Optimise the availability of new forms and sources of accreditation (e.g., FETAC) for those who opt for accreditation. Similarly, maximise involvement in higher education through increased participation in distance education, extra mural courses, access courses and so on.

Implement new structures for prison libraries agreed between the Irish Prison Service and City and County Librarians in November 2000, and meet the consequent need for further training and development of prison staff involved in libraries.

Establish a national research and resource centre for prison educators (Prison Education Resource Centre, PERC) by the end of 2005. This will function as a focal point for curriculum and professional development. It aims to:

- Act as a repository for materials, resources, audio-visual aids, etc., relevant to those working in prison education,
- Support and encourage research into Prison Education through providing a comprehensive library and catalogue of research articles, journals, policy documents, etc.
- Inform, update and contact interested parties as to developments, events, and activities, relevant to Prison Education through a user-friendly web site and email service.

Continue to participate fully in the range of multidisciplinary committees, working groups and other initiatives within the Irish Prison Service, and especially the Regimes Directorate, that are geared towards the improvement of prison regimes in line with Rule 64 and 65 of the European Prison Rules<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>3</sup> See Appendix 2.

RECOMMENDATION No. R(89)12  
OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS TO MEMBER STATES  
ON EDUCATION IN PRISON

(adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 13 October 1989 at the 429th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.b of the Statute of the Council of Europe -

- Considering that the right to education is fundamental;
  - Considering the importance of education in the development of the individual and the community;
  - Realising in particular that a high proportion of prisoners have had very little successful educational experience, and therefore now have many educational needs;
  - Considering that education in prison helps to humanise prisons and to improve the conditions of detention;
  - Considering that education in prison is an important way of facilitating the return of the prisoner to the community;
  - Recognising that in the practical application of certain rights or measures, in accordance with the following recommendations, distinctions may be justified between convicted prisoners and prisoners remanded in custody;
  - Having regard to Recommendation No. R(87)3 on the European Prison Rules and Recommendation No. R(81)17 on Adult Education Policy,
- recommends the governments of member States to implement policies which recognise the following:
1. All prisoners shall have access to education, which is envisaged as consisting of classroom subjects, vocational education, creative and cultural activities, physical education and sports, social education and library facilities;
  2. Education for prisoners should be like the education provided for similar age groups in the outside world, and the range of learning opportunities for prisoners should be as wide as possible;
  3. Education in prison shall aim to develop the whole person bearing in mind his or her social, economic and cultural context;
  4. All those involved in the administration of the prison system and the management of prisons should facilitate and support education as much as possible;
  5. Education should have no less a status than work within the prison regime and prisoners should not lose out financially or otherwise by taking part in education;
  6. Every effort should be made to encourage the prisoner to participate actively in all aspects of education;
  7. Development programmes should be provided to ensure that prison educators adopt appropriate adult education methods;
  8. Special attention should be given to those prisoners with particular difficulties and especially those with reading or writing problems;
  9. Vocational education should aim at the wider development of the individual, as well as being sensitive to trends in the labour market;
  10. Prisoners should have direct access to a well-stocked library at least once per week;
  11. Physical education and sports for prisoners should be emphasised and encouraged;
  12. Creative and cultural activities should be given a significant role because these activities have particular potential to enable prisoners to develop and express themselves;
  13. Social education should include practical elements that enable the prisoner to manage daily life within the prison, with a view to facilitating the return to society;
  14. Wherever possible, prisoners should be allowed to participate in education outside prison;
  15. Where education has to take place within the prison, the outside community should be involved as fully as possible;
  16. Measures should be taken to enable prisoners to continue their education after release;
  17. The funds, equipment and teaching staff needed to enable prisoners to receive appropriate education should be made available.

## APPENDIX 2

### 64 and 65 of the European Prison Rules

64. Imprisonment is by the deprivation of liberty a punishment in itself. The conditions of imprisonment and the prison regime shall not, therefore, except as incidental to justifiable segregation or the maintenance of discipline, aggravate the suffering inherent in this.
65. Every effort shall be made to ensure that the regimes of the institutions are designed and managed so as:
- a. to ensure that the conditions of life are compatible with human dignity and acceptable standards in the community;
  - b. to minimise the detrimental effects of imprisonment and the differences between prison life and life at liberty which tend to diminish the self-respect or sense of personal responsibility of prisoners;
  - c. to sustain and strengthen those links with relatives and the outside community that will promote the best interests of prisoners and their families;
  - d. to provide opportunities for prisoners to develop skills and aptitudes that will improve their prospects for successful resettlement after release.

## Information for New Teachers

### Local Briefing - Checklist

The following is a checklist of matters it is felt teachers new to prison education should normally be given information about at an early stage. This list has been given to Governors and Senior Teachers as well as new teachers. All teachers new to the Prison Service are encouraged to ask for information on the items listed below, or on any other matters that concern them. The In-service Committee would like to be kept informed as to how helpful this list and this process is, and of any particular problems that arise in relation to it. (Please note: Not every item is applicable to every prison to the same extent).

#### *New teachers should -*

- 1) Be briefed by the Senior Teacher (and, where necessary, by a Chief or Governor) on the general "do's and don'ts" of working in their particular prison.
- 2) Meet the Governor(s) and Chief Officer(s)
- 3) Be shown the main areas of the prison (workshops, visiting facilities, living and recreational areas, etc.)
- 4) Meet the Probation and Welfare Officer(s) and (where applicable) other specialised staff who work in the prison, e.g. Librarians, psychologists, doctors, chaplains.
- 5) Visit the Library.
- 6) Be shown all Education rooms and facilities, meet all fellow teachers and meet school officer(s) (where applicable).
- 7) Sit in on another class, classes.
- 8) Inform yourself (most likely through the Head Teacher and/or Health Education Teacher) of the various health screening and inoculation services which are available free of charge to all prison teachers and of any health risks which may apply in the location you work in.
- 9) Read the Strategy Statement for the Prison Education Service in this *Directory of Prison Education* and in all Education Units.

# Readings on Prison Education in Ireland

1. *Strategy Statement for the Prison Education Service, 2003-2007*
2. *Directory of Prison Education, 2004 (In-service Committee)*
3. *Prison Education In-Service Committee Report, September 1997 to June 2001*
4. Mark Morgan and Mary Kett, *The Prison Adult Literacy Survey: Results and Implications* (October 2002)
5. *Guidelines for Quality Literacy Work in prisons* (Prison Education Service, 2002)
6. *Physical Education in the Irish prison System: The Challenges Ahead* (Physical Education Development Group, 2000)
7. *Suggestions for Effective Ways of Teaching Health Education within the Prison Context* (Prison Education Service Health Education Committee, 2000)
8. *A Report on Pre- and Post-Release Initiatives (In-Service Committee, 2000)*
9. *EPEA (European Prison Education Association), Newsletter No. 22, Winter 2002 (Special Irish Issue)*
10. *Another Place: An Anthology of Prison Writing*, edited by Jane Meally and Bernadette Butler (Prison Education Service, 2001)

## Published Articles:

11. Catherine Coakley, '*Creativity in Prisons*', in *The Yearbook of Correctional Education 1990* (Correctional Education Association, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada)
12. Kevin Warner, '*Penal Policy and the Adult Education of Prisoners*' in Paul O'Mahony, *Criminal Justice in Ireland* (Institute of Public Administration, 2002).

The following articles have all appeared in *The Journal of Correctional Education*, published quarterly by the Center for the Study of Correctional Education, California State University, San Bernadino):

13. Sean Wynne, '*Education and Security - When the twain do meet*', March 2001 (on Portlaoise Prison).
14. Mary Kett, '*Literacy Work in Wheatfield Prison, Ireland*', June 2001.
15. Kevin Warner, '*Widening and Deepening the Education We Offer Those in Prison: Reflections from Irish and European Experience*', March 2002.
16. Pam Lorenz, '*The Education Centre, Fort Mitchel Prison, Spike Island*', June 2002.

Copies of most of the above articles and reports are available from the Prison Education Service, Block 5, Belfield Officer Park, Beaver Row, Dublin 4, or from PERC (Prison Education Resource Centre), Teachers' Centre, Block Road, Portlaoise.