

Annual Report



2012

**Warrenmount CED Centre Ltd.,
Mill Street
Dublin 8**

**Company Number 357738
Charity Number 14856**

Contents

Foreward.....	3
Introduction	4
Centre Structure and Staff.....	7
Statistics.....	10
Strategic Plan 2013–2016	18
IT Classes 2012	19
Craft Class – Quilling.....	20
Volunteer Opportunities 2012.....	22
Change for Community Education 2012	24
Our Journey to Évora - Portugal.....	26
Warrenmount Centre Café	28
Community Employment Programme	29
Funding Support.....	30

Foreward

“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow...”

The first little seed was planted in 1813 when the Carmelite Sisters established a Convent on this site. In 1892 Presentation Sisters took on the task of nurturing this little seed as Nano did in her day. Over time the little seed grew, developed and flourished. From that first seedling developed the education provision that is available today at Warrenmount campus catering for Early Start, Primary and Second level, community education.

Community and adult education provision began in 1995 when the Centre’s red door opened to welcome the first adult learners. In the intervening 17 years there have been many changes:

- Increased number of learners
- Greater variety of courses and programmes
- Greater gender balance
- Greater cultural diversity
- Provision of accredited courses
- Linkages with learners in different countries through the Grundtvig Projects
- A newly refurbished building

Such growth and development did not just happen. It has been driven by the Mission Statement and the values espoused by the Centre and the commitment and dedication of the Director, staff and tutors. The Board of Directors has overseen the development and has now ratified another strategic plan mapping the way forward for the next three years. The Centre greatly appreciates the generosity of the many volunteers, Board members and volunteer tutors, who willingly give of their time and expertise to further the objectives of the Centre. The ongoing support of Presentation Sisters has been a significant factor in the development of the Centre.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I congratulate all who teach and learn at the Centre and express gratitude to Pauline and her staff for their ongoing support and enthusiasm which ensure that the welcoming atmosphere encourages those who come through that red door to remain and take another step on the life-long learning path.

Introduction





The Red Door opened on January 4th 2012 to the newly re-furbished Centre. Forgotten were the last days of December when teamwork at its best, organised furniture and equipment, readying rooms for our return after the Christmas break. Registration days and induction days came in quick succession; the new term began providing community education in inner city Dublin, in a comfortable and well-equipped Centre. They year continued showing a marked increase in the number of learners participating in programmes. The external authenticator commended the high standard of the FETAC portfolios assessed. Thanks are due to the commitment and dedication of staff and tutors in spite of challenging economic times and resulting cut back in funding.

Warrenmount Centre, addressing the issue of educational disadvantage through community education, creating opportunities, building confidence and developing skills, welcomes the AONTAS Position Paper of November 2012, *Maximising Resources*. We share the concern of AONTAS regarding the constraints of the current financial situation on community education, as it struggles to sustain its service, protect its core work and make the best use of the resources available to it.






In Warrenmount Centre we believe that 'adults who continue to learn lead healthier, happier lives' and that the benefits are far-reaching – from personal fulfilment to opportunities for employment. From a Government stance, the current focus is on employment and up skilling, but our experience with our learners convinces us, that while this is important, it is a narrow, restrictive view, especially in a climate where there are few job opportunities. So we continue to find ways of providing a broad range of courses, from Tai Chi to FETAC Certification at Level 5, responding to the expressed needs of our participants.

We are particularly proud of our learners, who having completed FETAC modules in the Centre, return to support fellow-learners in our Buddy Reading and Buddy Computer programmes. Developing 'civic participation', self esteem and building community - this is community education.

Achievements in 2012

-  The new library in the Centre provides a valuable opportunity for work experience using the library software. The library supports tutors and learners particularly the Literacy programme and Buddy Reading programme. The membership for learners is increasing.
-  The strategic plan was developed and completed
-  The garden space provides work experience for our participants on our Community Employment Project and will also support the gardening class
-  Our EU project meeting in Portugal included six learners and was a very positive experience for all concerned

Challenges for 2013

-  Continue work on the Governance Code and ensure Centre compliance
-  Ensure the aims and objectives of the Strategic Plan will be disseminated and achieved
-  Continue to provide relevant programmes and courses in spite of a reduction in funding
-  Further develop the garden project to include a polytunnel and grow vegetables for use in the Centre Cafe
-  The final meeting of the European Project will be held in Warrenmount Centre. We will host a three day event for 42 visitors from a total of six countries

Vision

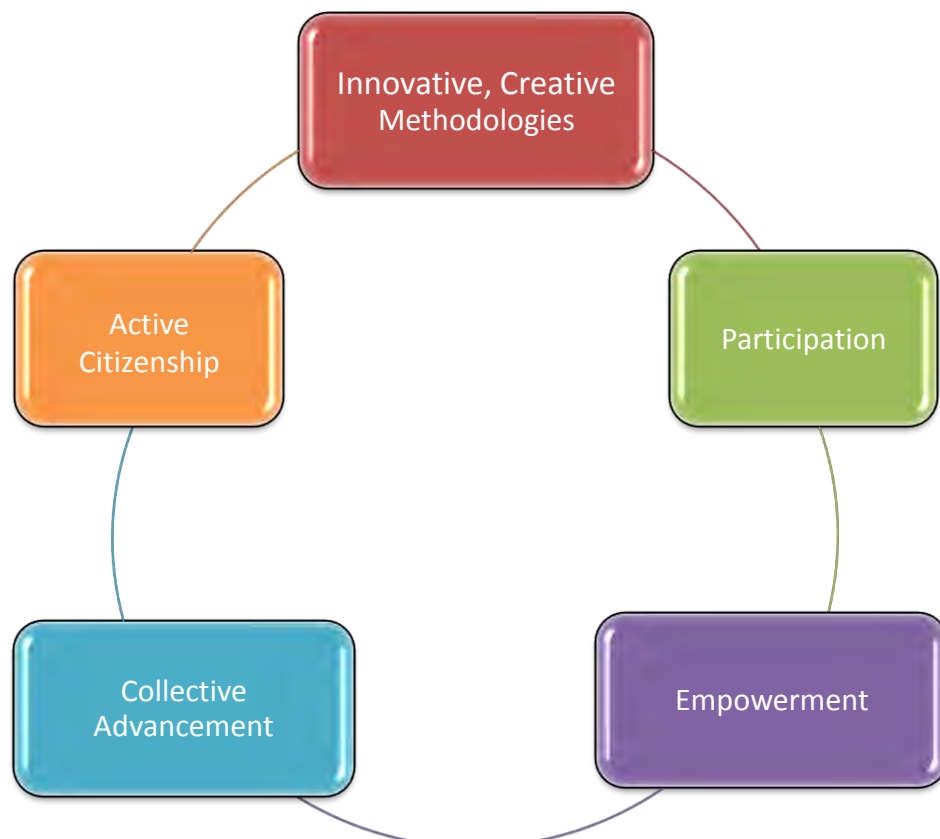
Our vision is that Warrenmount CED Centre will be perceived as a Centre of Excellence in the provision of community education.

Mission Statement

At Warrenmount Centre, we aim to meet the needs of the local community by creating opportunities, building confidence and developing skills. We do this through a learning style that is **person-centred**, **participative** and **informal**. Through this, we hope to give people a voice enabling them to create a better society.

Guided by the charism of the Presentation Congregation the Centre is committed to providing an open, friendly, welcoming atmosphere where people are respected and valued.

Values



Centre Structure and Staff

Management Structure 2012

Board of Directors

Membership of the current Board of Directors of the Company Limited by guarantee is as follows

Margaret Healy	Chairperson	Presentation Ed Office
David Corrigan	Secretary	Trustee representative
Gerard Long	Treasurer	Trustee representative
Georgina Wright	Participant	Local representative
Liam Kilbride	Presentation	Ed Office, CE Sponsoring Group
Marie Stella Mangan	Presentation	Leadership Team nominee
Eamonn Hunt	Trustee Representative	
Eddie Harkness	Participant	Local representative

Thanks to the support of Boardmatch.ie three new members joined the Board towards the end of 2012: Julie Fenton, Victoria Durrer, Tom O'Brien. Donal Egan also joined the board in December 2012.

Pauline McGaley, Director of the Centre, attends monthly meetings and submits a work report.

The Board meets each month with the exception of July and August

Centre Staff

Administration	Pauline Mc Galey	Director
	Stephen Flitton	Development Worker
	Audrey McCann (P/T)	Centre Secretary
	Anne Flynn (P/T)	Administrator
	Marion O'Raw	CE Supervisor
Centre Café	Liz Deegan	Manager
Resource	Stephen Flitton	IT Resource
	Lia Clarkson	Programmes Co-ordinator

Tutors	Course	Accreditation
Stephen Flitton	Computers	FETAC L3 FETAC L4
Mary Walsh	Childcare	FETAC L5
Bernie McCarthy	Communications FIT Level 3/ 5	FETAC L3 FETAC L3/5

Tutors	Course	Accreditation
Sam Lee	Tai Chi	
Margo Kelly	Horticulture	FETAC L3
	Local History	
Pamela Jordan	Life Skills Work Skills	FETAC L3
Helen O'Keeffe	Life Skills Work Skills	FETAC L3
	Art and Design	FETAC L3
	Exploring Routes to Learning (EU Project)	
	FIT Level 3 and L4	FETAC L3, L4
Mary Moloney	Basic Computers	
	Quilling	
Orla Ni Haonigh	Book Club/Creative Writing	
	Gaeilge	
Anna Marron	Life Skills Work Skills	FETAC L3
	FIT Level 3	FETAC L3
Lia Clarkson	Spanish	FETAC L3
	FIT Level 4	FETAC L4
	FIT Level 5	FETAC L5

All these tutors work on a part time basis

Counselling/Therapy is available on request in the adjoining building

Teresa Ryan	Accredited
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Voluntary Literacy Tutors

Lia Clarkson	Co-ordinator Literacy Programme
Gerard Long	
Alicia Byrne	
Esther Herron	
Anna Marron	
Aileen Le Brocquy	

Buddy Readers

The very successful 'Buddy Reading' group takes place every Wednesday with language learners taking the opportunity to read a book with their 'Buddy'. The session includes conversation and comprehension. We continue to build our team of Buddy Volunteers.

The voluntary tutors are available for two hours each week

Literacy/ Mentoring

Many learners availed of one-to-one tuition for two hours per week during the year. Fifteen students worked online for **FETAC Level 2** certification. This is a blended learning course with assisted learning if needed.

Links

The Centre has links with NALA, DALC, AONTAS, FAS, CDVEC, RAPID, the Wheel and the Department of Social Inclusion. It also links with Liberties College and other projects with a similar ethos operating in the area.

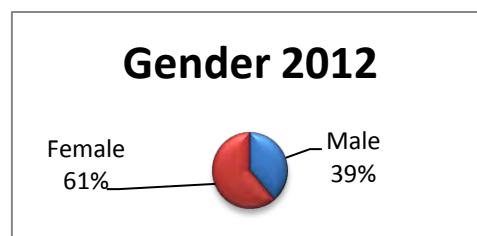
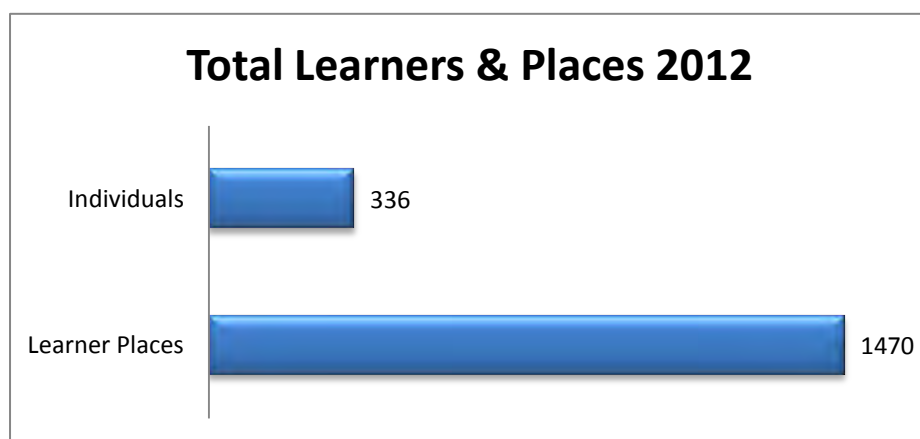
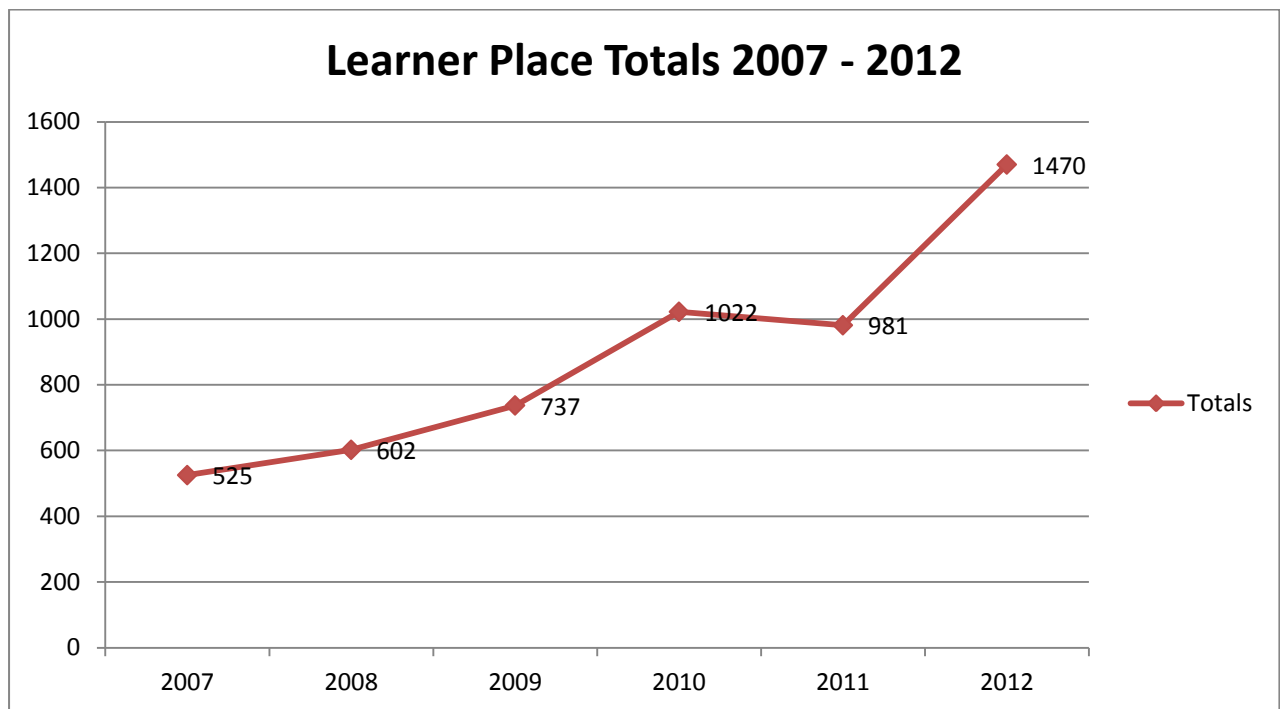
Funding for Staff and tutors

Funding remains a challenge. In the past two years there has been a 5% cut in funding. To keep within our budget, staff accepted two weeks unpaid leave in July and we will drop two non-accredited classes in 2013. Reducing classes is a difficult choice particularly when it is the non-accredited classes that are targeted (as they do not show 'progression' onto other courses). The funding received through CDVEC is allocated specifically for staff salaries and tutor payment for classes. The Centre would be unable to meet the everyday cost of heat and light if it were not for the support of the Presentation Sisters.

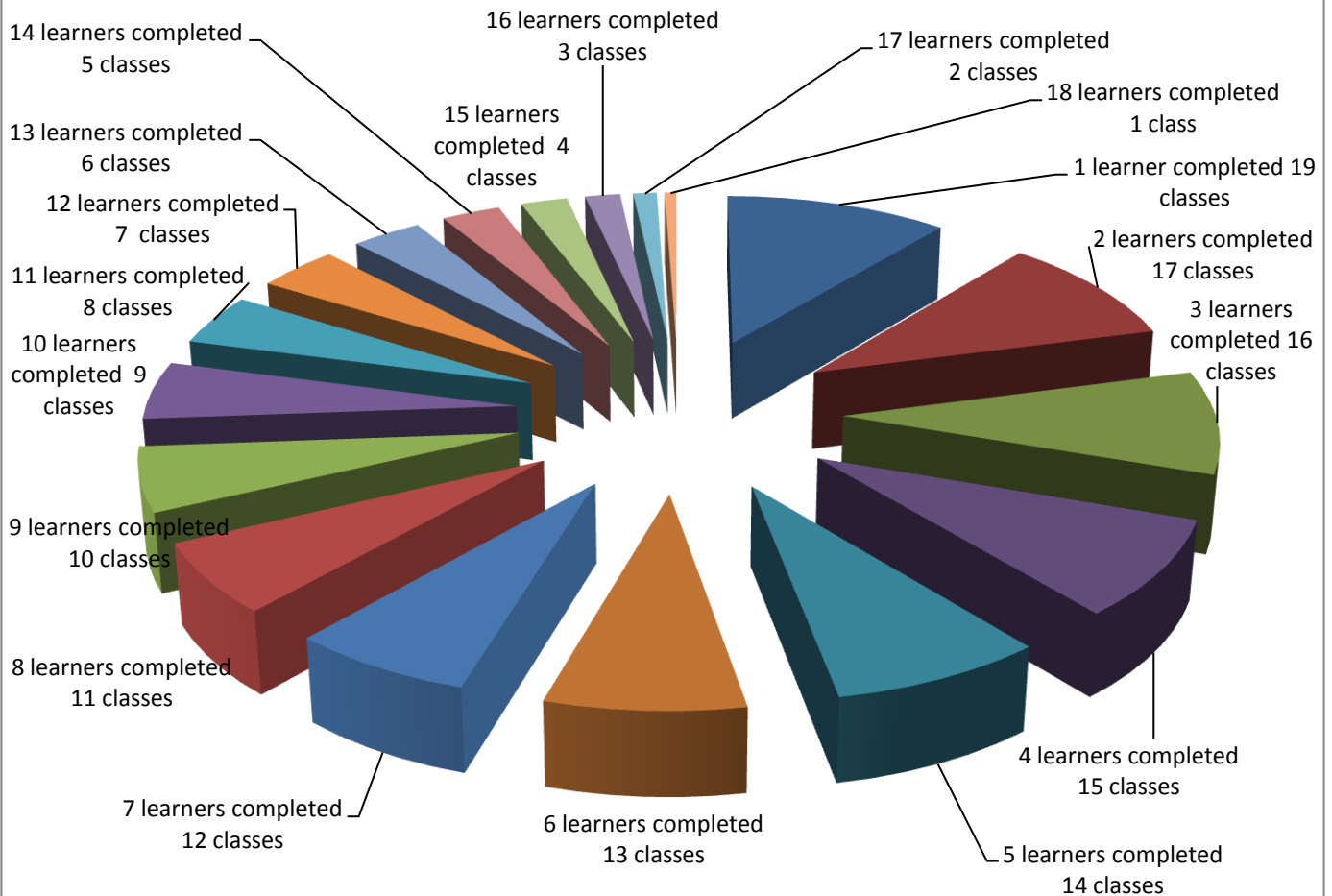
Statistics

Database 2007 – 2012

The bar chart below illustrates the increase in numbers over the past three years reaching over **1,470** places in 2012. There is a marked increase of **489** places in 2012. We noted previously that the decrease in 2011 was due to the limited accommodation during renovations.



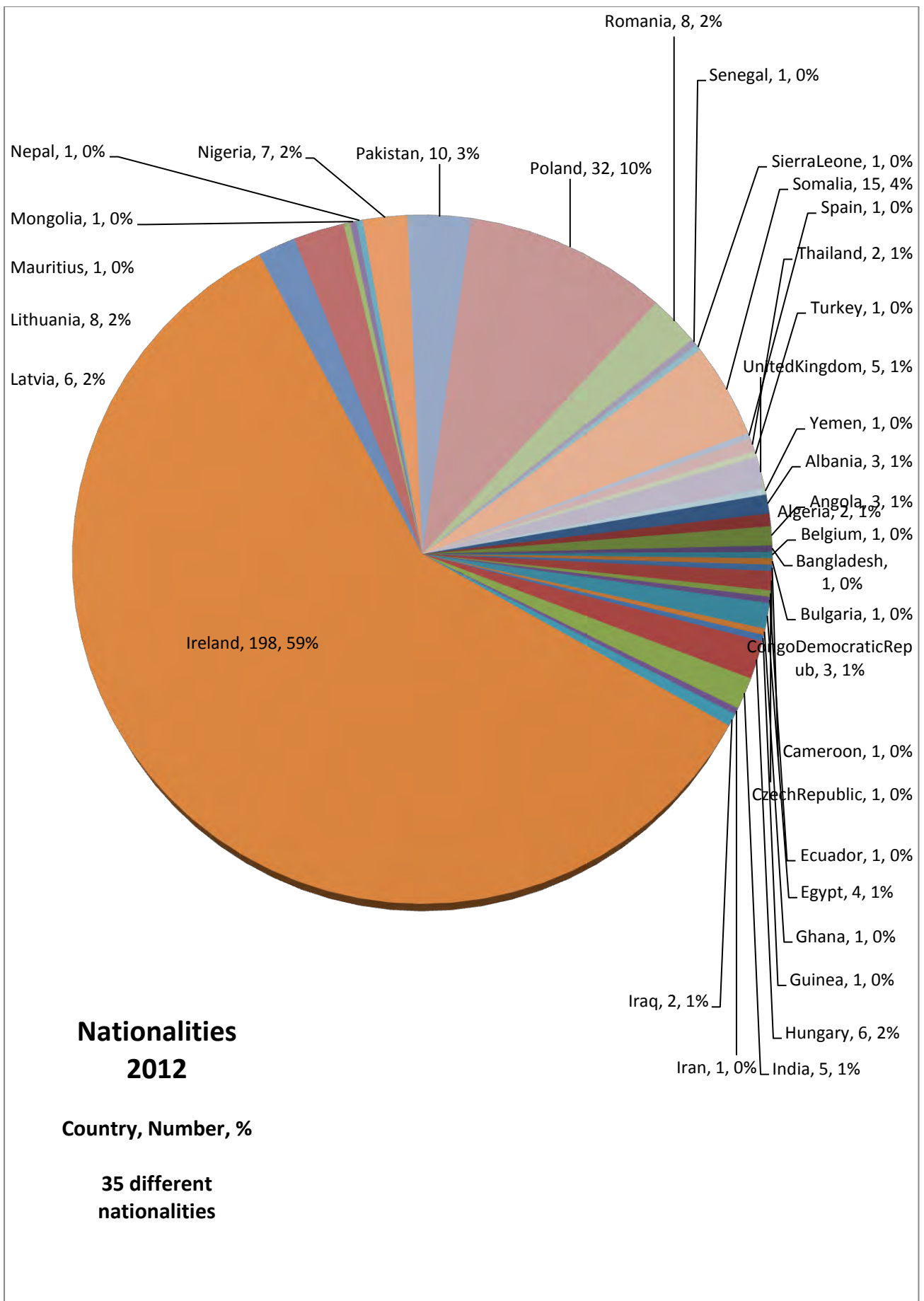
Classes per Learner 2012



The above diagram illustrates the change that has taken place with two **Major Awards** available at FETAC Level 3 showing one learner completing 19 classes in 2012

The Life Skills Work Skills leads to a **Major Award in Employability Skills at FETAC Level 3** and the second **Major Award** is in **IT Skills at FETAC Level 3**. We are working towards providing programmes leading to a Major Award at FETAC Level 4

We are confident that the provision of programmes leading to **Major Awards** is the best support to learners. It provides a clear map for their learning journey and they can see possibilities for progression.

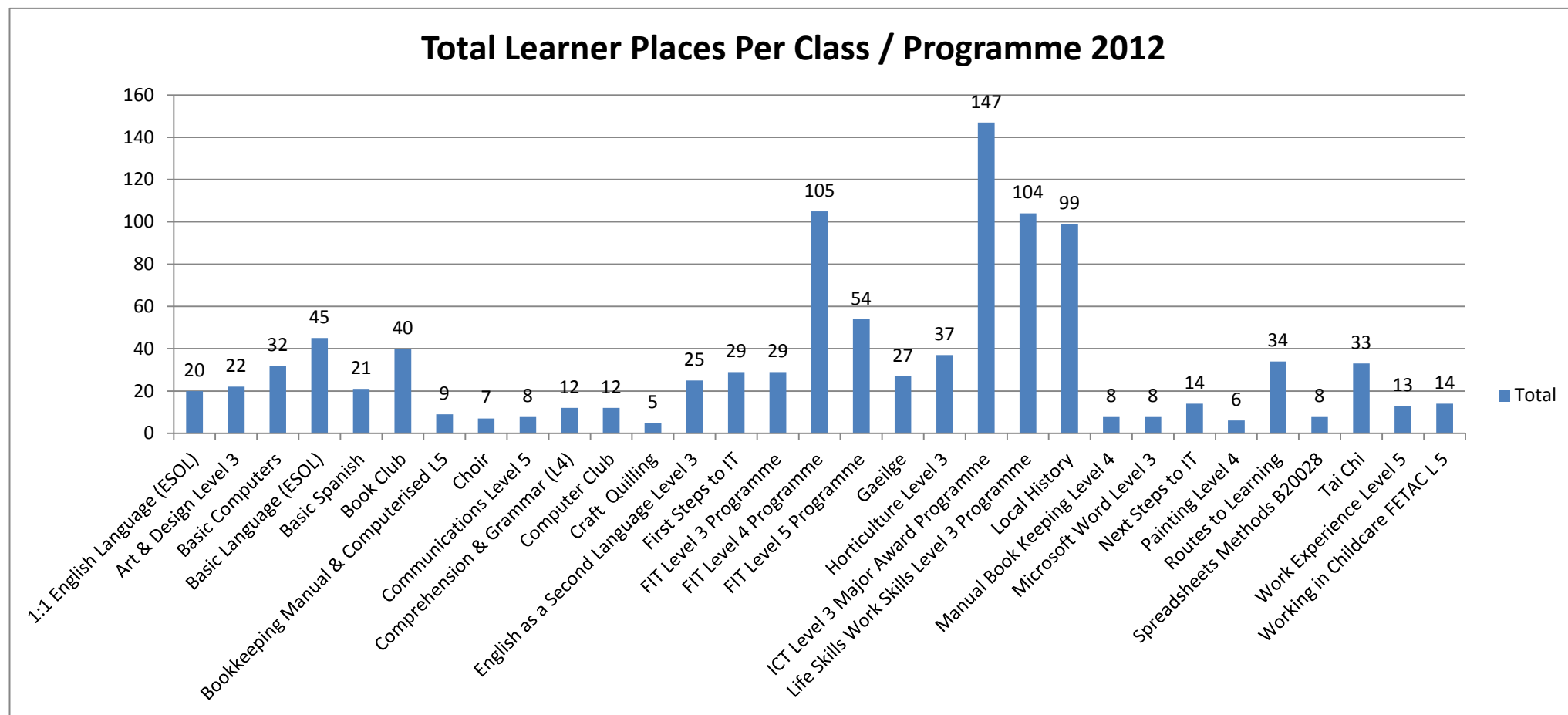


The Centre provided a variety of **34** classes for the September 2012 term, mainly accredited at FETAC Level 3. Generally FETAC Level 4 and Level 5 classes follow in the January term.

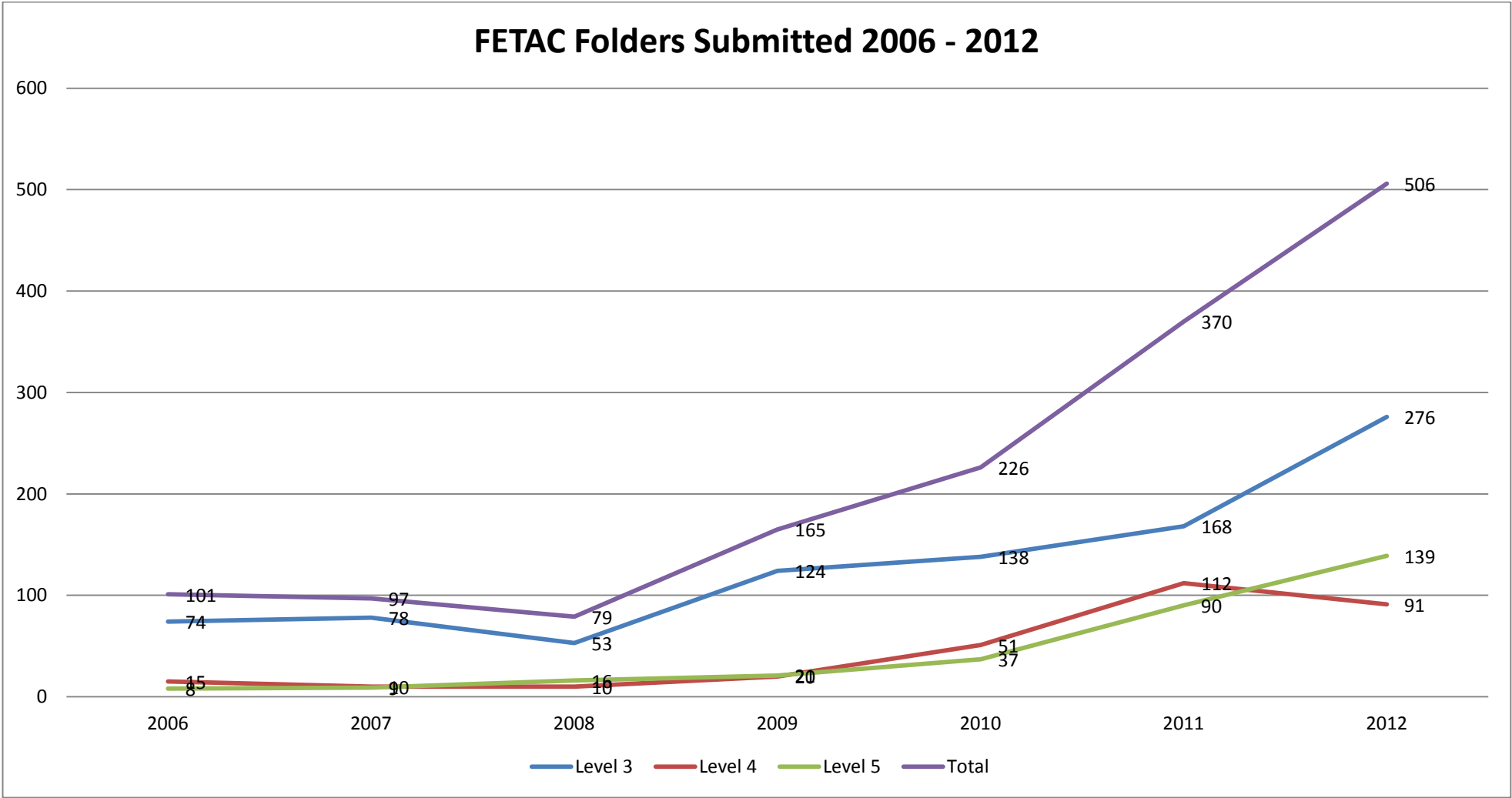
While the numbers continue to increase with **336** individuals in 2012 taking up **1,470** places, we remain conscious of many more people in the locality in need of encouragement to take that first step back to education. Our concern is that there is now a narrow focus on 'education for employment'. This minimises the possibility of running non-accredited courses that may provide the initial step for learners enabling them to ease gently into education. In the present economic climate, we are still meeting people who are without work for the first time and are under pressure to up-skill. Our new programmes provide two **Major Award** options, at **FETAC Level 3 - Employability Skills** and **Information and Communications Technology**. The opportunity to progress to a full award at **FETAC level 4** will be available in 2013. The Centre was also successful in validating a **Major Award in Childcare** in 2012. The administration work in preparing the programmes for validation is considerable. The Development Officer Stephen Flitton carried out this work efficiently and successfully.

September 2012 Classes: Registration Numbers

The chart below gives a snapshot of the classes on offer in 2012. The Major Award in ICT had the largest group of learners. This programme included seven subjects therefore the numbers shown are larger. Local History draws the largest group for a single subject



The following illustrates the **FETAC Portfolio** submissions 2006 to 2012:



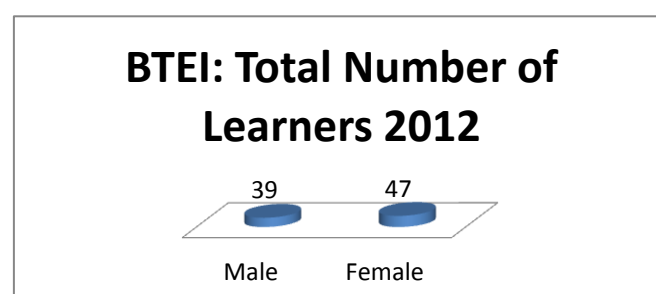
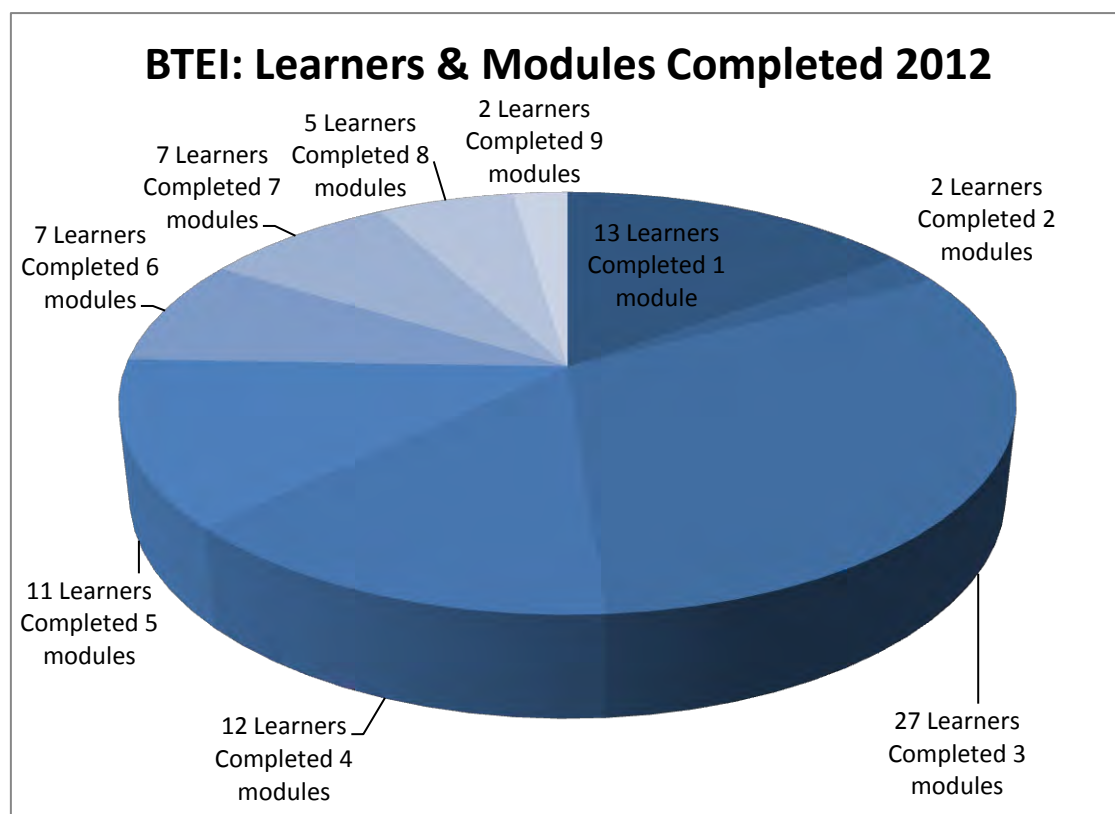
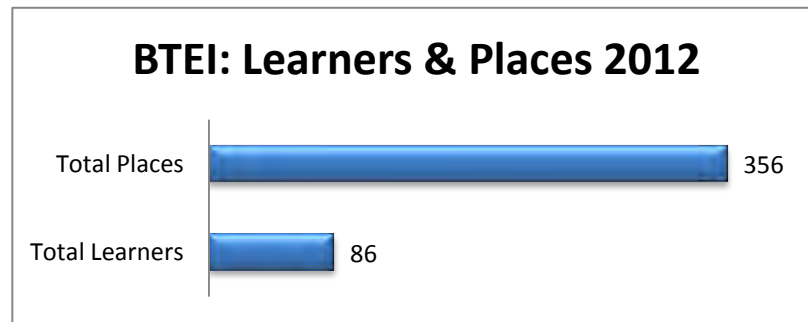
FETAC Folder Submissions 2006 - 2012

Year	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Total
2006	74	15	8	101
2007	78	10	9	97
2008	53	10	16	79
2009	124	20	21	165
2010	138	51	37	226
2011	168	112	90	370
2012	276	91	139	506

The statistics above showing the portfolios presented for authentication for FETAC accreditation is increasing each year. The increase of 106 folders for FETAC Level 3 is due to the provision of two Major Awards at this level. At Level 5 there were 139 folders assessed which included Childcare and the FIT Level 5 modules that mainly focussed on computer skills. A new department regulation means that any learner who has achieved a component certificate at FETAC level 5 will not be eligible to apply for a full-time VTOS programme at Level 5 consequently we will discontinue our Level 5 FIT programme and instead increase our FETAC Level 4 components to provide a full award at Level 4. We will continue to provide a Major Award in Childcare FETAC Level 5.

Back to Education Initiative (BTEI)

The Back to Education Initiative is operating in the Centre since 2002. An Application for funding in 2012 secured over €25,000. The breakdown for classes for 2012 is illustrated below, with an indicator of the numbers availing of the initiative.





Strategic Plan 2013–2016

Liam Kilbride

Work began on the Centre Strategic Plan 2013 – 2016 in September 2012. Dominic Colbert, a consultant with experience of working with community and voluntary groups, offered his services free of charge in the planning process. Dominic provided input at the Board meetings of 27th September and 25th October. At the Board meeting of 6th December time was ringfenced for the process as two working groups conducted a SWOT analysis on the Centre. There followed a series of four strategic planning meetings. A working group, comprised of two Board members, the Centre Director, the Centre Development Officer and the Centre Programme Co-ordinator, took part in those meetings. Two of the meetings were facilitated by Dominic. The mission, vision and values of the Centre were reviewed and were amended where it was deemed necessary. Strategic objectives for 2013 to 2016 were outlined. Actions, Key Success Factors (KSFs) and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were matched to those objectives. An Implementation Plan which was specific, measurable, realistic and within a time frame (SMART) was formulated. At the end of the process, a draft Strategic Plan and a draft Implementation Plan were prepared for consideration by the Board in January 2013.

IT Classes 2012

Stephen Flitton



Over the past few years we have seen a huge increase in the amount of Laptops, Smart-boards and other ICT equipment in the Centre. Throughout 2012 we looked at ways of maximising the use of this technology for learners. Many of our learners have Smart-phones, eReaders and iPads in addition to their laptops and they use these devices on a daily basis. In our efforts to utilise the technology we have, we ran a number of short, 'taster' courses to introduce learners to the world of technology. The courses we ran were:

1: I-Can-Do Digital Media

This course involved learners engaging in 7 modules all using an eLearning platform developed by I-Cando Learning on behalf of the Digital Media Forum. The 7 modules were – Getting Started, Getting Online, I-Cando Photography, I-Cando Video, I-Cando Music, I-Cando Social Surf and I-Cando Webshare. The platform is easy to use and learners responded very favourably to it. Over 30 learners availed of this course.

2: First Steps to IT

This programme (funded by Dept of Communications through FIT) gave learners with little or no experience of computers and the internet, 6 hours of training in: - setting up an email account, using a digital camera, using the Google search engine, surfing some useful websites and using Skype. Over 50 learners did the course and all gave very positive evaluations.

3: The Computer Club

This was run as a pilot scheme over 5 weeks between October 2012 and December 2012 and was targeted mainly at learners who were having difficulty using their computers, etc at home. The idea was to allow learners to Bring-their-own-Technology and while there was no tutor for them, there was a facilitator on hand to help them if they needed it.



Craft Class – Quilling

Mary Moloney

Quilling is an art that involves rolling or coiling thin strips of paper into intricate designs and shapes. It is an ancient art form, possibly first practised with paper by monks and nuns to decorate religious objects. In the 18th century, ladies of leisure sat in their gracious drawing rooms and practised the art. It is called quilling because originally the tiny strips of paper were rolled over goose quills. Today it is not necessary to use feather quills to wind the paper. Other items such as toothpicks, needles and specially designed-slotted tools are used. Today the paper strips need not be cut by hand. A paper shredder will work, or the paper strips can be bought already cut.

To quill, you wrap the paper tightly around a quilling tool until you reach the end of the strip. Once removed from the tool, it is possible to maintain this tight shape and glue it to paper. The tight circles are perfect to make flower centres. If you let go of the tight circle it creates a looser circle, which can be pinched to form a leaf. A multiple of shapes can be made.

The art of quilling, as with many other crafts, has been revived, partly due to the low cost of materials. It is used primarily to decorate cards and other items such as gift boxes.

We have recently completed a craft course based on the technique of quilling. Initially, students looked at a PowerPoint presentation showing images of quilling designs. Finished samples were also on display.

The students practised basic shapes, and then advanced to more intricate shapes, which involved much patience and precision.

Greeting cards were made to celebrate birthdays, Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day, St Patrick's Day and Easter. Students made pictures, which were subsequently framed.

Every card or picture was made with great attention to detail and colour. Each one was special, showing the individuality of the student. Some were pretty, depicting flowers, hearts, Christmas trees and angels while others were humorous, showing mischievous witches, energetic animals and scary snowmen!

The atmosphere in class was relaxed and happy, with everyone sharing their techniques and ideas. All were proud of their work and received great compliments from their loved ones, who were lucky enough to be given a sample of their work. It's a craft that will be practised and enjoyed by many who attended the class.





Volunteer Opportunities 2012

Lia Clarkson



In 2012 Warrenmount Centre had about 24 volunteers (not counting the board members). All volunteers are asked to attend a pre-term induction meeting the week before term starts. This meeting is a basic introduction and orientation to the Centre, to the volunteer resources such as their handbook, role descriptions and agreement, as well as providing an opportunity for them to meet other volunteers. We ask them to sign (a non-binding) agreement to volunteer for the ten week term.

In 2012 we had four different types of volunteer:

One to one literacy tutor

- They are expected to have completed the national certificate course in volunteer one to one literacy tutoring. These courses are generally run by the local vocational education department and not by ourselves. The volunteer works one to one with the learner on areas that the learner has indicated they need help on (Informal Assessment). The tutor and learner work together and decide how best to achieve the personal learning goals.

Buddy Reader

- The Buddy Reader volunteer is usually new to the centre and to the idea of helping people with basic literacy skills. We see it as the entry point for people to see if they like this type of volunteering and if we think they are suitable from the Centre's perspective. The Buddy Reader will work one to one with a learner. They choose a book (from our collection of graded readers) and read it for pronunciation, comprehension as well as for fun! Many, but not all, of the learners do not speak English as their first language. The Buddy Readers attend the induction and if they are interested in pursuing it further we can assist them to find a place on the literacy one to one tutor course.

Computer Buddy

- The Computer Buddy volunteer role is a new one for the centre. We have a dedicated time on a Friday morning for people who either are very basic in using computers or who come to the Centre after the term has started and it is not possible to join a class. The Computer Buddy will support maybe 1 to 3 people in logging on / using the computer. Most people in the session are encouraged to use a web site developed by the Irish National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) called www.writeon.ie . This provides NFQ level 2 and 3 accreditation if people want to do that. It also lets us see what level the people are and where they might fit in the next term etc. We provide training in using the writeon website. All of the Computer volunteers are expected to have completed up to at least level 5 on the NFQ.

Music Maker

- The music makers work with our small choir.

Other Training

- The National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) holds an annual Literacy Tutor Conference and an annual ESOL tutor conference. They also have other events of interest to the volunteers. We advise and encourage the volunteers to attend. Another Adult Education Centre - larger than ours – also holds an annual volunteer conference that our volunteers are invited to attend.

On-going support

We have a Volunteer Coordinator in attendance at each session. The coordinator makes sure that the volunteers have everything they need and are getting on with their learner (and vice-versa). And will provide assistance in any way required.

We generally check in with people each week to ensure everything is ok and we have a review meeting about twice during the term after the sessions.

One aspect that we are pleased with is that we now have a number of our current and former learners volunteering. Others come from the local area but also via the Volunteer Ireland website so can be from other parts of the city.

Change for Community Education 2012

Stephen Flitton



Our new Minister for Education Ruari Quinn TD, and the Minister for Training & Skills Ciaran Cannon TD are introducing radical changes throughout the education system in Ireland. The changes are:

FÁS is being replaced by SOLAS

What was formerly our National Training Agency FÁS is being reformed and renamed as SOLAS. The new organisation will have overall responsibility for implementing education policy. SOLAS will not be a provider of training and education. That will be the responsibility of the new Education & Training Boards

VECs are being replaced by Education & Training Boards

The 33 Vocational Educational Committees that exist at present will be reduced to 16 and renamed as Education & Training Boards. The ETBs will be responsible for providing education and training and will take over what were the FÁS Training Centres. They will also fund and support other providers (like Warrenmount Centre), and be responsible for the 'establishment of schools, centres for education and other education and training settings' (Action Plan for SOLAS 2012)

FETAC is being replaced by QQI (Quality & Qualifications Ireland)

The Further Education & Training Awards Council has itself undergone changes with the introduction of the Quality Assurance (QA), the new validation of programmes as well as a new online system for assessment and awarding certificates (FBS or FETAC Business System). The new organisation (the QQI) will take over from FETAC although the certificates will keep the FETAC name and logo to ensure continuity and national & international recognition of certificates.

The Government has introduced some new initiatives in the sector. These new organisations and schemes are outlined on the next page.

An additional change came into effect through the Dept. of Social Protection as they take a more proactive role in getting people back to work. The Pathways to Work programme initiated by Joan Burton TD is an effort to get the long-term unemployed (those who have been on the Live Register for more than a year) to engage more with the employment market by attending further education and training. The impact of this on Warrenmount Centre has been a change in the profile of our learners. We now have an increase in the number of job-seekers attending and a change in the gender profile with an equal number of men and women coming to the Centre.

Throughout 2012 Stephen and Pauline have been attending meetings, consultation sessions and information workshops organised by AONTAS and the CEN (Community Education Network) so as to keep abreast of these changes, all of which will come into effect in 2013. We have yet to see the full impact these radical changes will have on the Centre and on community education but through AONTAS we can keep ourselves informed and continue providing our learners with the best service possible.

Government Training Agencies

Intreo

Assistance & advice for job-seekers on: entitlements, employment, training, personal development
Employers – internships, work placements, financial supports for job creation

Skillnets

Up-skilling for those in employment as well as those on live register

Springboard

Free, part-time courses at certificate, degree & masters levels
Provided by DBS, DIT & universities

Tús

1 year work placement scheme for those on social welfare for more than a year. Similar to a CE Project but does not replace CE

1: For those interested in

- ICT
- Digital Media
- Gaming
- Telecommunications

NFQ Levels 5 & 6

Momentum

Free for those on SW for 1 year +
Funded by LMETF, administered by FAS
4 themes (see below)

2: For under 25s

- Foundation
- Core Skills
- Personal Development

NFQ Level 3 to 6

3: For those interested in

- Transportation
- Distribution & Logistics
- Sales & Marketing

NFQ Levels 5 & 6

4: For those interested in

- Health Care & Social Services
- Manufacturing
- Natural Resources
- Food Processing

NFQ Levels 5 & 6

Our Journey to Évora - Portugal

Helen O'Keeffe



On Sunday 14th October 2012 we set off from Terminal Two to Lisbon, as part of the *Routes to Learning European Project*. Our trip was to greatly enhance our path to learning which we had been exploring in the *Routes to Learning Class*. This enabled us to make warm connections with our European neighbours who have simultaneously been engaged in this project.

From Lisbon we made our way to the City of Évora, a Unesco World Heritage Site, the Capital of Alentejo, steeped in history and visibly very beautiful. What an opportunity for us - off the beaten tourist trail, a chance to taste a sample of real Portugal.

On our first morning we were guided to the Palace of Vasco de Gama and were treated to the voices of welcome from the members of the University of the Third Age Choir. They were truly impressive!

We then proceeded with a walking tour of Évora and visited St Francis Church, *Igreja de São Francisco*, famous for its gothic nave and even more famous for the Chapel of Bones, *Capela dos Ossos*, which seriously gave us a lot of food for thought! Then on to the University of Évora, a former Jesuit college, a cloistered building of great architectural beauty. In glorious sunshine we made our way to lunch - the food was particularly good and as our tour progressed, always very generous.

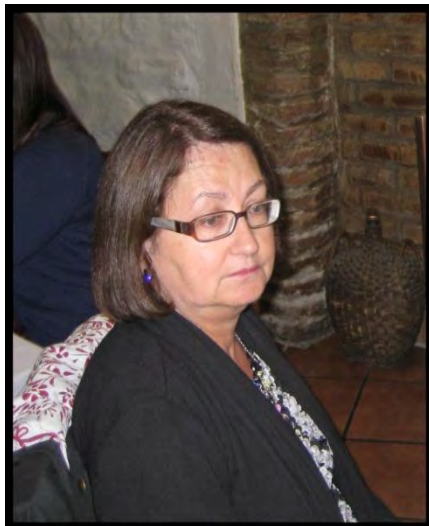
In the afternoon we were treated to a drama evoking the Lusitan heritage and journeys considered to have some Celtic connections. We then engaged in a creative workshop and ended our day with dinner and a welcome to our Scottish neighbours who had been delayed on their journey to Portugal.

Day two we visited a cork factory and were amazed to see the amount of products that are derived from cork...there was a lot of extra cramming in to small carrier bags of 'must have' items! Then on to Monsaraz - one of the oldest Portuguese settlements - a tiny medieval town on a hilltop with its own bull ring overlooking the largest man-made lakes in Europe. From here we visited a pottery and enjoyed seeing the skill of the potters and painters - oh to have enough room in those carrier bags!! A tasting session at a vineyard completed the afternoon.



Our last night in Évora was truly memorable. We again met our Portuguese counterparts at dinner and despite language differences managed to convey our appreciation for all they had done for us. We were entertained by the haunting and beautiful sounds of the Fado singers.

Lisbon was our last stop in torrential rain - despite this we toured in an open topped bus! We rounded off our time with a final dinner - all of us having thoroughly enjoyed our wonderful visit to Portugal - having exchanged with new friends - and grateful to Pauline, Liam and Lia for all the preceding work, which enabled this great venture to happen!



Visit in Portugal
October 2012



Warrenmount Centre Café

Liz Deegan – Manager



Over the past number of years the Centre Cafe has become an integral part of Warrenmount where learners, tutors and staff relax and get sustenance for all the brain-work that's involved in teaching and learning. As well as keeping us well-fed and watered, the Coffee Shop adds a social element to the Centre with a space that's sometimes quiet and sometimes buzzing with activity. The mainstay of the Cafe is Liz Deegan, our Coffee Shop Manager. Liz runs the Cafe like a well-oiled engine. The one thing you never see there is panic. We also don't see the work that is involved in running it. Liz starts her day in the Centre at about 8.20am when she puts the coffee on and gets all her machines up and running. The next job is to get the scones in the oven and set up the food counter. By then staff and learners are starting to arrive for their early morning coffee or tea. Liz provides the warm, welcoming chat while she's getting the scones out and deciding on the 'Special' for the day. Then she has to get ready for the 11 o'clock break when learners and tutors come out of classes for their break.

Then the learners and tutors go back for their next class and it's quiet... but not for long. Liz then starts the clean-up operation and gets ready for the lunch break. She also does deliveries to the Secondary School for mid-day. While up to recently lunch has been quiet because we haven't had classes in the afternoons, we do have afternoon classes 2 days a week now and so Liz has a bit more on her plate (excuse the pun). The staff generally pre-order their lunch which takes some of the pressure off Liz and she also has a good deal of help from the CE participants and also much-appreciated support from Pauline and the Board of Directors. With many years experience in Retail and having done training in Food Safety (courtesy of the Board of Directors), Liz keeps a high standard of quality and hygiene saying, "We may not have the best of everything but we make the best of everything."

What she enjoys most about the job is the people. As she says herself, "I just love the different personalities. I love the challenge of it." Liz is very proud to be a part of Warrenmount and full of gratitude and praise for Pauline and the Board of Directors for giving her the opportunity. In return the staff and tutors are full of praise for Liz who keeps us well-fed and always has a smile and a bit of chat to give us all a lift in the cold, harsh days of winter

Community Employment Programme

Marion O'Raw
CE Supervisor



The Community Employment Programme has been part of Warrenmount CED Centre since 1996. The overall objective of the Community Employment Programme is give individuals who are long term unemployed and individuals in receipt of a social welfare payment the opportunity to enhance their existing skills and develop new skills for progression back into the work force or back to education.

Since February 2013 there are 16 participants and 1 supervisor on the programme. All participants are given the chance of work experience and participating on FETAC (Level 3, 4, 5) courses within Warrenmount CED in preparation for employment outside of the centre. The work experiences available to participants are as follows:

- Coffee Shop Assistant
- Maintenance
- Gardening / Grounds Assistant
- Administration
- Library
- I.T. Support
- House keeping
- Volunteering (Buddy Reading / Buddy Computer).

Every effort is made to provide each participant with work experience in the area that they are interested in or have experience in, they also have the opportunity to explore other areas of work.

The progression for participants in 2012 is as follows:

2	Transferred to other projects
1	Back to full time education
3	Got a third year
2	Unemployed
1	Finished (Health reasons)
5	Got a second year

We also have eight participants on their first year.

All of the participants have completed a Workplace Safety and First Aid course in December 2012 and January 2013.

Funding Support

The Board of Directors greatly appreciates the ongoing support of the Presentation Congregation. The availability of this property in a prime location enables the Centre to operate in the midst of the local community. The newly renovated building is warm, comfortable and very conducive to learning. We do not take the automatic presence of heat and light for granted and are very aware of the ongoing costs met by the Presentation Sisters to cover heat and light.

The City of Dublin VEC has supported the Centre since its establishment in 1995 with teaching hours. At present, we received core funding that meets the cost for staff salaries and teaching hours for tutors.

We acknowledge the ongoing funding and support received for the Centre from:

- Presentation Sisters
- The Department of Education and Skills
- City of Dublin VEC
- FIT (Fast track to Information Technology)
- The Department of Social Inclusion
- Léargas - European Project
- FAS – Community Employment Project
- AONTAS
- NALA

We acknowledge and appreciate the funding but also the ongoing support for community education in general.