

Description of an example of successful national/local VET programmes for learners with SEN in Ireland

1) Short abstract

The national example is reflective of the continuum of provision currently available in Ireland for the range of learners with SEN and comprises a triad of providers:

1. Killester College of Further Education
2. The Central Remedial Clinic - national provider of services to people with physical disabilities.
3. St Michael's House – a local provider of services to people with moderate, severe and profound general learning disabilities

A diversity of training courses from levels 1 to 6 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) is offered across the range of the ISCED fields of learning. Where certification is not appropriate, programmes maintain a focus on promoting learners' independence, social and leisure skills

2) Highlights / Uniqueness

This example provides an opportunity to observe VET provision for a wide range of learners with SEN. While national certification aligned with the European Framework of Qualifications is encouraged, uncertified programmes are also provided for learners in the area of independence, social and leisure skills. Learners of all abilities are expected to demonstrate their achievement of the learning objectives associated with particular programmes. Parental involvement, promoting learners' active involvement and the creation of links with prospective work places are key features of practice. The three member organisations of the triad are located in North-East Dublin and have a significant impact on the local and wider community.

3) Availability of evaluation data

Each organisation in the triad maintains data in relation to enrolment. Some information is available on students' pathways during and after VET. All organisations compile a range of assessment data linked to the programmes being accessed by the pupils. These include summative, formative and evaluative data. Individual organisations will present these data in relation to their particular contexts during the visit to the national example.