

Transition to Adult Services in County Galway

An Information Booklet for Young People with an Intellectual Disability and their Families



**3rd Edition
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Table of Contents

‘Type of Service’ Abbreviations:

ET = Education and Training

FIS = Family or Individual Support

RH = Residential/Housing Support

T = Transport

VS = Vocational Support

Page	Service	Organisation	Type of Service
3	Occupational Guidance Service	HSE	VS
4	Ability West	Ability West	ET, FIS, RH, T
6	New Directions Services – Community-Based Service Locations	Ability West	FIS
7	St. Joseph’s Training Services	Ability West	ET
9	Ability West – Adult Day Services	Ability West	ET, FIS
10	Brothers of Charity Services Ireland – Galway Region	Brothers of Charity Services Ireland – Galway Region	ET, FIS, RH, T
11	Apple Tree Services	Brothers of Charity Services Loughrea	ET
12	Duirling Services	Brothers of Charity Services Casla, South Connemara	ET
14	Ionad Cois Cladaigh	Brothers of Charity Services Casla, South Connemara	ET
15	Lets Get to Work Programme	Brothers of Charity Services Galway City/South Connemara	ET
16	Clarenmore Services	Brothers of Charity Services Galway City	ET, FIS
17	Horizon Services	Brothers of Charity Services Galway City	ET, FIS
19	NASC	Brothers of Charity Services South Connemara	ET, FIS
20	TOPE Services	Brothers of Charity Services Ballinasloe	ET

Page	Service	Organisation	Type of Service
21	SUAS Services	Brothers of Charity Services Ballinasloe	FIS
22	Blue Teapot Theatre Company	Brothers of Charity & Ability West Galway City	ET
23	Galway and Roscommon Education & Training Board	GRETB	ET
27	Galway City Community Training Centre	GCCTC	ET
28	Galway Community College	GCC	ET
29	Galway Technical Institute	GTI	ET
31	National Learning Network	NLN	ET
34	Casla Resource Centre	RehabCare	FIS
35	Galway Resource Centre	RehabCare	FIS
36	Supported Accommodation Service	RehabCare	RH
37	EmployAbility Galway	EmployAbility Galway	VS
38	Intreo	Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection	FIS
39	Citizens Information Service	Citizens Information	FIS
40	DeafHear	DeafHear	FIS
41	NCBI Working for People With Sight Loss	NCBI	FIS
42	National Advocacy Service	National Advocacy Service	FIS
43	Galway Centre for Independent Living	Galway Centre for Independent Living	FIS, T
45	Independent Living Ireland	Independent Living Ireland	FIS
46	Galway Rural Development	Galway Rural Development	FIS, ET
49	Horses Connect	Horses Connect	FIS
50	Additional Resources		

Who we are?

Occupational Guidance Service, Community Healthcare West, Galway

Who do we support?

People with intellectual disabilities

How do we support?

The role of the Occupational Guidance Service is to provide vocational advice, support, information and direction in order to enable people with disabilities and their advocates make informed decisions regarding service requirements in relation to training, education and employment.

For school leavers, the occupational guidance officer:

- a. meets the person and their family/advocate as appropriate
- b. works closely with the school
- c. assists in identifying and clarifying personal goals and individual needs
- d. explores the training and development options most suited to their needs
- e. supports the individual in accessing their selected training, education or service options

For more information:

Contact: Anne Silke

Phone: 091 546267

Email: anne.silke@hse.ie

Address: Occupational Guidance Service,
Shantalla Health Centre,
25 Newcastle Road,
Galway



Who are we?

Ability West

Who do we support?

Ability West supports children and adults with intellectual disability and autism living in both Galway City and County.

How do we support?

Ability West provides supports and services to people by:

- Placing their fundamental rights at the centre of our activities and promoting those rights
- Empowering people to live the lifestyle of their choice and to play a meaningful role in all aspects of community life
- Working in active partnership with people, their families, staff, our voluntary supporters and the broader community

The core values of Ability West include:

- Rights Based Approach
- Person-centredness
- Independence
- Participation in Community life
- Partnership
- Openness, Integrity, Accountability and Transparency.

Ability West provides services and supports to over 540 children and adults with intellectual disability across 11 geographical areas in Galway City and County. Since our establishment in 1962 we have been to the forefront in developing community-based services for people with intellectual disability and autism.

Some of the services we provide to school leavers include:

- Rehabilitative training: providing opportunities to develop independent living skills through QQI accredited modules, work experience and community involvement

- Adult day services and community-based service locations: providing supports to adults ensuring the core values of the HSE Interim Standards for New Directions of service provision
- Outreach programmes
- Short breaks, including centre-based respite, home-sharing and community supports
- Self-directed supported living
- Multi-disciplinary supports
- Volunteers

Services and supports are provided on a needs basis and prioritisation system, as identified through the admission process.

For more information:

Phone: 091 540900

Email: enquiries@abilitywest.ie

Address: Ability West, Blackrock House, Salthill, Galway

Website: www.abilitywest.ie

Facebook: www.facebook.com/abilitywest



Who are we?

New Directions Services – Community-Based Service Locations

Who do we support?

Ability West operates a number of community based service locations, which provide an individualised service to young people transitioning into adult services. Services are located in: Galway City, Headford, Moycullen, Tuam and Mountbellew.

How do we support?

The New Directions Service locations provide a base through which our young people can plan their future with the support of their key workers. This may include accessing further education, employment and social opportunities within their local community, and is based on the core values of New Directions, which are community inclusion, active citizenship, person-centredness and quality services. It is a flexible service through which each person is supported in their individual choices, needs and abilities to achieve their goals in collaboration with the New Directions 12 supports. Through this our young people are supported in increasing their independence by developing their life skills and their connections with their local community.

For more information:

Phone: 091 540900

Email: enquiries@abilitywest.ie

Address: Ability West, Blackrock House, Salthill, Galway

Website: www.abilitywest.ie

Facebook: www.facebook.com/abilitywest



Who are we?

St. Joseph's Training Services (Ability West)

Who do we support?

Ability West operates St. Joseph's Training Services which currently provides a Rehabilitative Training (RT) programme in Galway City, Tuam and Mountbellew.

- We support young adults who have left school
- We support those who want to learn and develop a range of independent living and social skills
- We support people who express an interest in further education and training at QQI levels 1 and 2
- We support individuals who wish to develop their social communication skills through our communication for life programme
- We support individuals who may have an interest in developing employment skills through our work experience/job coach programme
- We support individuals who are striving towards a more independent self with a tailored person centred programme with QQI levels 1 and 2 certification
- We support those who wish to explore their potential to benefit from our programmes in a holistic and person centred manner

How do we support?

- Each trainee has an annual review and an Individual Training Plan to guide their training time with us
- Trainees are matched to programmes based on their individual preference needs and ability
- Our training is QQI accredited and rehabilitative in focus

- The rehabilitative training programmes are funded by the HSE
- The course is full-time, Monday to Friday, 30 hours per week over 3 years
- Trainees receive 30 annual leave days and at present trainees are entitled to a training allowance funded by the HSE
- We support individuals via a team of instructors in various subject areas to achieve nationally recognised QQI certification
- We operate a total communication environment to support trainees' speech, language and communication needs
- We support people to access opportunities to further education within the local community
- We work closely with local businesses to deliver a work experience programme with the assistance of job coaches
- In addition to the QQI courses we also offer trainees opportunities to enhance their learning, therapeutic and health and social gain by way of various in house and community activities
- We offer a comprehensive social skills curriculum based around elements including video modelling and role playing with the overall aim of generalisation across different social environments

For more information:

Contact: Kevin Purcell, Assistant Director of Client Services

Phone: 091 540900

Email: Kevin.Purcell@abilitywest.ie

Address: Ability West, Blackrock House, Salthill, Galway H91 R254

Website: www.abilitywest.ie

Facebook: www.facebook.com/abilitywest



Who are we?

Adult Day Services

Who do we support?

Ability West operates a number of community based service locations, which provide an individualised service to adults. Services are located in; Galway City, Tuam, Mountbellew, Clifden, Glenamaddy and Portumna.

How do we support?

The Adult Day Services focus primarily on an individual's personal support and developmental needs. The curricula and programmes reflect the fundamental needs of service users in relation to learning, personal development and capacity building for the person and their meaningful life objectives. To this end, the design of Adult Day Services programmes build on the potential of each person to expand their capacity to take their rightful place in their communities.

For more information:

Phone: 091 540900

Email: enquiries@abilitywest.ie

Address: Ability West, Blackrock House, Salthill, Galway

Website: www.abilitywest.ie

Facebook: www.facebook.com/abilitywest



Who are we?

The Brothers of Charity Services Ireland – Galway Region

Who do we support?

The Brothers of Charity Services Ireland – Galway Region provide a wide range of services to people with intellectual disability and their families in Galway City and County.

How do we support?

We support people to be valued citizens in their local community, to have ordinary life experiences and to be closely connected to family and friends. We are committed to supporting people to make choices about their lives and to the provision of quality services that meet people's needs. Our services range from early intervention for young children through to school age services and a variety of programmes for adults, devised according to the level of support that individuals require and priorities that they identify. Services include educational, day, residential, respite, family support, a range of multidisciplinary support services and supports to individuals who live independently. We aim to support people to lead self-directed lives (SSDL) and to embed the values of social role valorisation (SRV). The core values and principles of New Directions are grounded in our day services.

For more information:

Phone: 091 721400

Email: contact@bocsi.ie

Address: Woodlands Centre, Renmore, Galway

Website: www.brothersofcharity.ie/galway/



Who are we?

Apple Tree Services - Rehabilitative Training Programme

Who do we support?

School leavers with intellectual disability including people on the autism spectrum

How do we support?

The centre offers a 4 strand programme:

1. Formal Education: QQI level 2 and 3 programmes leading towards certification in EmployAbility Skills (level 3) and General Learning (level 2). We are increasingly availing of integrated, community based education (Loughrea GRETB) as well as online and in-house programmes
2. Community Integration: Incorporating personal development and social connectedness
3. Preparation for Independent Living: Practical skill development including personal safety
4. Preparation for Work: Including work experience and supported employment

For more information:

Contact: Mary O'Dea

Phone: 091 842405

Email: mary.odea@bocsi.ie

Address: Millennium House, West Bridge, Loughrea, Co. Galway



Who are we?

Duirling - Ionad Oiliúna Athshlánúcháin – Rehabilitative Training Programme

Who do we support?

Young adults with intellectual disability graduating from school

How do we support?

Is clár oiliúna athshlánúcháin é Ionad Duirling atá faoi chúram Sheirbhísí Bruach na Mara i gConamara Theas. Cuirtear an clár seo ar fáil do dhaoine le míchumas intleachta atá idir 18 bliain d’aois agus 25 bliain d’aois.

Duirling RT is a 3 year programme that offers formal education at QQI levels 1-3 leading towards certification in Level 1 and 2 - General Learning; Level 3 – Communications, Health Safety Awareness, Computer Literacy, Digital Media, Internet Skills, Self-Advocacy, Career Preparation, and Personal and Interpersonal Skills. A Personal Development, Relationships and Sexuality course is also delivered.

Independence: Preparation for independent living and practical skill development including life skills, home management, money skills and goal setting

Training: Preparation for work which includes work skills, horticulture, woodwork, outreach, jobs, catering skills

Empowerment: Community integration and engagement incorporating personal development and working in partnership with agencies

This training endeavours to empower and enable these young adults to make positive connections with and between family, friends and community and equip the trainees to make informed choices about the

issues that affect their lives. The programme is trainee-centred, directed through a system of individual programme planning. Learning to learn strategies are incorporated into all activities and trainees are encouraged to take responsibility for their own action plans.

For more information:

Contact: Mairéad Conroy

Phone: 091 506865

Address: Dúrling RT – Ionad Oiliúna Athshlánúcháin, Ionad Tionsclaíochta, Casla, Co. na Gaillimhe

Email: RTbnm@bocsi.ie

Website: www.brothersofcharity.ie/galway/services/adult-west



Who are we?

Ionad Cois Cladaigh

Who do we support?

Adults with intellectual disability

How do we support?

This day service provides various activities in the resource centre which is situated in Casla, South Connemara, and includes: pottery, art, patchwork/quilting, knitting, drama, music, creative writing, woodwork, cookery, leisure activities, health and wellbeing, hill walking, advocacy and sports. Educational needs are supported by teachers from Galway Roscommon Education and Training Board (GRETB) in literacy, writing, computers, cookery and horticulture.

For more information:

Contact: Mairéad Conroy

Phone: 091 506865

Address: Ionad Cois Cladaigh, Casla, Co. na Gaillimhe

Email: DayServiceBNM@bocsi.ie

Website: www.brothersofcharity.ie/galway/services/adult-west



Who are we?

Let's Get to Work Programme

Who do we support?

Young adults with intellectual disability who are graduating from schools in Galway City and South Connemara

How do we support?

The Let's Get to Work Programme focuses on supporting individuals to:

- Access mainstream education and training opportunities focusing on building their interpersonal and social skills and preparing individuals for the world of work
- Access jobs and work opportunities and work with employers to maintain and develop suitable jobs
- Promote and support opportunities for people volunteering and contributing to their local community
- Support the development of suitable social enterprises and business;
- Access information and develop their skills

Research potential employment opportunities for individuals in our services.

For more information:

Contact: Ursula Collis

Phone: 091 755231

Email: ursula.collis@bocsi.ie

Address: Fáilte House, Ballybane, Galway

Website: www.brothersofcharity.ie/galway/services/adult-west/horizon-services



Who are we?

Clarenmore Services

Who do we support?

Adults with intellectual disability

How do we support?

Clarenmore services provide residential, day and supported independent living services. The day/resource centres, Clarenmore and Glenina are located in Galway city. The aim of each service is to offer a varied and stimulating day programme where choice is central for all who attend. We aim to promote a positive learning environment where each individual feels secure and happy in a modern, person-centred day service. Activities are planned on an individual basis, with the emphasis on new challenges and opportunities. We promote independence and freedom of choice to enhance each individual's quality of life. Individuals in the day centres are invited to partake in a variety of programmes supported by teachers, instructors, supervisors, and care staff.

For more information:

Contact: Tony Gallagher

Phone: 091 782544

Address: Clarenmore Centre, Enterprise Centre, Ballybane, Galway.

Email: tony.gallagher@bocsi.ie

Website: www.brothersofcharity.ie/galway/services/adult-west/clarenmore-services



Who are we?

Horizon Services

Who do we support?

We support adults with mild intellectual disability who are able to live independently, with support, either within the community or with their families.

How do we support?

Horizon Services fosters independent lifestyles for adults by providing a range of multi-disciplinary support services including community support; social work; psychology; counselling and psychiatry (fortnightly day clinic). Multi-disciplinary supports are provided on a needs basis and are accessed through referrals within the team. Individuals are supported to live a safe and full life within their own community, to enhance their quality of life and well-being by developing personal goals and to make decisions in their daily lives regarding work, training, relationships, accommodation, personal development, health and general welfare.

Horizon Services operates two models of service – the core programme, Horizon Services, as well as an Individualised Support Service. With the individualised service, customised funding supports the development of a programme under New Directions that is distinctly tailored to address individual needs. These needs are often more complex and require higher support with training from GRET or NLN, than those availing of the main Horizon programme.

A number of programmes are also being developed as a direct response to needs that have been identified. These are the Lets Get to Work Programme, Galway Adults Arts Programme, New Directions, and NASC South Connemara Community Support Programme.

Community residential services or respite are not provided by Horizon Services.

For more information:

Contact: Ursula Collis

Phone: 091 755231

Email: Ursula.collis@bocsi.ie

Address: Fáilte House, Ballybane, Galway

Website: www.brothersofcharity.ie/galway/services/adult-west/horizon-services



Who are we?

NASC

Who do we support?

We support adults with intellectual disability and their families.

How do we support?

NASC is being established as a community based outreach programme to support young adults within the South Connemara area.

The adults will be supported to access opportunities for education, volunteering, work experience and work opportunities. NASC aims to be an ongoing support programme which will raise the awareness of the needs of the adults and build partnerships within the community to meet these needs.

This individual support programme establishes and maintains single point of contact and provides relevant information to adults and their families.

For more information:

Contact: Ursula Collis

Phone: 091 755231

Email: Ursula.collis@bocsi.ie

Address: Fáilte House, Ballybane, Galway

Website: www.brothersofcharity.ie/galway/services/adult-west/horizon-services



Who are we?

TOPE (Training Options & Personal Education) Resource Centre and
TOPE RT (Rehabilitative Training)

Who do we support?

Adults with intellectual disability

How do we support?

Using Personal Outcome Measures individuals are supported to be involved in community life through meaningful activities and to achieve their own personal goals. Individuals are also supported in achieving QQI accredited modules at levels 1, 2 and 3 if they so choose with support from the GRETB and NALA's Write On Programme.

For more information:

Contact: Sharon Carty

Phone: 087 4111090

Email: Sharon.carty@bocsi.ie

Address: TOPE Resource Centre, 1 Canalach, Poolboy, Ballinasloe
TOPE RT, 12 Oakglen, Poolboy, Ballinasloe

Website: www.brothersofcharity.ie/galway



Who are we?

SUAS Services

Who do we support?

We support adults with intellectual disability living in the community in East Galway.

How do we support?

SUAS Services is an outreach service with a multi-disciplinary team based in the Ballinasloe town centre. SUAS aims to promote well-being and enhance opportunities. SUAS prioritises people's independence, choices, access to community services and safety using a person-centred approach. The service supports people to be recognised as valued members of their community, feel equal and be treated fairly. We provide access to community link workers, psychologists, social workers and psychiatrists based on a person's individual needs and goals.

For more information:

Contact: Tracey Moriarty

Phone: 0909 643687

Email: tracey.moriarty@bocsi.ie

Address: Church Hill, Ballinasloe

Website: www.brothersofcharity.ie/galway/services/adult-east-sector/suas-services



Who are we?

Blue Teapot Theatre Company

Who do we support?

People with intellectual disability

How do we support?

Blue Teapot Theatre is a multi-award winning Theatre Company, Performing Arts School & Outreach Programme for people with intellectual disability at the forefront of arts & disability in Ireland. Blue Teapot Performing Arts School is an accredited provider of training for people with intellectual disability. Founded in 2010, it was specifically set up to address the needs of those learners who want to gain formal training and certification in QQI creative modules. Research showed us that, traditionally, learners with intellectual disability don't attend conventional theatre schools in Ireland. We recognised the need for this provision to be made available. Our tutors are all subject matter experts with a wealth of experience in creative arts. We are privileged to work with some of the very best in Ireland in their own careers – directors, playwrights, actors, artists and musicians.

For more information:

Phone: 091 520977

Email: info@blueteapot.ie

Website: www.blueteapot.ie



gretb

Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna
na Gaillimhe agus Ros Comáin
*Galway and Roscommon
Education and Training Board*

Who are we?

Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board

Who do we support?

GRET Further Education and Training Services (FET) supports adults (with and without a disability) who wish to return to learning on a full-time and part-time basis.

How do we support?

The GRET FET Department offers a broad range of programmes:

- **Adult Guidance and Information Service** provides a free impartial, professional and confidential information and guidance service on all education and training opportunities available both locally and nationally. The Adult Guidance and Information Service will support you to make informed choices on the most suitable education or training programme to suit your specific interests, needs, ability and career goals. We can also advise you on any additional supports you may require to complete your education or training programme. We also provide support on qualifications, certification, careers, employment, CAO and other college applications, funding opportunities and support services. The service is free of charge and available throughout the geographical areas of Counties Galway and Roscommon
- **Adult Basic Education (Literacy) Service**: Offering a broad range of support to adults who would like to improve their writing, reading, numeracy, computer and English language skills at QQI Levels 1 to 3. There are programmes in Family Learning, Themed Learning and workplace basic education, group classes and one-to-one support. Classes are free of charge and available throughout the geographical areas of Counties Galway and Roscommon.
- **Community Education Service** offers opportunities for learners to learn, share skills and meet new people in their own community. Our purpose is to build the confidence and self-esteem of participants for their future educational and developmental needs. We provide grants

or tuition hours to community groups to carry out a desired course. Groups decide the topic to be covered. It can vary from Cookery, Choral Singing, T'ai Chi, Yoga and Stained Glass Making to Woodturning, Gardening, First Aid, DIY and Information Technology. The Community Education programme is available in communities throughout the geographical areas of Counties Galway and Roscommon.

- **Back to Education Initiative (BTEI)** provides part-time further education and training programmes for adults at QQI levels 3 to 5 during the day time, evenings and weekends. Programmes may include General Learning, Leaving Certificate, Healthcare, Arts and Crafts, Sport and Recreation, Horticulture, Information Technology, Hair and Beauty, Employability Skills and much more. BTEI is available throughout the geographical areas of Counties Galway and Roscommon.
- **Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme (VTOS)** is a full-time general education and work-related training programme for adults who are over the age of 21 and in receipt of DEASP social welfare payment for 6 months. Courses are certified at QQI Levels 3 to 6 and can include Healthcare, Film Production, Sound Production, Early Childhood Care and Education, Business Administration, Art Craft and Design, Horsemanship, Horticulture and Tourism and Business. Learners may receive a training allowances whilst completing the programme. There are 7 VTOS centres within GRETB located in Tuam, Galway City, Ros Muc, Ballinasloe, Letterfrack, Boyle, Roscommon and Castlerea.
- **Youthreach Programme** provides a full-time educational programme for Early School Leavers, aged between 16 and 20 years. It offers participants the opportunity to identify and pursue viable options within adult life and provides certification at QQI Levels 3 and 4 and/or Leaving Certificate Applied. Learners may receive a training allowances whilst completing the programme. Youthreach is offered at 7 locations within GRETB: Galway City, Tuam, Ballinasloe, Letterfrack, Portumna, Ballaghaderreen and Roscommon Town.
- **National Learning Network** is a specialist vocational training programme is available to people with disabilities who may require more intensive support. The features include: longer duration, adapted equipment, transport and enhanced programme content. Access, General Learning, Employability Skills, Employer Based

Training, Fresh Start, Employability Skills, IT by Blended Learning, Transition and Horticulture. National Learning Network is available in 2 centres in GRETB: Ballybrit in Galway City and Castlerea, Co. Roscommon.

- **Local Training Initiative** is a full time project-based training and work experience programme carried out in the local community and run by local community groups throughout Galway and Roscommon. The programme is designed for people who are unemployed, primarily those aged between 18 and 35 years who are experiencing difficulty in gaining entry to the labour market due to personal, social or geographic disadvantage. LTI Provide certification at QQI level 3 to 5 in a range of areas including Employability Skills QQI Level 3, Professional Cookery QQI Level 5, Retail Practises level 4, E-Business QQI Level 5 and Office Administration QQI Level 5. There are five locations within GRETB: Strokestown, Castlerea - RWN and An Chistin, Ballaghaderreen and Portumna.
- **Community Training Centre** is an independent community-based organisation, catering for the training and employment needs of early school leavers, primarily aged between 16 and 21. Programmes may include employability skills, personal and social employment skills and science skills. Courses are generally one year in duration and lead to QQI Awards at levels 3 and 4. Training is in small group setting within a supportive and structured environment with opportunities to sample real working situations through work experience. There are three locations for CTC within GRETB: Galway City, Ballinasloe and Tuam.
- **GRETB Training Centre** in Mervue offers a wide variety of day, evening and apprenticeship training programmes for people who wish to enter, re-enter or progress within the jobs market. There is a strong emphasis placed on developing skills that are easily transferred to the workplace and many of the courses available lead directly to employment. A range of programmes are available including are CompTIA A, Bus Driving D Licence, Welding MMA Flat-Horizontal Plate, Solidworks CAD Parametric Modelling, MySQL & PHP for Dynamic Websites, Pharmacy Sales Assistant and Accounting Technician and Payroll Manual and Computerised.
- **Post Leaving Certificate College** is a full-time 1 or 2 year programme offered QQI level 5 & 6 for those over the age of 17 who have completed Leaving Certificate or equivalent. A very broad range of programme are available in most career fields including

Horticulture, Boat Building, Motor Technology, TV and Film, Business Administration, Pre Nursing, Science, Engineering, Sports, Equine Science and Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy. Post Leaving Certificate College are in four locations throughout GRETB; Coláiste an Chreagáin, Mountbellew; Clarin College, Athenry; Galway Technical Institute, Galway, and Moneenageisha/Galway Community College, Galway City.

For more information:

Phone: 091 706 238

Address: Further Education and Training Department, Mervue
Business Park, Galway

Website: www.gretb.ie



Who are we?

Galway City Community Training Centre

Who do we support?

Early school leavers and lone/independent parents

How do we support?

Through the following ways:

- Practical and hands on experience of the work environment with highly experienced instructors
- A recognised qualification (Major Award)
- A training allowance and six weeks annual leave
- A progression plan which supports learners to access employment, further training and education
- Training within a supportive and structured environment
- Opportunities to sample real working situations through work experience
- Learner tracking for 6 months to provide support

For more information:

Contact: Blaze Aylmer / Eleanor O'Boyle

Phone: 091 753849

Email: recruit@galwayctc.ie

Address: 3-4 Liosbán Industrial Estate, Tuam Road, Galway

Website: www.galwayctc.ie



Who are we?

Galway Community College

Who do we support?

Learners on QQI Level 5 & 6 courses

How do we support?

In Galway Community College (GCC), there are a broad range of level 5 & 6 courses on offer in six specialist Departments: Social Care, Business Secretarial and Multimedia, Science, Design & Technology, Music Theatre & Film, Sport & Equine and Horticulture.

While studying in GCC you can expect a friendly inclusive environment, and we have a strong reputation for excellent tutoring with fantastic progression opportunities. We have an ideal location close to the city with free parking, a café, with modern facilities and career guidance.

On completion of a PLC course a maximum of 400 points can be achieved for your progression to third level education. Successful completion and certification of a QQI level 5 course allows you to apply through the CAO system for any course up to 400 points. Close ties with industry in Galway City and County and a focus on third level education are key factors in what has made the PLC College at GCC a centre of excellence.

Applications are taken online and we will have an Open Day in March 2019 - a date to be determined, usually early March. Please check PLC section on our website for details.

For more information:

Phone: 091 755464

Email: gcc@gretb.ie

Address: Galway Community College, Wellpark Road, Galway

Website: www.galwaycc.ie



Who are we?

Galway Technical Institute (GTI)

How do we support?

We provide QQI Level 5 & 6 courses to over 1,100 learners annually. At GTI, courses are designed to be of immediate and practical use in the workplace or as a stepping stone to further study and higher qualifications. We offer careers and progression information, a counselling service, project support. We also have a Disability Officer to provide information regarding additional resources. Everything our students learn will be valuable to them throughout their lives.

We offer over 50 different courses across a range of Departments which include: Applied Health & Social Sciences, Art & Design, Business, Fashion, Hairdressing & Beauty, Computing & Engineering, Media, Sport & Recreation, Technology – Design & Engineering, and General Studies.

Our Applied Learning approach is designed to enable students learn more effectively in real-life situations. Applied Learning provides our students with learning experiences that involve solving problems that are based on real-life situations. GTI's underlying philosophy is about learning together. This is centred on learner activity, collaborative learning and critically, learning to learn.

Facilities at GTI include recording studios, creative digital media laboratories, hairdressing and beauty salons, furniture design workshops, fashion studios plus a wide range of specialist IT facilities.

Our European Links provide work placements abroad for over 100 GTI students annually. Students currently travel to France, Portugal, Spain, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Scotland and the Canary Islands. These placements are fully funded and afford students the opportunity to gain valuable work related training in institutions and enterprises throughout Europe.

Graduates of GTI are certified and accredited by nationally and internationally recognised examining and professional bodies. These include: QQI, DES, ITEC, CIBTAC, CIDESCO, City and Guilds, FAI

Ireland and Toon Boom. Students with disabilities can be supported through supports available through the HEA and GTI staff.

For more information:

Phone: 091 581342

Email: info.gti@gretb.ie

Website: www.gti.ie

National Learning Network

Investing in People, Changing Perspectives

Who are we?

National Learning Network (NLN) Galway

Who do we support?

National Learning Network (NLN) provides a range of flexible training courses and support services for people who need specialist support (job seekers, unemployed, people with an illness or disability) in 50 centres around the country. The SOLAS courses and HSE programmes, all of which include work experience, offer nationally recognised qualifications including QQI, ECDL, and City and Guilds ensuring that students are ready to get a job or go on to further education.

How do we support?

We promote equality by providing world-class training, education and employment access services, and by actively influencing the creation of a more inclusive society.

For more information:

Contact: Patrick Hannon - Area Manager

Phone: 086 0432617

Email: galway@nlm.ie

Address: NLN Horizon Business Park, Ballybrit, Galway

Website: www.nlm.ie

More detailed information about the courses NLN offer are as follows:

Access

Personal Development & Person-Centred Planning. This programme is designed to provide students with opportunities to learn the skills, knowledge and attitudes needed to develop personal effectiveness and self-advocacy skills, become more independent in social & vocational situations, operate in a supported community situation and progress onto further training or education.

Contact: Orla Turley – Instructor

Phone: 091 781264 **Email:** orla.turley@nln.ie

Transition - Introductory Skills Training (IST) GY-878

This QQI level 3 programme provides learners with personal, social and work related skills that will enable them to progress to greater levels of employment readiness. Learners will learn to identify their strengths and goals for the future as well as exploring employment or further training opportunities through work experience at a host company. Practical skills training will be delivered using a mix of structured directed training, self-direction and one to one coaching. Training will be tailored to meet individualised training and development needs through individual action planning.

Contact: Breda Reidy – Instructor

Phone: 091 781268 **Email:** breda.reidy@nln.ie

Fresh Start (Tús Nua) - Introductory Skills Training GY-894

This programme provides learners with an environment to achieve greater levels of personal development and vocational exploration, to develop IT and business skills and to explore employment or further education opportunities. Learners will be supported in progressing to higher level programmes within National Learning Network or onto further education or training of their choice. Certification at QQI level 4 is available for all learners.

Contact: Dave Scully – Instructor

Phone: 091 781265 **Email:** dave.scully@nln.ie

Horticulture Specialist Skills Training (SST) GY - 823

This QQI Level 4 Programme will provide students with the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge required to pursue a career of

choice in the horticulture industry. The first year of the programme will concentrate on modules designed to give you a solid foundation in horticulture skills, while year 2 will facilitate you in specialising in a preferred area such as Landscape/Garden Maintenance, Garden Centre Operations, Nursery Operations, Market Gardening or Turf Maintenance.

Contact: Bob Reilly - Instructor

Phone: 086 0455506 **Email:** bob.reilly@nln.ie

Employer Based Training (EBT) – Specialist Skills Training GY-880 QQI Level 4 Employment Skills

This Employer Based Training is a QQI Level 4 Employment Skills. A flexible course that enables students to acquire practical skills with a host company in a skill area of their career choice. The course is a blend of on-the-job & in-centre training. The EBT co-ordinator will support both student & employer while student is in placed employment.

Contact: JJ Byrne – EBT Co-ordinator

Phone: 086 0433304 **Email:** jj.byrne@nln.ie

IT & Business Studies – Specialist Skills Training (SST) GY-839

A flexible programme providing students with the opportunity to achieve Information Technology and Business Administration qualifications to QQI level 5. This programme combines centre-based learning with home-based learning and work experience, where students are provided with the necessary information technology, office and personal effectiveness skills to obtain and retain employment or move on to further education. This is supported by home visits, online tutorials and centre based training. All equipment is supplied on loan to the students.

Contact: Kevin Fitzgerald - Instructor

Phone: 086 0432801 **Email:** kevin.fitzgerald@nln.ie

Who are we?

Casla Resource Centre, RehabCare

Who do we support?

Adults over 18 and under 65 with an Intellectual Disability, Mental Health challenges, Autism and/or a physical or sensory disability.

How do we support?

The Casla Resource Centre is an Irish and English speaking day service, which supports each person to achieve a meaningful and valued life in their community. These support services are based both in the person's local community and in our centre in Casla. We start by getting to know the person, their interests, skills and support needs. We provide supports for a person in areas such as wellbeing, social and personal development as well as supports around accessing education/training, employment and other areas identified by the person and their families/supporters.

RehabCare is the provider of choice of person-centred, health and social care services that facilitate people who are disadvantaged to participate in the life of their local community in ways that match their choices, aspirations and needs.

For more information:

Contact: Louise Kenny (Community Services Manager)

Phone: 091 572210

Email: louise.kenny@rehabcare.ie

Address: Unit 3k, Casla Industrial Estate, Casla, Co. Galway

Website: www.rehabcare.ie

Who are we?

Galway Resource Centre, RehabCare

Who do we support?

Adults over 18 and under 65 with an Intellectual Disability, Mental Health challenges, Autism and/or a physical or sensory disability

How do we support?

The Galway Resource Centre is a day service, which supports each person to achieve a meaningful and valued life in their community. These support services are based both in the person's local community and in our centre in Galway. We start by getting to know the person, their interests, skills and support needs. We provide supports for a person in areas such as wellbeing, social and personal development as well as supports around accessing education/training, employment and other areas identified by the person and their families/supporters.

RehabCare is the provider of choice of person-centred, health and social care services that facilitate people who are disadvantaged to participate in the life of their local community in ways that match their choices, aspirations and needs.

For more information:

Contact: Louise Kenny (Community Services Manager)

Phone: 091 755517

Email: louise.kenny@rehabcare.ie

Address: Unit 9b, Liosbán Business Park, Galway

Website: www.rehabcare.ie

Who are we?

Supported Accommodation Service, RehabCare

How do we support?

We support people with various diagnoses in supported accommodation.

How do we support?

We support individuals with daily living skills and with community involvement. We tailor our work according to each individual's plan, which outlines their preferences and support needs.

RehabCare is the provider of choice of person-centred, health and social care services that facilitate people who are disadvantaged to participate in the life of their local community in ways that match their choices, aspirations and needs.

For more information:

Phone: 091 750643

Email: geraldine.hannon@rehabcare.ie

Address: 16 Glenina Heights, Renmore, Galway

Website: www.rehabcare.ie



Who are we?

EmployAbility Galway is not for profit company funded by Department of Social Protection

Who do we support?

We support Job-seekers with disabilities, mental health difficulties and people in recovery from illness or injury in the Galway City and County area to find and maintain employment. We also support employers to integrate people with disabilities into their workplaces.

Entry criteria: Clients must be willing and able to work a minimum of 8 hours per week, and able to progress to independent employment by the end of an 18-month period, and be between the ages of 18 and 65.

Clients are required to be job ready, as our goal is to support you in finding a paid job, and help you become independent in that role so you are able to work independently without our support. Job readiness is defined by the Department of Social Protection as having the necessary, training, motivation, education and ability to progress to work.

How do we support?

We provide a four stage support service

1. Profiling and Career Planning*
2. Job Search
3. Employed with Support
4. Working Independently

For more information:

Contact: Pauline O'Dwyer

Phone: 086 3800444

Email: pauline@employabilitygalway.ie

Website: www.employabilitygalway.ie

*Stages 3 and 4 may not be an outcome for all clients

**Who are we?**

Intreo

Who do we support?

All citizens

How do we support?

Intreo is a service from the Department of Social Protection. Intreo is a single point of contact for all employment and income supports. Intreo offers practical, tailored employment services and supports for jobseekers and employers and is designed to provide a more streamlined approach. Intreo also provides access to a range of supports for people with disabilities who are seeking employment and/or returning to education.

For more information:

Phone: 091 500800

Website: www.intreo.ie



Who are we?

The Citizen's Information Service

Who do we support?

All members of the public

How do we support?

We provide information, advice and advocacy to all members of the public on their rights and entitlements in relation to social welfare, Health Board entitlements, consumer, Employment Law, Family Law, education and a wide range of other topics.

For more information:

Phone: 0761 07 7600

Fax: 091 563687

Email: Galway@citinfo.ie

Website: www.citizensinformation.ie

Who are we?

DeafHear

Who do we support?

DeafHear provides a range of specialist supports and services to Deaf and Hard of Hearing people and their families. This will include Deaf and Hard of Hearing young people who need additional supports in the area of technology and communication. We seek to support and work in partnership with other organisations and service providers to make their services fully accessible to Deaf and Hard of Hearing people. In addition, we support all age ranges and communicate through a persons' preferred language, either Irish Sign Language or English.

How do we support?

We provide a range of supports to individuals, families and organisations. This includes family support, information and advice services, assistive technology, hearing aid service and Deaf and Hearing Awareness Training (DAHAT). We provide this support through one to one assessments, case work or group work. The DeafHear team are skilled in communicating through a persons' preferred language, Irish Sign Language or English.

For more information:

Address: DeafHear, 9a St. Francis Street, Galway

Phone: 091 564871 or 086 8648659

Fax: 091 564873

Email: galway@deafhear.ie

Website: www.deafhear.ie



Who are we?

NCBI – Working for People With Sight Loss

Who do we support?

People experiencing sight loss

How do we support?

NCBI Working for People with Sight Loss, Ireland's national sight loss agency, is a not-for-profit charitable organisation which provides supports and services nationwide to people experiencing sight loss.

Office hours Mon-Fri 9am-5pm.

Referrals can be made through the website.

For More Information:

Phone: 091 564926

Address: NCBI Galway, Odeon House, Eyre Square, Galway

Website: www.ncbi.ie



Who are we?

National Advocacy Service for People with Disabilities

Who do we support?

People with disabilities

How do we support?

The National Advocacy Service (NAS) for People with Disabilities provides an independent, confidential and free, representative advocacy service that works exclusively for the person using the service and adheres to the highest professional standards. NAS works to ensure that when life decisions are made, due consideration is given to the will and preference of people with disabilities and that their rights are safeguarded.

For more information:

Phone: 087 0641163 (Rebecca Leavy)
or 086 0291948 (Andrea Farrell)

Email: rebecca.leavy@advocacy.ie or andrea.farrell@advocacy.ie

Address: National Advocacy Service - Western Region, Westside Resource Centre, Seamus Quirke Road, Galway



Who are we?

Galway Centre for Independent Living

Who do we support?

Galway Centre for Independent Living provides supports to people with disabilities in Galway City and County.

How do we support?

Galway Centre for Independent Living (GCIL) is a not-for-profit organisation. For over 24 years, we have been successfully providing professional services which facilitate a person's choice to continue living independently in their own home and to participate in society.

Services provided include:

Personal Care Assistants for people with disabilities

- A Personal Assistant Service is the cornerstone in achieving independent living.
- A Personal Assistant assists the Service User in all aspects of daily living. This assistance is given at the direction and discretion of the person with disabilities, to ensure that they can engage in independent living and apply self-determination and control over their own life. The role of the Personal Assistant is personalised to the requirements of the individual and may include assisting with personal and domestic care needs, social, educational or work activities.
- Galway Centre for Independent Living is the employer of the Personal Assistant, but the Leader takes on the role of their day-to-day line manager. This means that the Leader (Client) will take on the direct supervision and on-the-job training of the Personal Assistant to ensure that their requirements are met.

Care for the Older Person & Home Care Services:

- Personal care such as assistance getting out of bed; assistance with dressing; assistance with toileting & personal hygiene
- Respite care
- Housekeeping
- Preparing meals
- Organising household matters
- Convalescence
- Medication prompting
- Errands

Services are flexible and Person Centred which puts the individual and/or family member, at the centre of the service ensuring your personal plan is based upon your views, wishes and choices. All our Home Care Staff are trained and fully vetted.

Education Support

Galway Centre for Independent Living provides an Educational Support Assistant Service to people with disabilities in Galway City and County. This assistance is given at the direction and discretion of the Service User (Leader), to ensure that they can engage in educational activities which further enhances independent living and facilitates the individual applying self-determination and control over their own life. The role of the Educational Support Assistant is personalised to the requirements of the individual Leader and may include:

- Attending lectures and assisting with note taking
- Assisting with projects
- Navigating around campus
- Personal care assistance e.g. lunches, hygiene
- Research assistance

Accessible Transport Service

Galway Centre for Independent Living provides a subsidised, accessible transport service for people with disabilities and people with mobility

issues in Galway City and County. The Accessible Transport Service is available to people who have a disability or a mobility issue who sign up as Transport Club Members

- Transport Club Membership is free
- Members enjoy door to door service
- €5 per journey within city limits. Rates for usage of the service outside city limits varies depending on the journey so please contact the office for details
- Drivers are professional, friendly, GLUAIS trained and Garda vetted
- Service available Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 6.00pm. Services outside these hours can be provided after consultation with transport department.

Access Consultancy Service

Galway Centre for Independent Living provides this service exclusively for making business premises accessible to the disabled community and to ensure premises are in accordance with legislation i.e. Building Regulation, Equal Status Act, etc. Galway Centre for Independent Living can also provide advice on proposed, planned and existing buildings/extensions.

For more information:

Phone: 091 773910

Email: mail@gcil.ie

Address: Unit 53 Briarhill Business Park, Briarhill, Galway

Website: www.gcil.ie



Who are we?

Independent Living Ireland Ltd

Who do we support?

People of all ages with physical and intellectual disabilities/ the elderly/ dementia sufferers.

How do we support?

We provide assistive technology and telecare services to enable people to live more independently. Modern technologies can improve mobility, health and well-being and provide safety and security in and around the home.

Mobile systems encourage activity outside the home and also improve links to the wider community. We assess the property to ascertain what equipment or supports are needed along with the family/individual. Once the assessment is complete a plan is drawn up and assistive technology installed that will alert family/carers in the case of an emergency.

Alongside our technology supports, our Amicitia social hub provides a space for participatory initiatives to take place. This hub includes a community garden, markets, a plastics recycling centre and our new pottery workshop opened in partnership with the Vision Arch Club. Contact us to get involved in projects from the hub.

For more information:

Contact: Billy Mulvihill

Phone: 091-877007 **Mobile:** 0879272308

Email: billy@independentlivingireland.ie

Address: Old Church Street, Athenry Co. Galway

Website: www.independentlivingireland.ie



Who are we?

Galway Rural Development was established in July 1994. It is a limited company and its Directors represent statutory agencies, social partners, business, farming, community and voluntary sectors. Our staff are based in Athenry, and out of other locations throughout the County.

Who do we support?

Galway Rural Development supports groups and individuals who experience social exclusion, marginalisation and discrimination by providing with the opportunity for training, education and employment.

How do we support?

Galway Rural Development offers a number of programmes which include:

Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

SICAP is a social inclusion programme, which currently runs from 2018 – 2022. SICAP addresses high and persistent levels of deprivation through targeted and innovative, locally-led approaches. It targets and supports those who are disadvantaged in Irish society and less likely to use mainstream services and assists both individuals and groups. It has a Youth Employment Officer whose remit is to work with 15 – 24 year old young people.

LEADER

LEADER (Liaison Entre Actions pour le Developement d'Economie Rurale) is an EU Rural Development Programme to support activities and improve the quality of life in rural areas. GRD has been managing LEADER since 1991, providing funding supports to community groups and innovative small businesses. The LEADER (2014-2020) Programme is 63% funded by the EU & 37% by the Irish exchequer.

Rural Social Scheme

The Rural Social Scheme (RSS) is aimed at low-income farmers and fishermen/women. To qualify for the RSS, you must be getting a social welfare payment. You then work 19.5 hours per week with a top up on your payments. In return, people participating in the RSS provide services that benefit rural communities. If permission is given by the herd owner, then partners, sons and daughters who are also in receipt of any of the above payments may also qualify. Please note that the herd number may only be used once.

Tús

Tús is an activation initiative for those who are unemployed and aims to provide short term quality working opportunities for a year for people who are unemployed, while at the same time carrying out beneficial work within the community. The Department of Social Protection will identify and contact persons on the Live Register who satisfy the criteria and offer them the opportunity to be considered for placement as opportunities arise. GRD maintains a panel from which persons will be recruited and as the placement opportunities arise those on the panel will be matched with the work and recruited.

Community Employment Scheme

The CE Scheme is designed to help people who are in receipt of a social welfare payment for one year or more to re-enter the active workforce. One of the main features of the CE Scheme is that it offers participants the opportunity to engage in accredited training, while at the same time partaking in useful work for Community Groups.

For more information:

Phone: 091 844335

Email: info@grd.ie

Address: Mellows Campus, Athenry, Co Galway.

Website: www.grd.ie



Who are we?

Horses Connect

Who do we support?

People of all ages with a range of challenges

How do we support?

- Equine-assisted Personal Development
- Therapeutic Horse-Riding (one-to-one)

For more information:

Contact: Eileen Bennett or Mary Mitchell

Phone: 089 4332922 or 087 2023590

Email: horsesconnect@gmail.com

Address: Western Stables, Ballagh Rd, Bushypark, Co Galway

Website: www.horsesconnect.com

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Useful Publications:

Post-School Education and Training: Information on Options for Adults and School Leavers with Disabilities Pamphlets (2018) www.ncse.ie/information-booklets-pamphlets-2

- Information on Post-School Options for School Leavers and other Adults with Disabilities: Further Education and Training
- Information on Post-School Options for School Leavers and other Adults with Disabilities: Higher Education
- Information on Post-School Options for Rehabilitative Training and Adult Day Services

'New Directions – Personal Support Services for Adults with Disabilities' – HSE, 2014. For more information: www.hse.ie/eng/services/list/4/disability/newdirections/

Useful Websites:

- Qualifax is Ireland's National Learners' Database. It is the "one stop shop" for learners and the public and is maintained and managed by QQI. Qualifax offers comprehensive information on further and higher education and training courses available in Ireland and further afield. www.qualifax.ie
- Careers Portal – a web-based guidance resource – www.careersportal.ie
- The National Council for Special Education (NCSE) was set up to improve the delivery of education services to persons with special educational needs arising from disabilities with particular emphasis on children. www.ncse.ie
- The Fund for Students with Disabilities – The Fund for Students with Disabilities allocates funding to further and higher education colleges for the provision of services and supports to full-time students with disabilities. The fund aims to ensure that students can participate fully in their academic programmes and are not disadvantaged by reason of a disability. www.studentfinance.ie
- AHEAD, the Association for Higher Education Access and Disability is an independent non-profit organisation working to promote full access to and participation in further and higher education for students with disabilities and to enhance their employment prospects on graduation. www.ahead.ie
- The Disability Access Route to Education (DARE) is a third level alternative admissions scheme for school-leavers whose disabilities have had a negative impact on their second level education. DARE offers reduced points places to school leavers, who as a result of having a disability; have experienced additional educational challenges in second level education. – www.accesscollege.ie

This information booklet was developed and produced in partnership between Ability West, Brothers of Charity Services Ireland – Galway Region, the HSE and RehabCare with the support and assistance of the adult service providers.

The information contained in this booklet is accurate as of October 2018, and it is expected that it will be updated periodically.



Seirbhís Sláinte
Níos Fearr
á Forbairt

Building a
Better Health
Service

