



Strategic Plan 2020 - 2022

Goal 1: Optimise the use of facilities and resources at Clare Education Centre

Rationale for this priority: To ensure that our facilities and resources at Clare Education Centre are used to the greatest possible extent; and to maintain the ambience of Clare Education Centre as a welcoming and motivational environment for personal and professional development.

Actions

- Maintain our facilities to a very high standard of comfort and cleanliness
- Present our Education Centre and its rooms as attractive and visually stimulating places for personal and professional development.
- Promote the availability of seminar and meeting rooms during fallow periods and to increase the number of external room bookings.
- Develop alternative and relevant uses for the library and computer rooms to maximise room usage.
- Extend the range of IT, Science and other resources available at Clare Education Centre to lend to schools and to promote the use of these resources.
- Sustain our commitment to presenting Clare Education Centre as a welcoming and motivational environment for all visitors and for personal and professional development

Goal 2: Communicate better with our community and stakeholders

Rationale for this priority: To develop Clare Education Centre as an organisation which is synonymous with the provision of a quality service

Actions

- Implement high quality of communications between Clare Education Centre and tutors, course participants, stakeholders and schools through website, social media and messaging.
- Communicate and share the work, projects and achievements of Clare Education Centre in order to promote its profile through poster displays in the Centre, electronic newsletters and social media bulletins.
- Build a comprehensive database of email contacts for schools, teachers and school staff to increase our communication with our community.
- Review and redesign our website and social media accessibility to ensure ease of use for course perusal, booking and payment.
- Provide regular opportunities for the identification of local personal and professional development needs and aim to respond to those needs or direct them towards support services who are better placed to respond.

- Provide training for staff in social media skills to enhance our profile and increase our social media presence.
- Maintain our commitment to high quality interpersonal communications with all patrons of Clare Education Centre.

Goal 3: To have efficient and effective governance and operations in the delivery of all services

Rationale for this priority: To ensure that the quality of Clare Education's Centres governance, operations and administration systems meet high standards of accountability, transparency and compliance.

Actions

- Ensure that we have robust administration systems for supporting our local services and our national programmes.
- Ensure high standards of financial and risk management systems through controls and monitoring to operate within funding and governance requirements.
- Identification and implementation of Key Performance Indicators
- Implement service level agreements/memorandum of understanding/contracts as necessary with service providers, course tutors and external agencies to whom we provide facilities/resources.
- Ensure effective data protection, confidentiality and record management systems.
- Adoption of annual reviews with the management of national programmes based at Clare Education Centre to ensure effective and efficient delivery of Administrative Base services.

Goal 4: Provide an extended continuum of opportunities to meet personal and professional development needs of those working in our schools

Rationale for this priority: To provide comprehensive personal and professional development learning opportunities for our community.

Actions

- Extend Clare Education Centre's provision of personal and professional learning by offering a range of models to include face-to-face, online and blended.
- To provide opportunities for adult learners and schools to engage in collaborative learning including Support Groups, Communities of Practice, etwinning, job shadowing, clusters and collaborative projects.
- To explore opportunities for the provision of flexible and student centre approaches to engaging in postgraduate certificate and diploma courses.
- Identify and provide relevant courses for SNAs, ancillary staff and parents.
- Provide local courses, workshops, seminars and projects that are responsive to system and locally identified needs.
- Provide opportunities for school leaders to develop coaching and mentoring skills.
- To promote 'STEAM' teaching and learning active learning methodologies in Clare schools and to increase engagement with Clare Education Centre's 'STEAM' projects.
- Development of a continuum of opportunities to promote our culture and heritage, national language, music and arts.

Goal 5: Building capacity to provide personal and professional development opportunities

Rationale for this priority: Building capacity through the provision of training and opportunities to engage in activities such as project leadership, tutoring, support group leadership etc.

Actions

- Support potential coordinators, tutors, facilitators and leaders by providing them with training in presentation and facilitation skills. In particular, increase the number of tutors and facilitators for post-primary schools.
- Provide opportunities for trained presenters and facilitators to deliver presentations, seminars and workshops and to lead on innovative projects.
- Introduce, sustain and maintain support groups/Communities of Practice for those working in SEN, Aistear, Middle Leadership, Instructional Leadership and other locally identified areas of need.
- Collaborate with teachers who work (or have worked) as advisors or associates with national programmes on contributing to courses, seminars and projects at Clare Education Centre.
- Encourage participation of schools in showcase events
- Provision of opportunities to disseminate findings and learnings from educational research.
- Develop partnerships with local industry, Clare county Council, national and local agencies to identify and provide personal and professional development opportunities for teachers and school staff.

Goal 6: To lead and support the development, implementation and enhancement of continuous improvements in prioritised areas of: active learning through STEAM; supporting school transition; developing school leadership; and collaborative learning for schools.

Rationale for this priority: Clare Education Centre has actively and successfully engaged with schools in the prioritised areas. Extend the learnings and benefits of this work to a greater number of schools while sustaining and building upon progress already achieved.

Actions

- Increase competence and knowledge in active and collaborative STEAM teaching and learning methodologies in order to foster innovation, creativity, and the engagement of students. Identify and encourage STEAM teacher leaders. Enabling the participation of teachers and schools in further STEAM projects.
- Encourage school leaders to avail of coaching and mentoring supports and build the capacity of school leaders to use coaching as a leadership skill.
- Enhance middle leadership through the engagement of school leaders and middle leaders in joint exploration and development of the understanding of leadership roles, skills and actions.
- Develop and disseminate strategies to support school transitions through collaborative work with schools and relevant organisations.
- Identify, promote and avail of opportunities for teachers and schools to collaboratively learn through participation in collaborative projects and clusters.