

eTwinning National Quality Label



eTwinning



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eTwinning is the online community for schools in Europe. eTwinning offers an online platform for teachers to communicate, collaborate, develop projects and be part of the most exciting learning community in Europe. Getting involved in eTwinning is easy: just register online through the **European School Education Platform**. Registered users can access **eTwinning**, the entry point to the community. eTwinning enables users to find project partners and share resources, practice and ideas through its social networking features. Users can interact collaboratively in projects with their pupils and partners through a special tool called TwinSpace, a private and secure working space for all project members.

eTwinning is co-funded by the European Union and administered in participating countries by a National Support Organisation (NSO). Léargas is the National Support Organisation for eTwinning in Ireland. The NSO is at your disposal to provide technical and pedagogical support, promote eTwinning across the country, organise professional development activities, and much more.

An Introduction to the National Quality Label

The eTwinning National Quality Label (NQL) provides concrete recognition for teachers and students who have achieved excellence through an eTwinning project. NQLs boost motivation and are public affirmation of a school's commitment to quality and openness in European collaborative work.

This eBook presents a selection of NQL winners in Ireland in 2025 as well as some useful information on creating projects. The projects vary widely in theme and content but the commitment to digital collaborative work and pedagogical innovation is common to all. We are very grateful to the teachers who have allowed us to feature their work in this booklet, and we hope its readers are inspired to apply some of these innovative approaches to their own projects in the future.

The Treehouse Project—Happy spaces, shared places!

Karen Jordan & Erica Byrne, St. Catherines National School, Dublin

Background

- A joint mission to build a better, kinder and more inclusive world. Inspired by values of empathy, solidarity and well being.
- 5 countries—Ireland, Cyprus, Portugal, Italy and Greece
- 5th and 6th class

Project Aim

1. To foster creativity, collaboration, and emotional well-being by designing and creating “Happy Spaces”.
2. To promote inclusivity, empathy, and teamwork among students from Greece, Italy, Portugal, Cyprus, and Ireland.
3. To develop digital literacy and STEM skills by integrating tools like Canva, Minecraft Education Edition, and microcontrollers.
4. To strengthen cultural understanding and mutual respect through collaborative, multicultural activities.
5. To explore the importance of kindness, resilience, and shared values in building supportive communities.

Project Work

Partners co-designed the project. The use of collaborative digital tools provided rich opportunities for students to practice digital responsibility, constructive communication and co-authorship across borders, enhancing their understanding of digital citizenship in a practical and age appropriate way. The project was meaningfully integrated into our school curriculum across multiple subject areas; English, ICT, Art, Music, STEM and SPHE. The project aligned with our national priorities around emotional wellbeing, inclusion and digital literacy and directly supported the broader goal of developing active, empathetic and responsible young citizens.

Outcomes

This project brought our classes together in an exciting and unique way. Students were excited and interested to engage with schools and their students across Europe. There was no formal assessment with this project and the students were free to use the technologies and have fun whilst learning so many different aspects. Staff and students were learning alongside each other especially with new apps and technology, some of which the students used afterwards in class and on homework assignments.



Let's celebrate the European Day of Languages!

Cecelia Gavigan, Balbriggan Educate Together National School, Dublin

Background

This project celebrated plurilingualism in the context of European Day of Languages on 26th September. We connected with over 30 partners in diverse countries across Europe. Our class were a 5th class but our partners ranged from 5 to 14 years old.

Project Aims

The objective of the project was to inculcate, early in the school year, a pride in plurilingualism and establishing the classroom as a space where we are curious about and respectful of different languages - both ones within our school community and ones that are not represented therein.

Project Work

We firstly learned a little about our partners and mapped the location of all of our schools. Then we created postcards showing the different languages present in the classroom and sent them to our partners across Europe. In addition, we collaboratively created and shared language games, tongue twisters etc for everyone to play on the 26th. We also organised some online meetings on European Day of Languages to get to chat with our friends from other schools. To conclude, we had an art competition to design a logo for the project and voted on a winner.

Outcomes

The project allowed the children to share, in a positive way, the languages that they speak in their family homes in the context of the wider celebration of plurilingualism around Europe. It raised awareness among the children of the diversity of languages spoken across Europe and the prevalence of plurilingualism. Additionally, the children learned about other countries across the continent of Europe and also got to speak to children their own age in these other countries. It achieved learning outcomes in SPHE and Geography in a very engaging 'real-world' way.



Viking Tracks

Ronan O Sullivan, Davis College, Cork

Background

- The theme of this project was to discover common roots from the Viking Age.
- We were interested in clothes, tools, travel, music, art, crafts, culture and food.
- Countries included, France, Germany, Ireland, Denmark and Norway.
- Fourth Year; Age 16/17.

Project Aims

- To discover common roots from the Viking Age that could be linked to the subjects and countries involved.
- To develop a cross-curricular approach to deal with the Viking Age.
- To strive to enhance collaboration, the use of technology and the integration of the project into everyday school life.

Project Work

The Twinspace tools were used regularly for all stages of the project (Pages, Forum and Chat), Google Forms, Canva and Kahoot were just some of the technologies used by the international groups. Technology was also very important for project design, implementation, communication and collaboration. It helped peer learning and sharing of knowledge.

A project plan with the goals and timelines of our work were agreed upon and established. As well as working in lesson time at school, pupils also communicated keenly together through the Forum. This eTwinning project formed the basis for an Erasmus+ partnership between all the involved countries.

Outcomes

- Helping students to develop an awareness and understanding of other nationalities and cultures, as well as opening up their classroom to Europe and helping them to become more responsible for their own learning.
- Helping fellow colleagues to become acquainted with different digital tools and a different way of teaching by using the Twinspace platform and letting students engage their creativity.
- Helping everyone to become more understanding and respectful of other cultures within a common European Heritage. Also, helping in the promotion of inclusion and diversity as we developed our project.
- Improved independent research, project-based learning and cross-curricular links.



Le Voyage des Mots

Siobhán Bailey, Coláiste Iósaef, Limerick

Background

“Le voyage des mots” was developed alongside our Erasmus+ KA122 project “#LanguageLink; Bridging Cultures, Building Bridges.” Focused on language learning through cultural exchange, it connected a 6th Year French class (Coláiste Iósaef Kilmallock, Co. Limerick, Ireland) and a final-year class (Lycée Pierre de Coubertin, Font-Romeu, France) exploring word evolution across languages and cultures.

Project Aims

Our aim was to increase students’ interest in languages and create a positive attitude towards Modern Foreign Languages. We wanted to connect Irish and French students to explore how words travel across languages and cultures, enhance digital learning through eTwinning, and encourage inclusion, collaboration, and Erasmus participation.

Project Work

The project started online in September 2024 on eTwinning. Students got to know each other through letter exchanges and class brainstorming, then worked in international groups of 5–6. They completed three missions: slang (“C’est carré”), collaborative writing (“Finissez vos phrases”), and a debate on inclusive language. Communication happened via TwinSpace forums, Digipad boards, and shared Google Docs. We visited Font-Romeu from 9th–13th December 2024), completing workshops and missions. All students created a practical toolkit for language teachers, continued online collaboration through journals, feedback on Wooclap, and shared resources, while promoting the project on social media. Peer learning was central throughout.

Outcomes

“Le voyage des mots” gave students a fun way to explore French and English, boosting language skills, critical thinking, and creativity. Our students worked with slang, inclusive writing, and playful activities, learning how words shape communication and challenge stereotypes. They also made lifelong friendships and got to experience French language, culture, and the French school system first-hand. Teachers tried out new ways of teaching, used tools like Wooclap, Digipad, and TwinSpace, and gained insight into different school systems abroad, comparing education in two countries. Students’ creative work, like collaborative writing and debates, was shared online, with feedback helping plan future projects.



Meine Traumschule

Viki Malcolm, The Kings Hospital School, Dublin

Background

The theme of this project was “My dream school” and it brought together over 100 students from 7 different countries. Our students ranged in age from 12-15 and the working language of the project was German. The project was designed to support the learning of prescribed curriculum topics.

Project Aims

The main aim of this project was communication through the target language. I wanted my students to feel comfortable expressing their thoughts, ideas and opinions through German whilst also reinforcing their learning around topic areas prescribed for the Junior Cycle German course.

Project Work

In total we used about 30 different digital tools to complete this project, many of which were new to us. We introduced ourselves via a Padlet wall then made videos of our schools to share with our partners. We divided into smaller international teams to work together on the design of our dream school with each school taking an aspect to focus on e.g. facilities, classrooms, subjects. Collaboration was via TwinSpace and platforms such as Padlet as well as video calls. The final products for this project were the website for our dream school as well as two online dictionaries.

Outcomes

By taking part in this project, my students improved their communication skills in the target language. Their confidence was greatly increased because they saw that they could get tasks done while using their German. By first learning about schools in our partner countries, the students developed empathy and a better understanding of cultures that were new to them. Working together with their peers in other countries to think about what their dream school might look like allowed them to unleash their creativity in a way that can be missing in a typical school day. They were learning AND having fun!



Food Preservation to Fight Food Waste

Karen Keogh, Newtown School, Waterford

Background

This project focused on sustainability, food waste reduction, and food preservation. Six countries—Ireland, Turkey, France, Spain, Greece, and Croatia participated, involving 125 pupils. The theme was chosen to promote English as a lingua franca while connecting sustainability with science, food traditions, and cultural understanding among secondary-level students.

Project Aims

The project aimed to promote English as a lingua franca in a multicultural context, improve communication and collaboration, and raise awareness about sustainability and food waste. Students developed scientific knowledge, curiosity, open-mindedness, and respect for cultural diversity while applying practical skills from Biology, Physics, and Chemistry.

Project Work

Students researched food preservation methods and their historical evolution, exploring links with sustainability and science. They worked in transnational mini-groups and collaborated through emails, chats, and video conferences. Activities included brainstorming, shared research, and creating digital content such as videos and presentations. Pupils compared local traditions and discussed food science, cooking techniques, and cultural practices. Teachers structured tasks, timelines, and communication, ensuring inclusive participation. Despite challenges such as scheduling differences and language barriers, students cooperated effectively, developed online communication etiquette, and strengthened teamwork while using English in real-life contexts.

Outcomes

Students improved English communication, collaboration, and intercultural understanding while gaining scientific knowledge about food preservation and sustainability. They became more open-minded, curious, and respectful of cultural diversity, and more aware of responsible consumption and active citizenship. Teachers reported professional growth through collaborative planning, sharing best practices, and integrating digital tools and inclusive methodologies. The project strengthened international cooperation, improved students' confidence in using English, and demonstrated the value of teamwork across cultures. Overall, both teachers and students benefited from enhanced communication, digital competence, and meaningful engagement in sustainability education.

Recipes for
kids made with
preserved food



A Stroll Through Our Legends

Jennifer Ray & Catherine O'Connor, O'Fiaich College, Louth

Background

- The theme of this project was sustainable tourism. Our slogan, "being a tourist of our legendary past to inspire a sustainable future". At the eTwinning partner finding fair in October 2024, the theme of sustainability was highlighted and I was very interested in this area, as I felt it could be integrated into the curricula of our tourism students at O'Fiaich College.
- Four: Ireland, Italy, Austria, Spain.
- VET: Ranged from 17 to mature adults.

Project Aims

The main aim was to create an immersion in the ancient history of our territories, (Ireland, Italy, Austria and Spain) sharing common legends and myths and strolling along our ancient paths. Students discovered their common roots, learning and creating together.

Project Work

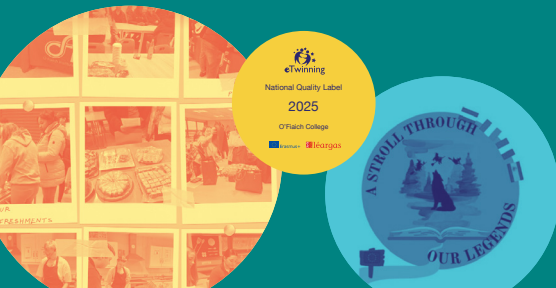
Ancient stories were researched, retold and creatively interpreted. The world of myths and legends were merged with the concept of sustainable tourism, encouraging students to explore how tourism can be both culturally enriching and environmentally responsible. The project involved creative storytelling and practical proposals for promoting sustainable tourism. Students organized walking tours and catering events and participated in sustainability activities.

The cooperation between the school partners was a key and fundamental element throughout this project. The students collaborated and engaged with the other countries through the use of digital tools and online meetings. They engaged with their local tourist office and tour guests in person. Students explored local and partner country cultures through interactive activities, building autonomy, digital, and language skills.

Outcomes

The project strengthened collaboration, teamwork, and critical thinking, while encouraging reflection on sustainability and openness to different perspectives. Students developed creativity, organisation, time management, leadership, and digital literacy through independent planning and online collaboration. They gained intercultural awareness by learning about traditions and histories, and linked learning to real world contexts in an enjoyable way.

For teaching, the project supported cross curricular planning, improved ICT confidence, and encouraged innovative, student led approaches. It contributed positively to sustainability, digitalisation, and global citizenship goals, and inspired continued engagement. The project was integrated into student QQI assessments and is motivating for other teachers to see this possibility in future projects.



3 Steps AI for the Classrooms

Associate Professor Mary Masterson, School of Education,
University of Limerick, Limerick

Background

The project focused on integrating artificial intelligence into lesson planning in Initial Teacher Education. It involved pre-service teachers from five countries Ireland, Tunisia, Finland, Spain and Albania, working at undergraduate and postgraduate level within teacher education programmes.

Project Aims

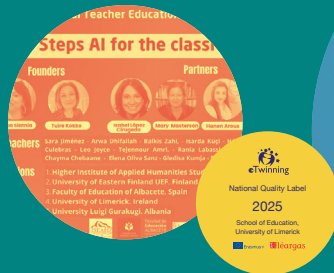
The project aimed to develop pre-service teachers' critical and creative use of AI for lesson planning, to foster international professional dialogue, and to support collaborative design of innovative, inclusive teaching materials across curriculum areas.

Project Work

Participants engaged in structured online discussions and collaborative tasks using the eTwinning TwinSpace. Mixed international groups explored AI tools for lesson design in Arts, Science and Languages. Pre-service teachers co-designed AI supported lesson plans, shared reflections through forum posts and short written artefacts, and provided peer feedback across countries. Teacher educators facilitated dialogue, scaffolded ethical and pedagogical considerations, and coordinated timelines to accommodate different academic calendars.

Outcomes

Students developed confidence in using AI responsibly for educational purposes, enhanced digital, communication and intercultural skills, and gained insight into diverse European and international classroom contexts. The project increased engagement and professional agency through authentic collaboration. Teachers educators and pre-service teachers benefited from shared methodologies, comparative perspectives on teacher education, and practical experience of integrating AI into pedagogy, strengthening international networks and innovative practice in initial teacher education.



eTwinning Ambassadors are passionate, experienced educators at the heart of the eTwinning community. Recognised for their expertise, enthusiasm, and deep understanding of the platform, they form a vibrant network dedicated to supporting teachers at every step of their eTwinning journey.

Working closely with the eTwinning team Ambassadors share best practice, spark new ideas, and continually grow their professional skills. Through workshops, training sessions, school visits, and online engagement, they empower teachers to confidently design and deliver exciting, high-quality collaborative projects.

Across the Republic of Ireland eTwinning Ambassadors inspire and mentor newcomers, opening the door to meaningful European collaboration. They actively promote eTwinning within schools, communities, and professional networks and build connections locally, nationally, and across Europe. Their energy and commitment nurtures creativity, innovation, and a powerful culture of shared learning for both teachers and students.

Wherever you are in Ireland eTwinning Ambassadors are ready to support, guide, and inspire you to Connect, Create and Collaborate across the eTwinning European network.

To learn how to become an Ambassador visit Léargas: www.leargas.ie/etwinning/etwinning-ambassadors/



National Conference

The eTwinning National Conference 2025 was a huge success, bringing together teachers, education professionals and partners from across Ireland for a vibrant day of learning, collaboration and connection, reflecting the continued expansion and enthusiasm of the Irish eTwinning community.

The conference explored the theme of **Citizenship Education** and highlighted how educators can foster active, informed and responsible citizens through meaningful, collaborative and technology-enhanced learning. Attendees were invited to attend one of three parallel workshops focusing on Artificial Intelligence, Media Literacy or eTwinning to Erasmus+.

A dynamic panel discussion closed the event featuring contributions from WebWise, WorldWise Global Schools and the Development and Intercultural Education (DICE) project.

National Quality Label Awardees

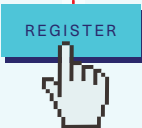
The National Quality Label Award Ceremony recognised the outstanding work of 14 award-winning teachers whose eTwinning projects demonstrated excellence, innovation and collaboration.



8 Steps to Register a Project

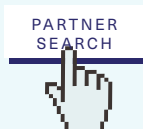
1 Register

Register on the [European School Education Platform](#). Check your inbox for an email to complete the sign-up process. Once verified, you will be prompted to register for eTwinning. You can join your organisation or create it, if it doesn't already exist on the platform.



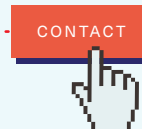
2 Find a Partner

Go to the [Partner Search](#) where you can check out proposed project ideas from other teachers and answer their posts. You can also post your own ideas and connect with teachers.



3 Check Availability

Contact teachers first to check their availability and interest in working with you. Make sure you have ticked that you are available for an eTwinning project on your profile.



4 Add Contacts

Once you've found potential partners, **add them as a contact**. This allows you to register a project together.

5 Create a Project

When they accept your request, you are ready to set up a project! Decide which one of you will register the project — only one can do this. Go to [MY PROJECTS](#) and click on [CREATE PROJECT](#).



6 Approval

After you submit your project, your colleague will receive a notification to accept it. Once this is done, the project will be approved by the NSO of both countries.

7 Your TwinSpace

Once the project is approved, you can find it in [MY PROJECTS](#) where you can navigate to your [TWINSPACE](#), the private workspace for your project.



8 Collaborate!

You can now go to the [PROJECT > MEMBERS > INVITE A MEMBER](#) to add other colleagues you want to work with. Check out our [new support videos](#) and [eTwinning handbook](#) to guide you while using the platform.



Contact the National Support Organisation for eTwinning in Ireland

Léargas manages funding for national and international exchange programmes in education and training, youth, sport, and community work. We are a registered charity under the aegis of the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science. Our programmes connect people and communities across borders, bringing an international dimension to organisations in Ireland.

Léargas is the National Support Organisation for eTwinning in Ireland. In addition to eTwinning, we administer EPALE, Eurodesk, and Language Initiatives in Ireland on behalf of the European Commission. We are also the National Agency for Erasmus+ in schools, youth, sport, adult education, and vocational education and training, as well as for the European Solidarity Corps programme.

Déan teagmháil leis an tSeirbhís Tacaíochta Náisiúnta eTwinning in Éirinn

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Déanann Léargas bainistíocht ar mhaoiniú do chláir mhalartaithe náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta san oideachas agus oiliúint, san obair óige, sa spórt agus san obair phobail. Is eagraíocht neamhbhrabúis sinn faoi choimirce na Roinne Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais, Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta. Ceanglaíonn ár gcláir daoine agus pobail trasna teorainneacha, ag tabhairt gné idirnáisiúnta d'eagraíochtaí in Éirinn.

Is í Léargas an Eagraíocht Tacaíochta Náisiúnta do eTwinning in Éirinn. Lasmuigh d'eTwinning, déanaimid bainistíocht ar EPALE, ar Eurodesk agus ar Tionscnaimh Teangacha in Éirinn thar ceann an Choimisiúin Eorpaigh. Is sinne an Ghníomhaireacht Náisiúnta don gClár Erasmus+ san oideachas scoile, san óige, sa spórt, san oideachas aosach, agus sa ngairmoideachas agus san oiliúint, chomh maith leis an gCór Dlúthpháirtíochta Eorpach.



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Support Organisation**

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**Twinning
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