

Prison Education Service, Ireland



Prison Education Service

I r e l a n d

Directory of Prison Education

2006



Issued by Prison Education In-service Committee

www.pesireland.org

INTRODUCTION TO DIRECTORY

This is the eight 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, pxdoyle@irishprisons.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. 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). Some of these articles and reports, and other information, are also available on the website for the Prison Education Service, www.pesireland.org.

Kevin Warner,
Co-ordinator of Education

March 2006.

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Report on the Prison Education Service for 2005

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 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 210 whole-time teacher equivalents to the prisons through the VECs in the academic year 2005/06. This enabled education to be offered in all prisons (with the exception of Cloverhill), including provision for the summer months and also special teaching arrangements where prisoners are segregated (e.g. Portlaoise, Mountjoy, Wheatfield, Limerick, Midlands, Castlerea and Cork). The allocation made available to the CDVEC for Cloverhill Prison remained largely unused since new education facilities at the prison were again not allowed to open. 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 now caters for close to 100 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, Literacy development, I.T. 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 access, facilities, turnover of population and segregation. At the end of 2005, 51% of all prisoners were involved in some education. More than half of these, (i.e. 27% 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 24% in 2004). Such an overall level of involvement in education whilst in prison is very high by international standards and is commendable in light of considerable disruption in 2005. The pattern of participation for each particular prison may be seen in Table A:

Table A:

<i>Prison</i>	<i>(a) Participation</i>	<i>(b) Population (23/11/05)</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 Participa tion</i>
<i>Arbour Hill</i>	115	139	83%	66	47%
<i>Castlerea</i>	101	218	46%	64	29%
<i>Cloverhill</i>	0	393	0%	0	0%
<i>Cork</i>	182	258	71%	79	31%
<i>Dochas</i>	71	87	82%	45	52%
<i>Limerick (M&F)</i>	136	273	50%	96	35%
<i>Loughan House</i>	55	90	61%	45	50%
<i>Midlands</i>	241	426	57%	60	14%
<i>Mountjoy (Male)</i>	220	486	45%	145	30%
<i>Portlaoise</i>	88	115	77%	20	17%
<i>Shelton Abbey</i>	44	53	83%	29	55%
<i>St. Patrick's Institution</i>	93	174	53%	46	26%
<i>Training Unit</i>	56	87	64%	18	21%
<i>Wheatfield</i>	207	351	59%	148	42%
TOTAL	1,609	3,150	51%	861	27%
<i>% Participation excluding Cloverhill = 58%</i>					
<i>% Intensive Participation excluding Cloverhill = 31%</i>					
% participation overall: 51%					

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", which increased in 2005. As may also be seen from Table A, the figures for overall participation would have been considerably higher (58%) if Cloverhill Prison was excluded from calculations, as an Education Unit for that sizeable 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.

Other developments in 2005.

The industrial relations dispute between the IPS and the POA led to serious curtailment of educational provision in about half of prisons, largely due to the restriction of movement within prisons; in the other half of prisons, there was little or no negative impact. Library Services and Physical Education were the fields of education most affected by the dispute. However, plans to improve both of these areas post-dispute were significantly advanced during the year, with the preparation of a *Best Practice Handbook* to give guidance for PE in prisons, and the making of agreements with a number of public library services and prison managements for the introduction of further library staff in accordance with the structural plan described in the 2004 report.

A major issue for the Prison Education Service in 2005 was dealing with the knock-on effects of the permanent closures of The Curragh and Fort Mitchel prisons, both of which had very strong educational provision. Most of the teachers displaced at The Curragh took up work at the Midlands prison, in a co-operative arrangement between the two different VEC's, while some of the Fort Mitchel teachers became involved in the HOPE post-release educational project in Cork. However, both of these projects are tentative and more long-standing arrangements need to be secured.

The arts continued to be a dynamic aspect of prison education. A major exhibition of art from prisons around the country was shown in 2005 in Dublin, Cobh and Listowel. Significant original drama was produced in Midlands, Mountjoy and Castlerea prisons. The writing competitions for people in prisons, which has been organised as part of Listowel Writers Week since the early 1980's, received new impetus in 2005 with writing in Irish, and writing by Irish prisoners overseas, now both included for the first time.

By the end of the year, Open University numbers rose to nearly 100 students from among the prison population, a rate of involvement that is far higher than, for example, in prisons in Britain. However, the priority focus of prison education continued to be towards helping those with basic education needs and a number of significant initiatives in relation to this area commenced or were strengthened during the year. These paralleled efforts to address the adult literacy and similar problems in the community. Among these were the fuller use of negotiated learning plans, involvement with the new FETAC level 1 and level 2 courses, and the introduction of the National Adult Literacy Agency's (NALA's) assessment framework, *Mapping the Learning Journey*.

The professional development support structure for teachers in prison also paid special attention to adult basic education, helping to develop a new tutor training course and new materials appropriate to teaching in prisons. However, other in-service initiatives, addressing issues and needs particular to education in prison, and covering the full range of the curriculum, also took place. A web-site for use by prison educators, but also giving information about prison education in Ireland, had now been introduced - www.pesireland.org.

Publications and further information.

Further information on prison education can be obtained from a number of publications available from the office of the Co-ordinator of Education (Block 5, Belfield Office Park, Beaver Row, Dublin 4, Ireland). Most of these are also available on the website, pesireland.org. Among the key documents, each of which refers to further publications, are the annual *Directory of Prison Education*, *The Strategy Statement of the Prison Education Service 2003-2007*, and *Prison Education in Ireland: a Review of the Curriculum*.

Kevin Warner,
Co-ordinator of Education,
Irish Prison Service.

Arbour Hill

Arbour Hill
Dublin 7

Head Teacher: Una Lyes

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Email: arboured@eircom.net

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	Irish
Sheila Ronan	English/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 / Transport Management
Florence Abecassis	English, French
Noelle O'Neill	English, FETAC
Leo Ryan	Creative Writing
Carole Gasparly	Home Economics & Craft
Jim Wallington	Open University Liaison and Pre -Releases Prep.

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 (Staffroom)

Fax: (094) 9625401

Email:

Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Niamh Mulhern	Physical Education
Bernadette Butler	English/Literacy/Drama/Creative Writing, Drama
Mary O'Shea	Art/Career Guidance
Charles Taylor	Computers/Irish/Music / Humanities
Teresa Raftery	Yoga
Michael Keane	Horticulture
Vincent Hunt	Woodwork
Brid Curley	Home Economics
Joanne Foley	Art/Crafts
Niall Walsh	Stone and Wood Carving
Graeme Fontaine	Stained Glass / Leather Work / Tiling
Paddy Healy	Maths/Computer/Business Studies
Phil O'Brien	C.P.C/Computerised Accountancy
Clare Connolly	Personal Development
Sean Butler	English/Literacy
Mark Dodd	CPC (Haulage Lic)
Jackie Cunniffe	Home Economics
Tommy Finian	Upholstery
Des Philips	Woodwork
Mercedes Taffe	Pre-Release
Mark Kennedy	History / Debating
Angela Dennehy	Computer Architecture

Castlerea 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 Head 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 / Sociology
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.

WOMEN'S EDUCATION CENTRE

Dóchas Centre

North Circular Road,
Dublin 7

Head Teacher: Marcie Barron

Telephone: (01) 885 8943

Fax: (01) 806 2973

Email: mpbarron@eircom.net

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 Keogan	Leather Craft
Norette Kirby	Photography
Ann O Giosain	Typing/Word Processing Pitmans
Una Gildea	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
Brendan Moore	Addiction Studies

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.

LIMERICK

Mulgrave Street,
Limerick

Head Teacher: Camilla McGourty

Telephone: (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	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
Janet Fulop	Literacy/Numeracy/English/Women's Studies/Media Studies
Aine O'Halloran	Aerobics/PE
Emer Toomey	Art/Craft/Ceramics
Irene Steer	Home Economics
Margaret O'Donoghue	P.E.

Limerick Prison is a high security sentence and remand prison catering for approximately 300 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

Telephone: (071) 9853025

Fax: (071) 9853025

Email: 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/Computers
Hugh McCabe	P.E./Hill Walking
Padraig Sheridan	Music
Conn Tinney	Computers/Open Learning Centre

Loughan House is an Open Centre with capacity for 110 men. Features of its programme include:

- ECDL
- Junior Cert
- Leaving Cert
- Fetac (Foundation Level) +Levels 3 & 4
- Open University Support
- Open Learning Centre

Pre and Post Release

This course is run four times per year and has inputs from FAS, Social Welfare, Health Board, Mabs, Community Enterprise etc. Practical training opportunities, e.g. Safepass, Forklift Training and Driving Theory Tests are also available to participants.

Community based activities

- These include pre-booked guided tours to educational places of interest in neighbouring counties, e.g. Cavan County Museum, Sligo Arts Centre Organic Farm and Arigna Mines in Leitrim.
- Day/Weekly release to local education centres, e.g. Fermanagh College and Manorhamilton Arts Centre, and the new Ballagh IT Centre in Leitrim, where appropriate.

Summer Programme

Part-time Staff

Mairead Harris	Art / Craft
Sinead Duffy	Literacy / General Subjects
Mercedes Taffe	P.E.

Midlands Prison

Dublin Road,
Portlaoise
Co. Laois

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)	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
Mary Young	Music/Irish/Parenting/Open University Liaison
John Murphy	English/Literacy

Jennifer Duffy	Art
Ann Van Dorpe	French, E.S.O.L.
Irmgard Smith	German
Bairbre Sexton	Drama/Personal Development
Catherine Casey	Sociology/History
Laura Dowling	Physical Education
Anita Higgins	Computers
Aidan Hogan	Materials Technology/Metal/ Technical Drawing/Maths
Elaine Carry	Home Economics
Michelle Mullins	Multi-media
Peter Doyle	Computers / Business Studies
Catherine White	Basic English and Numeracy
Paschal Fitzpatrick	Stain Glass
Denise Raftery	French/German
Eamonn Parker	Computers/Maths
Kevin Berns	Music
Pat Condon	Physical Education / Irish
Lindeke Hell	Horticulture
Ellen Kelly	Sociology/Current Affairs/English/Drama / ESOL Creative Writing
Nuala Connolly	Home Economics
Mary Leahy	Home Crafts / Calligraphy
Marie Lennon	Yoga
Micheal Rowley	Art /Craft
Mary Maher	Computers/Home Economics

The Education Centre strives to provide a broad curriculum of a high quality and of 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
- The London Guildhall School of Speech and Drama

Mountjoy (Male)

North Circular Road,
Dublin 7

Head Teacher: Ciarán Leonard

Telephone: (01) 806 2833

(01) 830 1175

Email: 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
Brian Kenealy	Music/English
Paula Egan	English/Creative Writing/Literacy/FETAC/History
Gearóid de Broitúin	Irish
Margaret Byrne	English/Drama
Zachary Sex	Art

Eleanor Jones	Art/Crafts
Ruth Jacob	Relaxation
Alan Roberts	Irish
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.

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 Head Teacher)	Tech Drawing/Maths/Engineering Theory/Pyrography
Pauline Hyland	Art, Signwriting, Cartooning
Maggie Duignan	NCAD/Art
Julie Shiels	NCAD/Ceramics
Stella Kemp	Yoga
Niall McElwaine	Business Studies/Computers
Jane Meally (Assistant Head Teacher)	English/Creative Writing
Ellen O'Sullivan (Assistant Head Teacher)	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	Physical Education
Aidan McFall	PE/Sports Injuries
Eimear Bergin	Business Studies
John Gleeson	Computers
Maria O'Brien	Art
Billy McCannon	NCAD (Multi-Media)
Laura Dowling	P.E.
Bairbre Sexton	Drama

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, Fetac, Leinster School of Communication, London Guildhall School of Speech and Drama, Associate Board of the Royal School of Music, Order of Malta and Comhaltas Ceolteorí Eireann.

Shelton Abbey

Arklow,
Co. Wicklow

Head Teacher: Patsy Breen

Telephone: (0402) 32140

Fax: (0402) 91563

Email: edshelton@eircom.net/pbreenshelton@eircom.net

Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Patsy Breen	P.E. / Health Ed / Pre-Release Group work
Gaye Enright (Assistant Head Teacher)	Literacy / General English / Geography / Fetac Coordinator.
Isabella O'Malley	Woodwork / Maths / Technical Drawing / CAD
Pearl Maher	Art / Crafts / Pre-Release Planning
Michael Wadden (Assistant Head Teacher)	Computer Studies / O.U. Liaison / Examination Coordinator
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
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/Parenting
Paul Treacher	Maths/Numeracy/Crafts/Pottery
Leonie Keogan	Home Economics
Maria O'Gorman	History/Literacy
Jane Kelleher	Art
Andrea Nolan	Literacy/English
Kathy Boyle	Computers / Maths
Cathy O'Flaherty	Guidance

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

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
Alan Roberts	Irish
Anne O'Giosain	Typing/Word Processing
Gerry Hendrick	Music/Guitar/Sound Recording
Mary Clarke	French/Parenting
Brigid McKeever	PE
Margaret Joyce	Pre-employment / Pre-Release
Nick McEvoy	Addiction Studies
Florence Abecassis	English/Literacy/French
Joan O'Shea	P.E. / Yoga

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

Head Teacher: Bonnie Magrath

Telephone: (01) 6209424

Fax: (01) 6209492

Email: edwheat1@eircom.net

Names and Subjects of Education Staff:

Karen Cotter	Art
Colm Gallagher	Maths/Health Related Fitness/Biology/PE
Maeve Donnelly	First Aid/Health Related Fitness/ PE
Brenda Fitzpatrick	History/Computers
Helen Hunt	Literacy /English/Drama/Fetac Co-ordinator
Margaret Joyce	Literacy/Pre-release
Gerard McElligot	Chess/Open Learning
Michelle Tyrell	Home Economics
Brendan Moore	Addiction Studies /Addiction Counselling
Jimmy O'Rourke	Literacy / O.L.C.
Alan Roberts	Philosophy /Irish
Laurena McCormack	Home Economics / J.C. Religion
Ann Tomany	Home Economics /Health Education
Catherine Byrne	Maths/Computers
Paul Byrne	Music
Jack Caesar	Literacy /Geography /Spanish
Mary Lennon	Literacy /English
Breda Doran	E.S.O.L.
Paul Treacher	Woodwork /Photography
Sean Tuohig	Woodwork / Leathercraft
Sonja Kryzanowski	Open Learning / Geography / Whistle / Music Apprec.
Brendan O'Hara	Horticulture, Maths, Science
Robert Robinson	Literacy, English, Computers, Career Guidance
Margaret Ryan	Art History /O.U. Coordination /O.L.C.
Brendan Tyrell	Music
Joan O'Shea	P.E. , Yoga
Monica Giblin	Classical Studies, Computers, O.L.C.
Noeleen Cunningham	Computers / O.L.C.
Padraig Gibbons	P.E. , Maths
Jane Newman	Literacy / Holistic Health Studies / Pre-release / French

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

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@eircom.net

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

Tel: (01) 806 2833
Fax: (01) 830 1175
prisoned@eircom.net

In-service/ Professional Development Support

For a number of years the Prison Education Service has supported and enhanced the professional development of prison educators. The bulk of that support is in the form of;

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, etc.

B. **Internal support** falls under the remit of the Prison Education In-service Committee. The committee responds to requests for in-service training from prison teachers by providing a diverse range of courses, workshops, subject meetings, etc. Such courses have ranged from induction for new teachers, to courses dealing with the demands of those working with specific categories of prisoners, as well as those which focus on particular subject areas and teaching practices. While such courses are devised to meet the specific needs and demands of prison educators, they are intended to supplement and complement in-service training provided by the department of Education and Science, VECs, NCVA, NALA and other relevant bodies. A report from the in-service committee will be available in each education centre during the year. If you like to request and inservice or have ideas as to useful courses, please contact any of the committee members listed here.

The current In-service Committee is:

Anne Costelloe (Mountjoy) Chairperson

Jimmy O'Rourke (Wheatfield/Arbour Hill)

Anna-Maria Murphy (Limerick)

Eamonn Parker (Midlands)

Kevin Warner (Co-ordinator of Education, IPS)

PRISON EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE (PERC)

The Prison Education In-service Committee has been working on the establishment of a national Resource and Research Centre for prison educators that will function as a focal point for curriculum and professional development. It is intended that it will be of use to practitioners, participants, policy-makers, researchers and others who share an interest in prison education. Its function is threefold:

- To act as a repository for materials, resources, audio-visual aids, etc., which will prove useful to the prison educator
- To support and encourage educational research into Prison Education through providing a comprehensive library/catalogue of research articles, journals, policy documents and so on
- To 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.

It will be hosted by the Laois Teachers Centre, Block Road, Portlaoise and at present Jane Meally is engaged in cataloguing relevant materials, literature and resources. Peter Doyle is working on the development of a complementary website (www.pesireland.org) and he would welcome any suggestions or materials that people feel should be included.

Teacher Allocations for Prison Education 2005/2006

Unit	Whole-time Equivalents	
Cork	19.10	
Co. Kildare VEC	10.20	
Castlerea	16.23	
Co. Cork VEC	7.00	
Loughan House	9.52	
Limerick	16.05	
Portlaoise	19.64	
Shelton Abbey	7.41	
Midlands	24.00	
Dublin City (80.98)		
Arbour Hill	10.05]
St. Patrick's Inst	10.05]
Training Unit	7.5]
Dochas Centre	7.0]
Mountjoy (Male)	17.28]80.98
Wheatfield	20.10]
CDVEC Organiser of Education	1.0]
Cloverhill	8.0]
	<hr/>]
Overall Total:	<u>210</u>	

These teacher allocations are given on an annual basis by the Department of Education and Science to the various Vocational Education Committees to provide education in prison.

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	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

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 Ormeau 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

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

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
Northside Community Enterprise Centre,
Sunbeam Industrial Estate,
Mallow Road,
Cork

Tel: 021 4909979

Staff:

Pam Lorenz	Head Teacher / General Subjects
Des O'Brien	General Subjects
John Clarke	Woodwork

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.

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/~hkvtos/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
Fort 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
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 Chairperson
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

Irish Prison Education Association

The Irish Prison Education Association (IPEA) is a branch of the European Prison Education Association (EPEA) and was established in 2004 as the professional body representing Irish prison 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 in the field of prison education in Ireland. Associate membership is open to others. All full members automatically become members of the EPEA. The Officers of the Association are:

Chairperson & EPEA Liaison Person - Cormac Behan

Secretary & EPEA Liaison Person - Paula Egan

Treasurer - Marie Breen

It was agreed that any Irish member of the EPEA Steering Committee would also sit as a member of the IPEA Executive Committee. Accordingly, Anne Costelloe, who becomes Chairperson of the EPEA in 2006, is a member of the IPEA Executive.

Every year a conference is held during which the AGM takes place, in addition, this year the Association is organising the annual Liam Minihan Memorial Lecture*. The IPEA is deeply honoured to be hosting the 11th International EPEA Conference, to be held in Dublin City University on the 13th to the 17th of June 2007. This is the first time for the international EPEA conference to take place in Ireland and the IPEA looks forward to welcoming 150 colleagues

Further details on the IPEA 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 and details on both the EPEA and the IPEA can be found at www.epea.org/ipea.

**The Liam Minihan Memorial Lecture 2006*

Rehabilitation: Are we for Real?

Fr. Peter McVerry SJ

Chaired by Ms. Jacinta Stewart, CEO City of Dublin VEC

At the Marino Institute of Education, Griffith Avenue, Dublin

On Tuesday the 9th of May 2006

Reception: 7.00pm Lecture 7.45pm

European Prison Education Association

In 1989, a small group of educators working in prisons throughout Europe established the EPEA in order to share examples of good practice and sound policy in the area of prison education. They believed an organisation was necessary to act as an advocate for prison education within the various European prison systems. Furthermore, they felt it necessary to create an organisation to promote and safeguard the ideals of the newly published document, Education In Prison (Council of Europe, 1990),¹ and Recommendation No. R (89) 12, adopted by the Council of Europe on the 13 October 1989². For the founders, the fundamental objectives of the EPEA are;

- To support and assist the professional development of those involved in prison education through European co-operation
- To work with related professional organisations
- To support research in the field of education in prisons

Since its foundation, the EPEA has established itself as the European voice for prison education drawing its membership from over 40 countries. Acknowledgment of its strength and importance lies in its recognition as an official Non-Government Organisation (NGO) with participatory status at the Council of Europe (COE), and it has been honoured further by its recent election to the Liaison Committee of NGOs with full voting rights.

But while such facts may reflect the philosophical, political and policy relevance of the organisation, they fail to give 'a feel for' for the organisation or indeed reveal its real significance. In essence, the EPEA is a miscellany of experienced and new prison teachers, policy makers, administrators, researchers, and so on. Members come from completely different prison regimes and frequently hold strikingly varying penal ideologies. Yet, the one thing they have in common is an interest in prison education and a desire to make it better for all those involved.

Perhaps for many of its members, the most fundamental attraction of the EPEA lies with its ongoing endeavours to support their professional development. Indeed it is one of the primary rationales underpinning the organisation. Such support takes a variety of forms. For example, the EPEA produces a magazine twice yearly. Production of the magazine moves from country to country in order to ensure that member countries can highlight their own particular practices and ideologies, yet, articles and materials are submitted from other countries so as to share innovations and new experiences. Four or five times a year, a News bulletin is produced which provides informative and factual updates on developments and events in the field of prison education throughout Europe. Similarly members can join online mailing lists devoted to their particular area of interest, for example, literacy in prisons, prison art, research into prison education, etc.. The emphasis in the publications and mailing lists is on the sharing of innovative practices and the establishment of direct contact among members.

Even in this age of mass communications, the benefits of personal contact cannot be underestimated. Every two years, the EPEA convenes a conference during which members meet and discuss the burning issues of the day. Notwithstanding the high quality of the plenary sessions and many workshops, conference delegates frequently attest to the efficacy of the social side of these events. Often it is when delegates adjourn to the bar, or over coffee, that they really learn what works, or indeed does not work, in other countries. And while it is intended that delegates leave the conference enthused with new ideas and fresh perspectives, sometimes it is enough to realise that what you are doing is just as effective as the next person. Last year saw Bulgaria host the very successful 10th EPEA conference and preparations are underway already for the 2007 conference, which will take place across the continent in Ireland.

A more recent development that the EPEA is keen to promote and encourage is the proliferation of European Commission funded projects. The aim of these projects is to generate a shared understanding and interaction among member states. The organisation has become increasingly involved with such projects with the view to improving the quality of prison education through the development of structured partnerships. In particular, the EPEA is attracted by the diversity of project topics, which are nicely balanced by their applicability and relevance. Projects with which the Association has been directly and indirectly involved include those examining the use of Internet in prison education, identifying teacher training needs specific to prison

¹ This forward thinking document lays the foundation for the policies and principles that inform prison education among its 43 member states. It outlines succinctly the important role education has to play within any prison regime. It stresses that all prisoners have the right to education and provides a checklist of factors essential to the provision of an effective prison education service. It highlights the role education has to play in the development of the individual prisoner as well as the community, and it indicates how education in prison can prepare the prisoner for successful reintegration to society. (Copies can be downloaded from the EPEA website, www.epea.org.)

education, exploring art and drama in prison, among others. Each of which are prime examples of how the ideals of the EPEA can tested, disseminated and translated into practice.

While the EPEA is a European wide organisation it is of direct relevant to Irish prison educators. The Irish Prison Education Association (IPEA) is a branch of the EPEA and further details on it and how to join can be found earlier in this directory. For more information on both the EPEA and the IPEA, please see www.epea.org.

Anne Costelloe
Deputy Chairperson, EPEA.

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 all adult institutions and over the years an increasing number of prisoners have studied a very wide range of courses. By 2006, there were almost 100 men and women studying with the O.U. in prison. 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

There are two main start dates for courses, October and February of each year. Application forms must be submitted to Diana Purcell (see p.33) in June and October depending on start date. Further details regarding applications and the interview process can be found from O.U. liaison teachers in each unit or at the addresses given below.

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

Open University Liaison Teachers attached to the various units:

Arbour Hill
Castlereagh
Cork
Dochas Centre
Limerick
Midlands
Mountjoy
Portlaoise
Training Unit
Wheatfield

Jim Wallington
Riona Finn
Cathy Coakley
Marcie Barron
Noel McCormack
Mary Young (Main) and Eamonn Parker (A Div)
Cathy O'Flaherty
Ellen O'Sullivan
Peter Gargan
Margaret Ryan

Elsewhere

Contact Head Teacher

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

Barra O'Brian
C.E.O.
County Cork V.E.C. Offices
Q. C. House
Cork Business & Tech. Park
Model Farm Road
Cork
Ph: (021) 480 0902

Ted Owens
C.E.O.
City of Cork V.E.C.
Emmet Place
Cork
Ph: (021) 273377

Colm McEvoy
C.E.O.
County Cavan V.E.C.
Keadue
Cavan
Ph: (049) 4331044

Pat O'Connor
C.E.O.
County Dublin V.E.C.
Main Street
Tallaght
Co. Dublin
Ph: (01) 451 5666

Jacinta Stewart
C.E.O.
City of Dublin V.E.C.
Town Hall
Ballsbridge
Dublin 4
Ph: (01) 668 0614

Anne O'Keefe
C.E.O.
Co. Laois V.E.C.
Ridge Road
Portlaoise
Co. Laois
(0502) 21352

Sean Ashe
C.E.O.
Co. Kildare V.E.C.
Limerick Road
Naas
Co. Kildare
Ph: (045) 897358

Deirdre Frawley
C.E.O.
City of Limerick V.E.C.
Upper Cecil Street
Limerick
Ph: (061) 417688

Larry O'Farrelly
C.E.O.
Co. Roscommon V.E.C.
Lanesboro Street
Roscommon
(0903) 26151

Fiona Hartley
C.E.O.
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 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 and Portlaoise. It is planned to introduce professional librarians to the Midlands and Castlerea Prisons in 2006 and at a later date to Limerick and Cork. In Loughan House, Co. Cavan Library Service assign a part-time library assistant to run the prison library, and this arrangement is also planned for Shelton Abbey.

Public Library Services to Prisons

Dublin Area & Portlaoise

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

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

Una Gomez
Assistant Librarian
Wheatfield Prison
Cloverhill Road
Dublin 22

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

Deirdre Ellis King
City Librarian
Dublin City Public Libraries
138-144 Pearse Street
Dublin 2
(01) 6744800

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

Liam Ronayne
City 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

Josephine Brady
County Librarian
Co. Cavan Library Service
Farnham Street
Cavan
Co. Cavan
jbrady@cavancoco.ie

(049) 4331799

Limerick City

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

Visual Art Development

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

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 Irish Prison Service. Details of artists' work can be found on www.pesireland.org.

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.

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

PES Calendars

In recent years the Prison Education Service has produced calendars featuring the artwork of prison students. These are available for the Coordinator of Education or can be downloaded from www.pesireland.org.

Visual Arts Development Worker:

Veronica Hoen

Tel 021 4821619

Mob. 087 9687929

Email veronica_hoen@eircom.net

Adult Basic Education Development

The Adult Basic Education Development Worker has responsibility for implementing and supporting developments and initiatives in the area of literacy, numeracy, E.S.O.L. and basic education. The need for such developments was highlighted in the Guidelines of Quality Literacy Work in Prisons (2002), produced by the Prison Education Literacy Working Group, and also the findings and recommendations of the Prison Adult Literacy Survey (PALS) (2003). Of major emphasis in the coming year will be the implementation of the *Mapping the Learning Journey* in each Education Centre, the development and implementation of *Negotiated Learning Plans* for all literacy students, devising and delivering the NALA/WIT 30 hour *Initial Tutor Training* course for teachers new to prison education, introducing and supporting the new *FETAC Levels 1 & 2*, and drawing up and rolling out a national *Literacy Plan for Prison Education*. Brief details on some of these initiatives are outlined below.

- *Mapping the Learning Journey* is an assessment framework that identifies learner progress, provides tangible feedback and indicates areas on which to focus. It is a useful tool for both learning and teaching.
- *Negotiated Learning Plans* are important aspects of good literacy practice. Experienced prison literacy teachers are in the process of devising templates for Negotiated Learning Plans that can be used with all prison literacy students.
- *Initial Tutor Training*. The need for specific training in adult literacy work is acknowledged widely. A 30-hour training course is being developed specifically for teachers working in the Irish Prison Service. This course will be certified by NALA/WIT and is approved for exemption from the Module: Literacy Methodologies 1 of the National Certificate in Literacy Development.

Literacy Development Worker:

Anne Costelloe

Prison Education Service, 3rd Floor,

Block 5, Belfield Office Park,

Beaver Row,

Dublin 4.

Email: apcostelloe@irishprisons.ie or annecostelloe@eircom.net

I.T. and Education Development

The I.T and Education Development Worker has responsibility for the following areas:

- Liaison between the Prison Education Service and the I.T. section of the Irish Prison Service.
- The development and maintenance of Education Document folders on the Irish Prison Service Computer Network, for use by education staff in the various units.
- Developing software for use in education especially in the area of record keeping, timetabling and attendance systems.
- Researching the PRIS database system as to how it might be of use for education record keeping.
- Giving assistance and advice to units when necessary.
- Looking at new educational software that may be suitable for the education units.
- Development of a policy relating to computer usage in Education Centres.
- Liaising with the Open University and maintaining records for all students on O.U. courses.
- Updating and maintenance of the Prison Education website, www.pesireland.org
- The updating and further development of the Directory of Prison Education. This includes keeping a live electronic version on the computer network system.
- Researching and advising on possible internet access in prison education.

I.T. and Education Development Worker

Peter Doyle
Prison Education Service
3rd Floor, Block 5,
Belfield Office Park,
Beaver Row,
Dublin 4

e-mail: pxdoyle@irishprisons.ie or doyp@indigo.ie

P. E. Development

Domhnall Mac Mathúna 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.

Domhnall Mac Mathúna - National Advisor on Physical Education and Sport

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)
Joe McDermott	(Governor of Training, Beladd House, Portlaoise)
Teresa Richardson	(PE Department, IT Tralee)
Dr. Ann Hope	Research Associate, School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College, Dublin.
Angela Kenny	Human Resources Division, Irish Prison Service
Ned Whelan	Governor, Wheatfield Prison
Harry Dunne	Finance Division, Irish Prison Service

Creative Writing Development

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 (Arts Council), 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.

Prison Literary Week

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.

Listowel Writers Week

Listowel Writers Week takes place at the end of May / start of June each year. Among the many competitions there is one for writing in prisons in Ireland. In addition, there is also a category for prison writings overseas and writing can be both in English and Irish.

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

National College of Art and Design

National College of Art and Design
100 Thomas Street
Dublin 8

(01) 671 1377

Professor Brian Maguire, Head of Fine Art

Other Useful Addresses

Regimes Directorate, Irish Prison Service

Derek Brennan (Director of Regimes)
Irish Prison Service, SIAC Building, Monastery
Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

Psychology Service, Irish Prison Service

Paul Murphy (Head of Psychology), 3rd Floor,
Block 5, Belfield Office Park,
Beaver Row, Dublin 4

Work and Training, Irish Prison Service

Derek Treacy (Deputy Coordinator of Work and
Training), 3rd Floor, Block 5, Belfield Office Park,
Beaver Row, Dublin 4

Chaplaincy Service, Irish Prison Service

Declan Blake (Head Chaplain), Arbour Hill Prison,
Arbour Hill, Dublin 7.

Probation and Welfare Service

Michael Donnellan (Principal Probation and
Welfare Officer), Smithfield Chambers,
Smithfield, Dublin 7.

Northern Ireland Prison Education Service

Dundonald House, Upper Newton Ards Road,
Belfast, BT 4 3 SU

Education Depts in Northern Ireland Prisons

Hydebank Wood

Hospital Road

BELFAST

BT8 8NA

Tel: 028 9025 3666

Fax: 028 9025 3668

Maghaberry Prison

Old Road

Ballinderry Upper

LISBURN

BT28 2PT

Tel: 028 9261 1888

Fax: 028 9261 9516

Magilligan Prison

Point Road

LIMAVADY

Co Londonderry

BT49 OLR

Tel: 028 7776 3311

Fax: 028 7772 0307

Useful Website Addresses

Aontas	www.aontas.com
ACEA	www.acea.org.au
Arts Council	www.artscouncil.ie
CEA	www.ceanational.org
Council of Europe	www.coe.int/cdpc
Department of Education and Science	www.education.ie
EPEA	www.epea.org
FETAC	www.fetac.ie
Finnish Prison and Probation Service	http://www.rikosseuraamus.fi/16019.htm
Irish Prison Education Association	www.epea.org/ipea
Irish Prison Service	www.irishprisons.ie
NALA	www.nala.ie
Northern Ireland Prison Service	www.niprisonservice.gov.uk/
Offender Learning and Skills Unit	www.dfes.gov.uk/offenderlearning
Prison Education Service Ireland	www.pesireland.org
Swedish Prison and Probation Service	www.kvv.se
Teachers Union of Ireland	www.tui.ie
VTOS	www.vtos.ie

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 prisons³ 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)*⁴. 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.

³ No Education Centre has been provided at Cloverhill Prison but plans are underway to rectify this.

⁴ See Appendix 1.

RESOURCES

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 Rules⁵.

⁵ 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

- *Strategy Statement for the Prison Education Service, 2003-2007*
- *Directory of Prison Education, 2006 (In-service Committee)*
- *Prison Education In-Service Committee Report, September 1997 to June 2001*
- Mark Morgan and Mary Kett, *The Prison Adult Literacy Survey: Results and Implications* (October 2002)
- *Guidelines for Quality Literacy Work in prisons* (Prison Education Service, 2002)
- *Physical Education in the Irish prison System: The Challenges Ahead* (Physical Education Development Group, 2000)
- *Suggestions for Effective Ways of Teaching Health Education within the Prison Context* (Prison Education Service Health Education Committee, 2000)
- *A Report on Pre- and Post-Release Initiatives (In-Service Committee, 2000)*
- *EPEA (European Prison Education Association), Newsletter No. 22, Winter 2002 (Special Irish Issue)*
- *Another Place: An Anthology of Prison Writing*, edited by Jane Meally and Bernadette Butler (Prison Education Service, 2001)

Published Articles

- Catherine Coakley, '*Creativity in Prisons*', in *The Yearbook of Correctional Education 1990* (Correctional Education Association, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada)
- Kevin Warner, '*Penal Policy and the Adult Education of Prisoners*' in Paul O'Mahony, *Criminal Justice in Ireland* (Institute of Public Administration, 2002).
- Warner, K. (1993) Working Through an Adult Education Model: Prison Education in Ireland, *Yearbook of Correctional Education 1993*, San Bernardino. California State University.

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):

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

International Prison Education

Davidson, H. (ed) (1995) *Schooling in a "Total Institution": Critical Perspectives on Prison Education* Westport, CT: Bergin & Garvey.

Duguid, S. (1997) Cognitive Dissidents Bite the Dust - The Demise of University Education in Canada's Prisons, *Journal of Correctional Education*, vol. 48, no 2, pp. 56 - 68.

Forster, W. (ed) (1981) *Prison Education in England and Wales*. Leicester. National Institute of Adult Education. ⁶⁰

Forster, W. (1990) *The Higher Education of Prisoners*, in Yearbook of Correctional Education 1990, Vancouver, Simon Fraser University.

Morin, L. (ed) (1981) On Prison Education Ottawa. Canadian Government Publishing Centre.

Irish Theses

Behan, C. (2002) Transformative Learning in a Total Institution. Unpublished Masters Degree in Adult and Community Education, National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

Costelloe, A. Third Level Education in Irish Prisons: Who Participates and Why? Unpublished Doctorate Degree in Education, The Open University, Milton Keynes.

Dinneen, J. (1995) Mountjoy Education Unit: A Study of Barriers to Prisoner Participation. Unpublished Masters Degree in Equality Studies. University College Dublin

Scott, B. (1993) Third-Level Education in Irish Prisons. Unpublished Master Degree in Social Science Thesis, University College Dublin.

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

Irish and National Penal Policy - selected readings.

Bottoms, Anthony, Rex, Sue and Robinson, Given (ed). 2004. *Alternatives to Prison: options for an insecure society*. Cullompton: Willan Publishing.

Cavadino, Michael and Dignan, James. 1997. *The Penal System: An Introduction*, second edition. London: Sage.

Christie, Nils. 2000. *Crime Control as Industry: Towards Gulags, Western Style*, third edition. London: Routledge.

Duguid, Stephen. 2000. *Can Prisons Work? The Prisoner as Object and Subject in Modern Corrections*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

Garland, David. 2001 (ed). *Mass Imprisonment: Social Causes and Consequences*. London: Sage.

Kilcommins, Shane, O'Donnell, Ian, O'Sullivan, Eoin and Vaughan, Barry. 2004. *Crime, Punishment and the Search for Order in Ireland*. Dublin: Institute of Public Administration.

Maguire, Mike, Morgan, Rod, and Reiner, Robert (ed). 2003. *The Oxford Handbook of Criminology*, third edition. Oxford: Clarendon Press.

McLoughlan, Eugene, et al (ed). 2003. *Criminological Perspectives: Essential Readings*, second edition. London: Sage/ Open University.

Matthews, Roger and Francis, Peter (ed). 1996. *Prisons 2000: An International Perspective on the Current State and Future of Imprisonment*. Basingstoke: Macmillan Press.

O'Mahony, Paul. 1997. *Mountjoy Prisoners: A Sociological and Criminological Profile*. Dublin: Department of Justice.

O'Mahony, Paul (ed). 2002. *Criminal Justice in Ireland*. Dublin: Institute of Public Administration.

Pratt, John, et al. 2005. *The New Punitiveness: Trends, theories, perspectives*. Cullompton: Willan Publishing.

Young, Jock. 1999. *The Exclusive Society: Social Exclusion, Crime and Difference in Late Modernity*. London: Sage.