



Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL)

Irish Pilot Project 2023/24

**Invitation for English-medium Primary and Post-primary schools to
participate in Year 3 of the pilot project**

29 Márta 2023

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1. Introduction

1.1 Why is a content and language integrated learning approach being considered?

The education-related objectives set out in the *20-Year Strategy for the Irish language 2010-2030* and the associated *Action Plan 2018-2022* include the Department’s commitment to explore a Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) approach to implementing partial immersion in Irish¹ in schools and early learning and care settings.

1.2 What is CLIL?

A CLIL approach provides for the delivery of aspects of the curriculum through a language that is not the medium of instruction in the school. While CLIL is not the same as immersion, it offers flexibility and opportunities for a more focused

¹ A parallel CLIL project is being rolled out in Foreign Languages as set out in *Languages Connect, Ireland’s Strategy for Foreign Languages in Education 2017-2026*.

approach to target language (Irish in this instance) learning and teaching in English-medium early learning and care settings and schools by

- increasing the exposure of learners to Irish by extending the use of Irish as a medium of communication and instruction in real contexts beyond discrete Irish language lessons
- supporting the development of learners' higher order cognitive and creative competences
- exploiting and integrating opportunities for language acquisition and content learning in other curricular areas
- expanding the pedagogical repertoire of early learning and care educators, primary teachers and teachers of Irish and other subjects
- extending and promoting the benefits of bilingualism beyond the Irish-medium sector.

1.3 Why now?

Significant developments have taken place in Irish education and in Irish language curricular provision at early years, primary and post-primary level since the publication of the Government's *20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010-2030*.

- For the first time, separate Irish language specifications were published in 2016 (revised in 2023) for Junior Cycle Irish in Irish-medium and in English-medium post-primary schools.
- The *Primary Language Curriculum* (2019) promotes an integrated approach to the learning of English and Irish.
- Early-years Education Inspections (EYEI) which evaluates the quality of educational provision in early-years settings participating in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Programme funded through the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth was introduced in 2016.

1.4 What are the benefits of CLIL?

The benefits to students include:

- Improvements in their motivation and knowledge in both the Irish language and the subject
- Improvements in their cognitive skills such as higher-order and critical thinking
- Developing their cultural awareness and knowledge
- Developing their learning and communication strategies

The benefits for teachers include:

- Increased professional development opportunities where training will increase their understanding of the CLIL approach, the pedagogical principles underpinning CLIL, along with other language teaching pedagogies
- Opportunities for increased levels of collaboration with colleagues from within their own school, as well as teachers from other settings and schools.
- Higher motivation levels around learning Irish amongst learners in their classrooms.

2. Scope of the Irish CLIL project

2.1 What is the aim of this CLIL Project?

The aim of this CLIL project is to improve learner competence, confidence and disposition to Irish in English-medium Early-years settings and in primary and post-primary schools.

Useful information and sample resources are available on the JCT website at:

[https://www.jct.ie/content_and_language_integrated_learning\(CLIL\)/home](https://www.jct.ie/content_and_language_integrated_learning(CLIL)/home)

2.2 What is the scope of the CLIL Project?

This is a 3 year project. Year 1 (The Pilot) was a developmental phase in which a small number of English-medium schools and Early learning and care settings worked with the Department's project team to identify the resources and supports. In keeping with the department's aim to increase incrementally the number of schools participating in the project, expressions of interest are now being invited from schools to participate in this third and final year of the project.

Establishing communities of practice both between and within schools is an important aspect of this project. This will mean that the participation of a minimum number of teachers in each school is required. As Irish is the target language of this project it is important that at post primary level the teachers participating are teachers of Irish who will be teaching a 2nd subject to a first-year group of students in 2023/24.

A steering group has been established to manage the CLIL project comprising representatives of the Department, the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA), An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta & Gaelscolaíochta (COGG), the Post Primary Languages Ireland (PPLI), Conradh na Gaeilge, and language experts from a number of Higher Education Institutions.

2.3 What subjects will be taught through Irish

The choice of particular subjects will depend on those proposed by schools expressing an interest as well as on the availability of appropriate support staff. The following subjects are only indicative and the final subjects selected may be different.

At primary level the subjects may include PE, Visual Arts, Maths or Science. At post-primary level subjects such as Geography, Home Economics, Visual Art, Music, RE, SPHE and CSPE will be considered.

2.4 Which class groups will participate?

The project will focus on the infant classes and 6th Class at Primary level and 1st year in Junior Cycle. Participating students will normally study Irish as a second language in an English-medium school (T2).

2.5 How many classes/lessons will be delivered through Irish?

For schools participating in project for the first time in 2023/24, there will be a 1 x 8 week implementation module in each of the target subjects.

For schools continuing the project from 2022/23, there will be opportunity to expand the timeframe for in-school engagement with the CLIL approach.

2.6 How will the project be evaluated?

Regular evaluation by the teachers will be required, at the start, throughout and at the end of the year. Indicator / evaluation resources have been developed and will be provided to teachers for this purpose. Feedback from students, teachers, principals and parents/guardians will also be used to inform the further development of the project.

2.7 How will participating teachers be supported?

CPD in the CLIL approach will be provided by Oide to teachers participating in the project. This will be informed by research and third level experts working in the fields of linguistics and teacher education. It is expected that this will be up to three days, some of which may include in-school support.

Substitution and travel costs may be provided where necessary for teachers participating in CPD.

3. How to Apply

The Department is now seeking Expressions of Interest from recognised English-medium primary and post-primary schools to participate in this exciting and innovative project for 2023/24. The Department will select schools based on location, type, and teaching resources available.

Interested schools should complete the online Application Form available through the link at: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/f67134-20-year-strategy-for-the-irish-language-2010-2030/> no later than close of business on **Friday 5 May 2023**.

Schools selected to participate for the first time in 2023/24 will be notified by the Department on or before Thursday 25 May 2023.



Foghlaim Chomhtháite Ábhar agus Teanga (FCÁT)

Tionscadal Píolótach don Ghaeilge 2023/2024

Cuireadh do bhunscoileanna agus d'lar-bhunscoileanna a fheidhmíonn trí mheán an Bhéarla chun páirt a ghilcadh i mbliain 3 den tionscadal píolótach

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1. Réamhrá

1.1. Cén fáth go bhfuil cur chuige comhtháite ábhair agus teanga á phlé?

I measc na gcuspóirí i réimse an oideachais atá leagtha síos sa *Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010-2030*, agus sa *Plean Gniorúachta 2018-2022* atá bainteach léi, tá tiomantas na Roinne maidir le cur chuige Foghlaim Chomhtháite Ábhar agus Teanga (FCÁT) a fhiosrú mar thaca don pháirt-tumoideachas sa Ghaeilge² a chur i bhfeidhm i scoileanna agus i suíomhanna Luath-Óige.

1.2 Céard é FCÁT?

Éascaíonn cur chuige FCÁT soláthar gnéithe den churaclam i dteanga nach teanga teagaisc na scoile í. Cé nach ionann FCÁT agus an tumoideachas, cuireann sé solúbthacht agus deiseanna ar fáil le cur chuige atá níos diríthe ar fhoghlaím agus ar theagasc teanga a aimsiú (an Ghaeilge sa chás seo) i scoileanna agus i suíomhanna Luath-Óige ina bhfuil an Béarla mar mheán trí:

- theagháil na bhfoghlaimeoirí leis an nGaeilge a mhéadú trí úsáid na Gaeilge a leathnú mar mheán cumarsáide agus teagaisc i bhfíorchomhthácsanna taobh amuigh de cheachtanna Gaeilge;
- thacú le forbairt inniúlachtaí ardoird cognáiocha agus cruthaitheacha na bhfoghlaimeoirí;
- leas a bhaint as agus imeascú a dhéanamh maidir deiseanna teanga a shealbhú agus ábhar a fhoghlaím in achair eile curaclaim;
- stór oideolaíochta oideoirí Luath-Óige, mhúinteoirí bunscoile agus mhúinteoirí na Gaeilge agus ábhair eile a mhéadú;
- buntáistí an dátheangachais taobh amuigh d'earnáil na Gaelscolaíochta a leathnú agus cur chun cinn.

1.3 Cén fáth an t-am i láthair?

Tá forbairtí suntasacha tar éis tarlú san oideachas in Éirinn agus i soláthar curaclam na Gaeilge san earnáil Luath-Óige, sna bunscoileanna agus sna hiar-bhunscoileanna ó fhoilsíú *Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010-2030* an Rialtais.

- Don chéad uair, foilsíodh sonraíochtaí faoi leith do Ghaeilge na Sraithe Sóisearaí in iar-bhunscoileanna a fheidhmíonn trí mheán na Gaeilge agus an Bhéarla in 2016.

² Tá tionscadal FCÁT comhthreomhar ar bun i réimse na dTeangacha lasachta mar atá leagtha amach in *Déanann Teangacha Nasc: Straitéis doTheangacha Lasachta san Oideachas in Éirinn 2017-2026*.

- Cuireann *Curaclam Teanga na Bunscoile* (2019) cur chuige comhtháite chun cinn i bhfoghlaim an Bhéarla agus na Gaeilge.
- In 2016, cuireadh i bhfeidhm Cigireacht atá dírithe ar an Oideachas sna Luathbhlianta (COL) a dhéanann meastóireacht ar chálíocht an tsoláthar oideachais sna suíomhanna Luath-Óige atá páirteach sa Chlár Cúraim agus Oideachais Luath-Óige (COLÓ), maoinithe ag an Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige.

1.4 Cad iad buntáistí an Tionscadail FCÁT?

I measc na mbuntáistí do scoláirí tá:

- Feabhas ar spreagadh agus eolas na scoláirí sa Ghaeilge agus san ábhar araon
- Feabhas ar scileanna cognaíocha na scoláirí, ar nós smaointeoireacht ardoird agus criticiúil
- Feasacht agus eolas cultúrtha na scoláirí a fhorbairt
- Straitéisí teanga agus cumarsáide na scoláirí a fhorbairt.

I measc na mbuntáistí do mhúinteoirí tá:

- Méadú ar dheiseanna d'fhorbairt ghairmiúil ina gcuirfidh an oiliúint lena dtuiscent ar an gcur chuige FCÁT, na prionsabail oideolaíochta atá mar bhunús le FCÁT, chomh maith le hoideolaíochtaí eile teagasc teanga
- Deiseanna le comhoibriú le comghleacaithe laistigh dá scoil féin a mhéadú, chomh maith le múinteoirí ó shuíomhanna agus scoileanna eile
- Leibhéal spreagtha ardaithe maidir le foghlaim na Gaeilge i measc foghlaiméoirí ina gcuid ranganna.

2. Raon an Tionscadail Gaeilge FCÁT

2.1 Cad í aidhm an Tionscadail FCÁT?

Is í aidhm an tionscadail FCÁT ná cumas, muinín agus meon an fhoghlaimeora i leith na Gaeilge a fheabhsú i suíomhanna Luath-Óige agus i mbunscoileanna agus in iarbhuanscoileanna a fheidhmíonn trí Bhéarla.

Tá failte ar eolas úsáideach agus samplaí d'acmhainní ar shuíomh gréasáin SSM ag:

[https://www.jct.ie/leagangaeilge/content_and_language_integrated_learning_\(CLIL\)/home_gae](https://www.jct.ie/leagangaeilge/content_and_language_integrated_learning_(CLIL)/home_gae)

2.2 Cad é raon an Tionscadail FCÁT?

Is tionscadal 3 bliana é seo. Céim forbartha a bhí i gceist le Bliain 1 (An Píolót) inar oibrigh líon beag scoileanna agus suíomhanna Luathbhlianta le foireann tionscadail na Roinne chun acmhainní agus na tacáiochtaí a aithint. Tá sé beartaitheanois deis a thabhairt do líon níos mó scoileanna páirt a ghlaicadh sa tionscadal. I mbliain 3 tá sé mar aidhm againn leanúint ar aghaidh ag méadú de réir a chéile ar líon na suíomhanna Luathbhlianta agus na scoileanna atá rannpháirteach. Ag teacht le hadhaim na Roinne cur le líon na scoileanna atá rannpháirteach sa tionscadal, táthar anos ag tabhairt cuireadh do léirithe spéise ó scoileanna don tríú bliain agus an bhliain dheireanach den tionscadal.

Is gné thábhachtach den tionscadal seo é pobail chleachtais a bhunú idir agus laistigh de scoileanna. Dá bharr seo, ní mór d'íoslíon áirithe múinteoirí a bheith páirteach i ngach scoil. De bharr gurb í an Ghaeilge sprioctheanga an tionscadail, is den riachtanas é gur múinteoirí Gaeilge a mbeidh an dara hábhar curaclaim á theagasc acu do scoláirí sa chéad blhain in 2023/24 a bheidh ag glacadh páirte.

Bunaíodh grúpa stiúrtha leis an Tionscadal FCÁT a bhainistiú, a chuimsíonn ionadaithe ón Roinn, An Chomhairle Náisiúnta Curaclaim agus Measúnachta (CNCM), An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta & Gaelscolaíochta (COGG), Teangacha Iar-bhunscoile Éire, Conradh na Gaeilge, OCBÁC, Ollscoil Teicneolaíochta na Mumhan, Ollscoil Luimnígh agus Ollscoil na hÉireann Mhá Nuad.

2.3 Cad iad na hábhair a mhúinfear trí Ghaeilge?

Braithfidh rogha na n-ábhar ar na hábhair a chuirtear chun cinn ag na scoileanna a léiríonn spéis chomh maith le foireann tacaíochta cuí a bheith ar fáil. Níl sa liosta ábhair seo a leanas ach liosta samplach agus féadfaidh na hábhair a roghnaítear ar deireadh a bheith difriúil. Ag leibhéal na bunscoile is féidir go mbeidh Corpoideachas, Amharcealaíona, Matamaitic nó Eolaíocht san áireamh. Ag leibhéal na hiar-bhunscoile breithneofar ábhair mar Thíreolaíocht, Eacnamaíocht Bhaile, Amharcealaín, Ceol, Oideachas Reiligiúin, OSPS agus OSSP. Braithfidh rogha na n-ábhar ar na cinn a mholann scoileanna a léiríonn spéis chomh maith le foireann tacaíochta cuí a bheith ar fáil. Níl sa liosta ábhair seo a leanas ach liosta samplach agus féadfaidh na hábhair deiridh a roghnaítear a bheith difriúil.

2.4 Cad iad na rang-ghrúpaí a bheidh páirteach?

Díreoidh an tionscadal ar na ranganna naónán agus Rang a 5 agus 6 ag leibhéal na Bunscoile agus an chéad blhain sa tSraith Shóisearach. De ghnáth, déanfaidh na scoláirí a bheidh páirteach staidéar ar an nGaeilge mar dhara teanga (T2) i scoil a fheidhmíonn trí mheán an Bhéarla.

2.5 Cé mhéad rang/ceacht a chuirfear ar fáil trí Ghaeilge?

I gcás na scoileanna a bheidh ag glacadh páirte den chéad uair in 2023/24, beidh modúl feidhmithe 1 x 8 seachtaine i ngach ceann de na spriocábhair.

Beidh deis ann do na scoileanna sin a bheidh ag leanúint leis an tionscadal ó 2022/23 cur leis an tréimse ama rannpháirtíochta ionscoile leis an gcur chuige FCÁT.

2.6 Conas a dhéanfar meastóireacht ar an tionscadal?

Beidh gá le meastóireacht rialta ag múinteoirí, ag an túis, i rith an tionscadail agus ag deireadh na bliana. Tá acmhainní táscaire/meastóireachta forbartha agus cuirfear ar fáil iad do mhúinteoirí chun na críche sin. Ina theannta sin, úsáidfear aiseolas ó mhúinteoirí/chaomhnóirí, ó phríomhoidí, ó scoláirí agus ó thuismitheoirí mar bhonn eolais d'fhorbairt an tionscadail.

2.7 Cén tacaíocht a thabharfar do mhúinteoirí atá rannpháirteach?

Cuirfidh Oide FGL sa chur chuige FCÁT ar fáil do mhúinteoirí a bheidh rannpháirteach sa tionscadal. Beidh saineolaithe tríú-leibhéal atá ag obair sna réimsí teanga agus oliúint mhúinteoirí chomh maith le taighde mar bhonn eolais don FGL. Táthar ag súil go maírfidh sé suas le trí lá, agus tacaíocht ionscoile san áireamh le cuid de.

D'fhéadfáí go gcuirfear costais ionadaíochta agus taistil ar fáil do mhúinteoirí a bheidh ag glacadh páirte san FGL más gá.

3. An dóigh le hiarratas a dhéanamh

Tá an Roinnanois ag lorg Léirithe Spéise ó bunscoileanna agus iar-bhunscoileanna aitheanta a fheidhmíonn trí mheán an Bhéarla chun páirt a ghilacadh sa tionscadal spreagúil agus nuálach seo don scoilbhliain 2022/23. Roghnóidh an Roinn scoileanna bunaithe ar shuíomh, cineál agus ar na hacmhainní teagaisc atá ar fáil.

Ba cheart do scoileanna ar suim leo a bheith páirteach sa tionscadal Foirm larratais a chomhlánú ar líne roimh am scoir gnó ar an **Aoine 5 Bealtaine 2023**.

Is féidir teacht ar an bhFoirm larratais Ar-líne trí nasc atá ar:

<https://www.gov.ie/ga/foilsiochan/3dd069-none/>

Dearbhóidh an Roinnna scoileanna a roghnófar le bheith páirteach ar nó roimh an Déardaoin, 25 Bealtaine 2023.