

# INTRODUCTION

My name is Gerry O'Brien and I welcome this opportunity to talk about my experience of returning to education here in Killester College of Further Education

# PAST EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Up to 4 years of age my life alternated between home and hospital.
- 4 – 16 years – Enable Ireland School.
- This period in my life was marked by many long absences from education due to surgery etc.
- Family members played an active role in assisting my learning, teaching me to read and write.

# My experience of being involved in the E4 Project

- The E4 Project gave me the opportunity to enter the mainstream education system.
- I was able to up skill on computer applications and the communications and personal effectiveness modules enabled me to express myself.
- I got the opportunity to travel and meet students from other countries.
- The teaching methods used greatly helped the learning process i.e. games, role play and stories.

# The benefits of achieving a recognised qualification at Fetac level 5

- Having completed the E4 Project I went on to complete a FAS course.
- I was successful in gaining employment as a clerical assistant which I very much enjoy.
- I live independently with the help of family and friends.
- I enjoy a full social life, clubs cinema etc.
- Technology plays a major part in my life.

# Thank you all for your time and attention

- I would like to take this opportunity to thank the management and all the teaching staff in Killester College of Further Education for their support
- I would now be happy to address any questions that anyone would have at this time.