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Clár TechSpace
Impact Report 2018

tech space

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Clár
TechSpace
Impact
Report

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camara
transforming education

520 STRAITÉIS 20 BLIAIN DON
GHAEILGE 2010-2030
Ár dTeanga, Ár bPobal

An Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta,
Gnóthaí Réigiúnacha, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta
Department of Arts, Heritage,
Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

Contents

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Introduction

01 —
Introduction

TechSpace is a national movement that aims to change the lives of young people in Ireland by becoming Ireland's leading creative technology network for outcome focused youth development. TechSpace trains educators to facilitate **Digital Creativity** and **STEAM** activities through youth development principles with young people in a school or youth club. Educators and teachers are then supported to become part of the national TechSpace shared learning network where they can avail of annual opportunities, resources, creative tech support and pathways to upskilling.

This report details **Clár TechSpace** project activities for January - December 2018. Clár TechSpace is a project funded by **An Roinn Cultúir Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta** and is managed by **Camara Education Ireland.** Camara Education Ireland train and support educators who take part in the TechSpace programme through Irish from Gaeltacht schools, Gaelscoileanna and youth organisations working with young people aged 10-18 across Ireland.

The project commenced as pilot scheme in 2015 in Dublin and ran it's first regional training in 2016 in Connacht. A multi-year annual funding for the national roll out of the programme was granted in 2017 as part of the **Straitéis 20 Bliain don Ghaeilge 2010-2030.** Regional training in Munster took place in 2017 and a full time coordinator was appointed to the project. This report specifically outlines the developments that took place in 2018 which tracks the continuation of the programme in Connacht and Munster with preparations for the expansion of the programme to a further three regions, Ulster, Leinster (excluding Dublin) and Dublin in early 2019. The Clár TechSpace programme will be available nationally by year end 2019 as pathway for enhancing 21st Century learning outcomes for the young people of Ireland such as - Collaboration, Creativity, Critical thinking and Communication

02 —

Objectives

02 —

Project Objectives for 2018

The main deliverables are outlined below as per the Project Initiation document which was agreed in early 2018 with **Camara Education Ireland** and **An Roinn Cultúir Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta.**

Programme Management

January 2018

Camara Education to recruit a temporary member of staff for Tech Féile event management

Completed

A Production Manager Féilim o hÁoláin was employed between 22nd March 2018 and 21st June 2018.

Camara Education to partner with Foróige to recruit a part time Munster Cluster Coordinator (Regional Project Officer)

Completed

Eva Ní Choirbín began employment with Foróige in Cork city on the 1st June 2018.

Camara Education to continue supporting Connacht Cluster Coordinator (Regional Project Officer) hired by and supported by Foróige.

In Progress

Aoife Lee continues to be employed by Foróige and regular support meetings are in place.

July 2018

Camara Education to recruit a full time Oifigeach Oideachais Digiteachta to provide technical support to Clár TechSpace Educators.

Completed

Séamus Ó Fátharta began employment with Camara education Ireland in July 2018.

Camara Education to research and identify a youth organisation partner in the Ulster and Leinster regions to hire two part-time Cluster Coordinators (Regional Project Officer) and provide ongoing support to Teachers and youth Workers.

Completed

• Camara Education Ireland have undertaken Service Level Agreements with Muintearas Óige na Gaeltachta and Conradh na Gaeilge in Leinster.
• Pól Ó Finn is employed with Conradh na Gaeltachta as Leinster Cluster Coordinator
• Síomha Ní Ruaic is employed with Conradh na Gaeilge as Dublin Cluster coordinator commencing January 2019
• A recruitment process is in place with Muintearas Óige na Gaeltachta to recruit a part time Coordinator for Ulster Northwest.

December 2018

Development

January 2018

STEM training development

✓ Completed

Content Proofing of Translated Materials & Resources for Publication

⧖ In Progress

• STEM training resources and content proofing completed. Resources continually being added and translated.
• Digital Media Training and resources translated.
• Website Translation.
• Online Resources for log on members area.

Translation of 6 best practice videos with European Partner organisations

⧖ In Progress

• 2 Videos Translated translated in Q3
• 4 videos to be translated in Q4
• All available to view at a European level on www.digitalyouthwork.eu

Translation of Digital Youth Work Training Toolkit

⧖ In Progress

Toolkit is currently in development, translation will begin once the toolkit has been completed.

July 2018

Research and Development of Ulster and Leinster Regions

✓ Completed

• Ulster: Completed: Links made with Foróige North West, Muintearas Óige na Gaeltachta and Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta in Gaoth Dobhair.
• Leinster: Completed Links made with Conradh na Gaeilge.

Content Proofing of Translated Materials & Resources for Publication

✓ Completed

Training for 2019 booked out, Dates Booked and Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta confirmed venue.

November 2018

Ulster Stakeholder Information Session in preparation for February 2019 Training

✓ Completed

Leinster (excluding Dublin) Information Session in preparation for February 2019 Training

✓ Completed

Completed two trainings booked in Q1 2019.

Training Course Delivery & Support

January 2018

6 educators / 4 institutions
2 hour Creative Tech Support Session for Munster Educators in Kerry

✓ Completed
6 educators attended a Creative Tech Support Session in Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne in Dingle

February 2018

8 educators / 8 institutions
Individual Site Visits for one-one support in Tipperary and Cork

✓ Completed
3 Site Visits and support conducted (Gaelcholáiste Chéitinn, Clonmel and Pobalscoil na Tríonóide, Youghal, Cork, Muintearas - Club Óige an tSuláin, Cork)

2 hour Creative Tech Support Session for Connacht Educators

⊗ Cancelled
Creative Tech Support Scheduled for February cancelled due to adverse weather conditions (snow).

March 2018

One Day STEM Training for Connacht Educators

✓ Completed
STEM training took place in Galway Technology Centre on 13th March 2018. 8 Institutions and 10 educators attended. More details in the cornerstone events of this report.

April 2018

Creative Consultant and Educator Support Session in preparation for Tech Féile 2018

✓ Completed
Support Session and Creative Consultant Meetup took place on 11th April 2018 in Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh, Rosmuc. Educators learnt to facilitate a Hologram workshop for Tech Féile.

May 2018

Advertised One Day Digital Media Training opportunity for interested parties

✓ Completed
This took place in Athlone in October 2018 and there were 8 participants

One Day Learning Network Meeting for Cluster Coordinators in preparation for Creative Tech Fest

✓ Completed
Learning Network Meeting took place in Portlaoise on May 15th in collaboration with STEM in Youth Work programme.

September 2018

One Day STEM Training for Munster Educators

✓ Completed
2 x 1 Day STEM Trainings took place in Cork and Kerry. A total of 11 institutions were supported and 17 educators

One Day Learning Network Meeting for Cluster Coordinators in preparation for Creative Tech Fest

✓ Completed
This took place in Limerick on 5th September

October 2018

2 hour Creative Tech Support Session in Connacht

✓ Completed
2 Teachers attended. Needs analysis suggests Creative Tech Support Sessions should be flexible to take place during Croke Park hours for teachers. This will be piloted in 2019.

November 2018

1 Day Digital Media Training in Galway

✓ Completed
5 educators attended from 4 schools

Events

January 2018

Production of Tech Féile on 27th April 2018

○ **Completed**

Tech Féile took place on the 27th April in Limerick School of Art and Design. Full breakdown of attendance and figures in the Cornerstone Events Section of this report.

4 Creative Consultant Meetups in Connacht each month

○ **Completed**

Full details of the Creative Consultant Meetups below.

June 2018

Production of annual Creative Tech Fest Event on 2 November 2018 for participation of the Clár TechSpace Connacht & Munster network

○ **Completed**

See information in Cornerstone events.

November 2018

Marketing & Promotion

Restructure of TechSpace Website for bilingual purposes and inclusive of members area

○ **In Progress**

The entire TechSpace website is currently under development and translation and content proofing is ongoing. The website is scheduled to go live in March 2019.

Updates to TechSpace website as necessary (Tech Féile, Creative Tech Fest)

○ **Completed**

Tech Féile and CTF website completed and available through Irish. See www.techfeile.com and www.ESBCreativetechfest.com

Regular Newsletter Updates via Adobe Spark

○ **Completed**

Tech Féile Spark sent out to educators. (https://spark.adobe.com/page/Lboc3dkLHuShp/)

Design, print and dissemination of marketing materials

○ **Completed**

Clár TechSpace pop up banners,posters, stickers designed and disseminated. Brochures and flyers are designed, printed and disseminated.

Monitoring & Evaluation

January 2018

Data Collection during site visits, support sessions, creative consultant meetups, trainings and events.

○ **Completed**

• A Site Health Status is in place to determine the level of engagement of each site and support the cluster coordinators to target sites which need more support.
• Feedback forms and surveys used for collecting data. Needs assessments conducted through site visits, support sessions, creative consultant meetups, trainings and events.
• A log frame is in place from which outcomes will be measured.

March 2018

Production of Implementation Report based on key deliverables Jan-March 2018 in line with first drawdown

○ **Completed**

See point below.

June 2018

Production of Implementation Report based on key deliverables April- June 2018 in line with second drawdown

○ **Completed**

Initial drawdown request in April was delayed due to restrictions in access to online accounts. It was agreed the first and second installments would be drawn down together in June 2018.

November 2018

Production of Implementation Report based on key deliverables July- November 2018 in line with third drawdown

○ **Completed**

December 2018

Project Management

January 2018

Project planning, budget management and reporting.

○ **Completed**

• Weekly project team meetings conducted to monitor project plan.
• Monthly meetings conducted to monitor project budget, invoices and expenses.
• Significant work undertaken to implement financial monitoring in real time via shared documents.

December 2018

Additional Deliverables

Produce 3 minute Clár TechSpace video based on Digital Youth Work development through a minority language.

⊘ **Completed**

The best practice video is now live on https://www.digitalyouthwork.eu/good-practices/ and is available as an example of best practice of digital youth in a minority language across Europe.

Creative Ireland Partnership.

⊘ **Completed**

• Deliver workshop for Creative Ireland Key Stakeholders to attract additional funding with emphasis on Coding.
• A funding application was submitted to apply for funding from Creative Ireland to develop VR and emerging technology trainings as Gaeilge was turned down in September 2018.
• A workshop and presentation pitch to Creative Ireland took place in December 2018. More details in Major Milestones.
• Creative Ireland were invited to the ESB Creative Tech Fest but did not attend.
Creative Ireland will be attending TechFéile 2019.

Develop key partnerships with Gael-Linn, Conradh na Gaeilge and Seachtain na Gaeilge, Bliain na Gaeilge to promote the programme and increase the opportunities calendar for the Clár TechSpace network.

⊘ **Completed**

• Meetings held with Gael-Linn, Bliain na Gaeilge and An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta & Gaelscolaíochta to develop strategic partnerships.
• Bliain na Gaeilge competition to encourage non fluent speakers to get involved as part of Creative Tech Fest.
• A learning Network Meeting was held in August 2018 with attendance from key stakeholders. Further details below in Major Milestones.

Timeline

January 2018

January 2019

Development

- STEM training development
- Content Proofing of Translated Materials & Resources for Publication
- Translation of 6 best practice videos with European Partner organisations
- Translation of Digital Youth Work Training Toolkit

- Research and Development of Ulster and Leinster Regions.
- Content Proofing of Translated Materials & Resources for Publication.

- Ulster Stakeholder Information Session in preparation for February 2019 Training.
- Leinster (excluding Dublin) Information Session in preparation for February 2019 Training.

Training Course Delivery & Support

6 educators / 4 institutions
2 hour Creative Tech Support Session for Munster Educators in Kerry.

Creative Consultant and Educator Support Session in preparation for Tech Féile 2018.

Creative Consultant and Educator Support Session in preparation for Tech Féile 2018.

8 educators / 8 institutions
- Individual Site Visits for one-one support in Tipperary and Cork.
- 2 hour Creative Tech Support Session for Connacht Educators.

- Advertised One Day Digital Media Training opportunity for interested parties.
- One Day Learning Network Meeting for Cluster Coordinators in preparation for Creative Tech Fest.

- One Day STEM Training for Munster Educators.
- One Day Learning Network Meeting for Cluster Coordinators in preparation for Creative Tech Fest.

One Day STEM Training for Connacht Educators.

1 Day Digital Media Training in Galway.

Events

- Production of Tech Féile on 27th April 2018
- 4 Creative Consultant Meetups in Connacht each month

Production of annual Creative Tech Fest Event on 2 November 2018 for participation of the Clár TechSpace Connacht & Munster network.

Monitoring & Evaluation

Data Collection during site visits, support sessions, creative consultant meetups, trainings and events.

Production of Implementation Report based on key deliverables April-June 2018 in line with second drawdown.

Production of Implementation Report based on key deliverables July- November 2018 in line with third drawdown.

Production of Implementation Report based on key deliverables Jan-March 2018 in line with first drawdown.

Project Management

Project planning, budget management and reporting.

Programme Management

- Camara Education to recruit a temporary member of staff for Tech Féile event management.
- Camara Education to partner with Foróige to recruit a part time Munster Cluster Coordinator (Regional Project Officer).
- Camara Education to continue supporting Connacht Cluster Coordinator (Regional Project Officer) hired by and supported by Foróige.

- Camara Education to recruit a full time Oifigeach Oideachais Digiteachta to provide technical support to Clár TechSpace Educators.
- Camara Education to research and identify a youth organisation partner in the Ulster and Leinster regions to hire two part-time Cluster Coordinators (Regional Project Officer) and provide ongoing support to Teachers and youth Workers.

03 —

Major Milestones

03 —
Major Milestones

Learning Network Meeting

This aim of this meeting was to bring together key stakeholders from the Irish language community involved in education and youth work. In attendance were representatives from **Gael Linn, Gaeloideachas, An Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta & Gaelscolaíochta, An Fóras Pátrúnach, Ógras, Muintearas-Óige na Gaeltachta and Conradh na Gaeilge.** The meeting took the form of a facilitated workshop and discussion groups. The main aims of the session was to raise awareness of Clár TechSpace amongst key stakeholders and to explore current needs and gaps in the sector regarding digital and technological activities for young people in schools and youth settings through the Irish language. The following points were the main findings:

The Relevance of the TechSpace Network

— It was noted on the day that the service and opportunities that Clár TechSpace provides are welcomed in the education community and **the majority of participants** relayed they would promote Clár TechSpace as part of their work.

Importance of Digital Literacy for young people and parents

— General consensus on the day was that **young people need more support** to learn to regulate the time they spend engaging with the digital world. It was also noted that most adults also need support in managing the demands of consistently being online and always accessible.

Schools, teachers and parents **are not supported enough to equip young people with the digital literacy skills** young people require, in particular in developing key critical thinking skills and creative confidence. (For example- how to support young people to decipher fake news and cope with social media pressures).

Easier to Access Curriculum Based Activities:

— It was noted that most educators and in particular youth workers **do not have enough time for planning activities and also find it challenging to allocate time to TechSpace activities** in their regular timetable in a way that offers sustainability and meaningful skills progression and development for young people. For example offering TechSpace activities as part of Transition Year programmes focus and very little options for progression. Opportunities for TechSpace activities to be integrated into the existing curriculum were identified and noted as a support or teachers and educators. Such as:

- **Classroom Based Assessments (CBAs):** All subjects which include continuous assessments for the Junior Cycle now include emphasis on using and engaging with digital technology.
- **Digital Literacy Short Course** for Junior Cycle.
- **As part of Irish language activities in the classroom: for example:** Brat Gaelach and Gaelfhiseáin na Bliana as part of Bliain na Gaeilge.

Outcomes:

This meeting had a **significant impact** on the development of the Clár TechSpace programme. See below:

- **A new digital media training was developed** based on the needs outlined by the stakeholders to include emphasis on Digital Literacy as part of the Junior Cycle Short Courses.
- **The Digital Media training expanded its remit** to place more of an emphasis on podcasting and sound production to met the needs of Irish language schools and organisations whom are particularly engaged in
- **The Digital Media training now places more of an emphasis on Mobile Journalism (MoJo),** which eliminates a lot of the challenges of not having enough time for bigger digital media video production projects.

Creative Consultant Meetups

Due to the emergence of **Tech Féile** as the annual celebratory event of **Clár TechSpace,** regional events were no longer planned to take place. A need to continue to engage with young people at a local level, who were particularly drawn to TechSpace, was identified. The local cluster coordinators were given the remit to develop a network of creative consultants- young people with a lot of passion for technology. As part of this network, **workshops and small regional events could take place which would enhance the existing works of TechSpace sites in the region.** The aim of the Youth Creative Consultant network is also to ensure that young people are at the heart of the programme and influencing the direction of the programme. That they are also becoming leaders amongst their peers and encouraging other young people and their educators to become passionate about creativity and technology through Irish. The following are the main activities which took place in 2018.

9

Creative Consultant Meetups:

**Connemara
Athenry
Galway city
Aran Islands
Rosmuc
Carna
Spiddal
An Cheathrú Rua
(Muintearas)
Áras na nGael**

Workshops in STEM took place at a summer camp in Dingle in collaboration with Kerry ETB Makey Makey and Scratch (STEM).

tech space
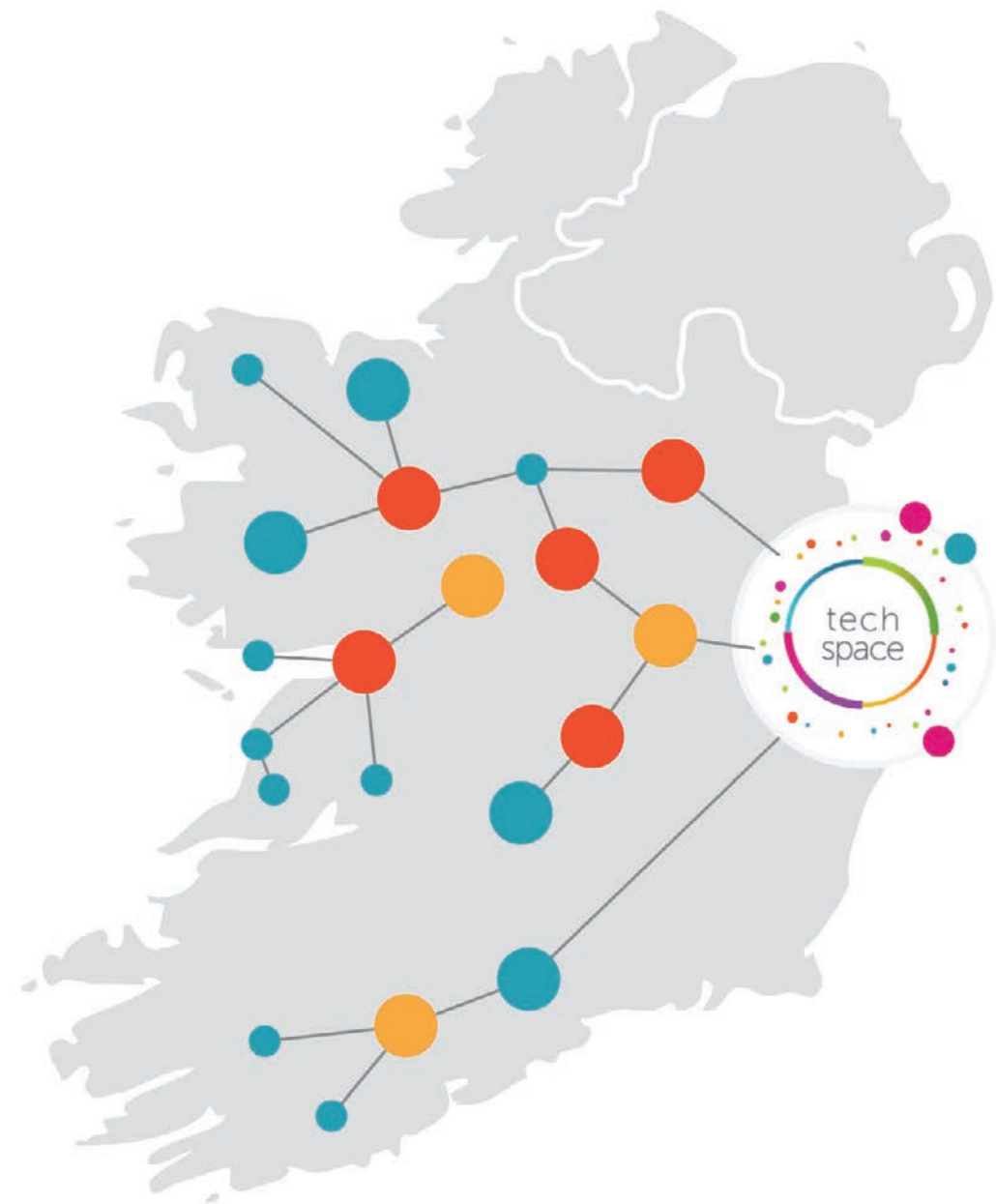
Feedback and continuous reviewing of the Creative Consultant Meetups demonstrate that **for each region and for each school, a different approach is necessary.** In Connacht, while there was great interest, it was challenging to arrange times which accommodated the schools involved and attendance from young people was sporadic due to the ever demanding timetable of transition Year students. It is recommended to continue a needs based approach. The decision has also been taken to begin a Clár TechSpace hub, run by the Connacht Cluster Coordinator in Áras na nGael outside of school hours for young people.

Partnerships Created

In 2018, three substantial partnerships agreements and relationships were created which will greatly support and improve the development of the programme.

Foróige Munster

Initially there were delays in recruiting the Munster Cluster Coordinator due to a delay in identifying the correct partner for Munster. Foróige Munster was identified due to its **vast experience in youth work and the existing relationship and success of the partnership in Galway.** A recruitment process took place and Eva Ní Choirbín was selected. She began work with Foróige in June 2018 and is based in Cork city.

Conradh na Gaeilge

Conradh na Gaeilge was identified as a key partner for the Leinster area due to the **expanse of their reach within the Irish language community and their previous record of successes** in achieving participation and engagement from schools within their own programmes and events. It was agreed that an existing member of staff from Conradh na Gaeilge could fulfill the role as Cluster Coordinator due to his availability, previous experience with the TechSpace programme and previous experience with second level schools. Pól Ó Finn began work in November 2018.

At the same time, a partnership agreement was also put in place with Conradh na Gaeilge to employ a part time Cluster Coordinator for the Dublin area. Síomha Ní ruairc was identified as an existing member of staff whom would be available and who also had previous experience of engaging with the TechSpace programme through her previous role as Bliain na Gaeilge coordinator. She began work in January 2019.

Muintearas Óige na Gaeltachta

There was initially a delay in identifying the key partner for Ulster, while research was ongoing. Muintearas Óige na Gaeltachta was identified as a partner in Ulster due to their **experience in the Gaeltacht areas of Donegal.** The Clár TechSpace team also supported Muintearas to deliver a regional event in Connacht in December 2018 and 60 young people took part in digital media and STEM workshops. This process built a relationship of trust and a deeper understanding of the TechSpace programme between the partners and as such a partnership agreement was signed. The recruitment process for the Cluster Coordinator is currently open.

Key recommendations from research with Ulster stakeholders noted the possibility of encouraging the TechSpace programme to expand into the six counties in the North of Ireland.

Leinster and Ulster Information Sessions

The Leinster Information session took place in November 2018 in collaboration with Conradh na Gaeilge in City West Hotel. Conradh na Gaeilge recruited twenty two teachers from the Leinster area (excluding Dublin) to attend. A presentation and question and answer session took place for over an hour. It was noted that there was a **high level of interest in the TechSpace programme and a vast amount of diversity in attendance.** For example some schools described themselves as quite digitally literate and other schools stated there was no digital strategy or policies in their school. Feedback from the event pointed to the need for two training days in Leinster in February 2019.

The Ulster Information Session took place in Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge in Gaoth Dobhair. 16 teachers and volunteers from the youth sector were present and expressed interest in attending the training due to take place in February 2019. As this informations session took place in Gaoth Dobhair, **it is recommended that further development work take place in South Donegal to facilitate potential interest** from youth workers in Foróige with Irish and to invite participants from Cavan and Monaghan, North Connacht, in the Sligo and Leitrim area also as there are strong Irish language activities taking place.

Creative Ireland Presentation

In December 2018 Camara Education Ireland presented their work to Creative Ireland including their work to date, the potential for expansion and the alignment with the current Creative Ireland Strategy Óige Ildánach and pitched for match funding.

An Roinn
Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta

Department of
Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Óige Ildánach
Creative Youth

Plean chun scód a ligean le cumas na cruthaitheachta i ngach leanbh agus i ngach duine óg

A plan to enable the creative potential of every child and young person

The TechSpace as Gaeilge Programme, a joint enterprise between the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and Camara Ireland, is being funded under the 20-Year Strategy for the Irish Language 2010-2030. TechSpace is a national web of digital media spaces in youth centres and schools. The TechSpace as Gaeilge Programme helps young people to create digital and technological material as they engage in activities such as digital film, web design, mobile app development and robotics, among others, through the medium of Irish. Under the direction of trained instructors and mentors, the young people add to their computing competency and develop important skills for the 21st century, including creativity, critical thinking, communication and cooperation.

Feedback was positive and Creative Ireland gave **encouraging advise on further potential partnerships with Creative Ireland activities and existing projects.** Creative Ireland stated that while Core Funding for 2019 had already been allocated, they were keen to develop the relationship and support us to engage in the programme through their various initiatives such as the Creative Schools Initiative. Relevant key contacts and introductions were also made and discussions are in place to follow up during 2019 with any potential for cross collaboration.

04 —

Cornerstone Events

04 —
Cornerstone events

Tech Féile 2018

The first ever Tech Féile took place in Limerick School of Art and Design on 27th April 2018 which was **funded by the Department of Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht with support from TG4.** The event was also marked as a Bliain na Gaeilge event. The following facts and figures outline the key achievements.

National Media Coverage:

— Nuacht TG4 Report
— Online Video by TG4
— Photo Gallery by Tuairisc.ie
— National Newspaper Spread: Irish Independent
— Local Paper Coverage: Connacht Tribune, Limerick Leader, Kerryman

160
young people attended.

5
Youth Exhibitions

13
institutions including schools and youth organisations attended.

1
Youth Band

18
youth projects submitted

1
Professional Band

14
workshops and exhibitions provided

2
Social Media Vloggers by young TechSpacers (First time for a Snapchat Geofilter to be used at a TechSpace event)

Successes and Recommendations

1. The Inspirational Atmosphere

As this was the first ever Tech Féile, feedback from educators and young people included how their event and the experience was very new and different to anything they had attended before and so the overall experience was inspiring and eye opening.

2. Workshops and Networking

• Positive feedback was obtained from all stakeholders with regard the high standard and quality of the workshops at the event.
• Workshop facilitators stated that it would have been inspiring to have more opportunity to network after the workshops and see the other facilitators work.

3. Opportunities for Youth Participation

• There was emphasis placed on youth participation throughout the planning process and in delivering the event. This received positive feedback particularly from the young people, who were very grateful.
• The Teachers responded that the level of participation from young people improved the young people's confidence.
• This level of youth participation is strongly encouraged to ensure youth development outcomes.

4. Irish Language

• Feedback from facilitators, teachers, stakeholders, and volunteers noted that the Irish language was at the heart of the event. Feedback included that the Irish language at the event felt natural and fluent, inclusive and yet not a translated experience.
• There were no issues reported with language behaviour from young people and no reported interactions where anyone needed to be reminded that the language of the event was Irish.

Challenges and Recommendations

1. Stage show

• The absence of award submissions meant that the stage show didn't have a high level of engagement from the young people on the day. Awards and competition entries were recommended to create more of an atmosphere and to really reward and showcase the young people's work.
• The main guest speaker pulled out two days before the event which also meant that the stage show seemed lacking in engaging material relevant to young people. This was unprecedented and the stakeholder was very apologetic and it is unlikely to occur again.

2. Exhibitions

• The space and venue layout meant that a lot of young people and their teachers and youth workers did not realise there were exhibitions to be seen upstairs.
• Recommendations include having larger maps and signage placed around the venue.

3. Issues with Attendance

• Several schools in the TechSpace network were unable to attend due to the time of year. They had groups already attending other events and international events. Earlier in the year was suggested as more schools were more likely to be able to attend.
• Several schools cancelled in the final days leading up to the event. Some gave the ratio of 5:1 as a challenge, and that the norm for school events would be 10:1.
• Teachers also noted that Thursday would be a preferable day to Friday as there would be more teachers available to accompany them.

Dublin Maker

Dublin Maker took place on Saturday 21st July 2018. Dublin Maker has **a footfall of 10,000 attendees, between families, young people, youth workers and educators.** Camara Education Ireland had an exhibition space to promote TechSpace STEM activities. The Munster Cluster Coordinator lead on a TechSpace as Gaeilge activity which involved Makey Makey and Scratch as Gaeilge called Slán go Fóill Mol. **This is the first time Irish has been seen to integrate with technology at this prestigious event.** It was noted that feedback was positive and that people who would not normally have experience of the Irish language were engaging and excited to get involved in an Irish language activity.

The ESB Creative Tech Fest

The annual Creative Tech Fest took place on the 1st November 2018. This was on a Thursday instead of the usual Friday. There was high attendance form clár TechSpace members and it was noted that the event occurring on a Thursday meant it did not clash with the annual Oireachtas na Gaeilge as it does every other year. **The Clár TechSpace aim for the event in 2018 was to ensure it was a bilingual event.** Bilingual signage, an Irish language youth band and bilingual workshops meant the Irish language was very visible and welcomed in Google. Bliain na Gaeilge also had a strong presence at the event.

- Tógra, a youth band from PobalScoil Chorca Dhuibhne performed on the Google Foundry Stage.
- The website and the signage was bilingual.
- The Clár Techspace programme launched Zappers as a digital media exhibition.
- TG4 created an online video with Google staff speaking Irish.

55

young people form Connacht, Munster, Leinster and Scotland attended.

5

5 workshops were bilingual.

25

Over 25 submissions were received for the Clár TechSpace awards.

4

Irish language awards were presented.

Erasmus+ Best practice for Digital Schools

A presentation was given to a group of international educators as part of an **Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership event,** organised by Furbo National School. The TechSpace team were invited to the school on the 23rd November and presented on TechSpace and Edcite as Gaeilge.
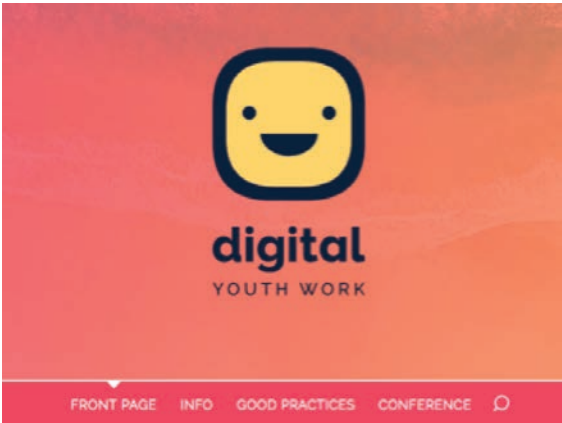

Zeminar

Camara Education Ireland took an exhibition stand at Zeminar on the 13th, 14th and 15th November to demonstrate and showcase Clár TechSpace. The main aims of this were to **increase visibility of the programme, to network and to gain an understanding of a successful youth event with a footfall of 30,000 young people.** The Clár TechSpace exhibition attracted a high number of young people who were very engaged in the digital media and STEM activities during the three day event. It was however difficult to engage the target audience of teachers, principals and schools. Whilst the aim of achieving visibility was met, it was decided that attending more education focused events could be more effective.

Tionól Forbartha Gaeloideachas i bpáirt le COGG

An education conference for Irish language schools was held in Galway on the 16th November 2018. **Over 300 teachers and principals attended the event** and a member of the Camara Education Ireland team presented as part of a Teach Meet activity where organisations present very brief experiences of their activities. The invitation to this event was an acknowledgment of the regard of the sector towards the Clár TechSpace programme. The Clár TechSpace Team aim to attend more of these events and conferences to increase the reach of the programme.

05 —

TechSpace Training and Learning Outcomes Analysis

05 —

Training and Development

New Trainings developed

Significant developments took place in 2018 which greatly expanded the Clár TechSpace programme. The STEM Maker training was translated and further developed to meet the needs of Clár TechSpace educators. A pilot training took place in March 2018 in Galway and **feedback from the training was positive.** Further developments and resources were translated to improve the training and the training was delivered in Cork and Kerry in September 2018. Again feedback was positive. Feedback from both trainings highlighted that the successful translation of the resources made the training content fun, accessible and also fit appropriately into the cultural context of the Irish language. The word Útamáil in particular was celebrated as successfully relaying the core concept of the Maker Movement.

A new Clár TechSpace project officer was recruited in July 2018 and **successfully updated the Digital Media training to include the recommendations of the Learning Network Meeting as outlined above.** The training was piloted in Athlone in October 2018 for existing participants of the programme to allow them to upskill and a further upskilling training took place in Connacht for existing TechSpace educators with the exception of one school.

Content development coloured across the TechSpace Team at Camara Education Ireland and has lead to developments such as the fundamentals of Projection Mapping, Augmented reality, developing and editing your own QR codes.

January 2018
6 educators / 4 institutions
2 hour Creative Tech Support Session for Munster Educators in Kerry

February 2018
8 educators / 8 institutions
Individual Site Visits for one-one support in Tipperary and Cork

2 hour Creative Tech Support Session for Connacht Educators

March 2018
One Day STEM Training for Connacht Educators

April 2018
Creative Consultant and Educator Support Session in preparation for Tech Féile 2018

May 2018
Advertised One Day Digital Media Training opportunity for interested parties

One Day Learning Network Meeting for Cluster Coordinators in preparation for Creative Tech Fest

September 2018
One Day STEM Training for Munster Educators

One Day Learning Network Meeting for Cluster Coordinators in preparation for Creative Tech Fest

October 2018
2 hour Creative Tech Support Session in Connacht

November 2018
1 Day Digital Media Training in Galway

Completed
6 educators attended a Creative Tech Support Session in Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne in Dingle

Completed
3 Site Visits and support conducted (Gaelcholáiste Chéitinn, Clonmel and Pobalscoil na Tríonóide, Youghal, Cork, Muintearas - Club Óige an tSuláin, Cork)

Cancelled
Creative Tech Support Scheduled for February cancelled due to adverse weather conditions (snow).

Completed
STEM training took place in Galway Technology Centre on 13th March 2018. 8 Institutions and 10 educators attended. More details in the cornerstone events of this report.

Completed
Support Session and Creative Consultant Meetup took place on 11th April 2018 in Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh, Rosmuc. Educators learnt to facilitate a Hologram workshop for Tech Féile.

Completed
This took place in Athlone in October 2018 and there were 8 participants

Completed
Learning Network Meeting took place in Portlaoise on May 15th in collaboration with STEM in Youth Work programme.

Completed
2 x 1 Day STEM Trainings took place in Cork and Kerry. A total of 11 institutions were supported and 17 educators

Completed
This took place in Limerick on 5th September

Completed
2 Teachers attended. Needs analysis suggests Creative Tech Support Sessions should be flexible to take place during Croke Park hours for teachers. This will be piloted in 2019.

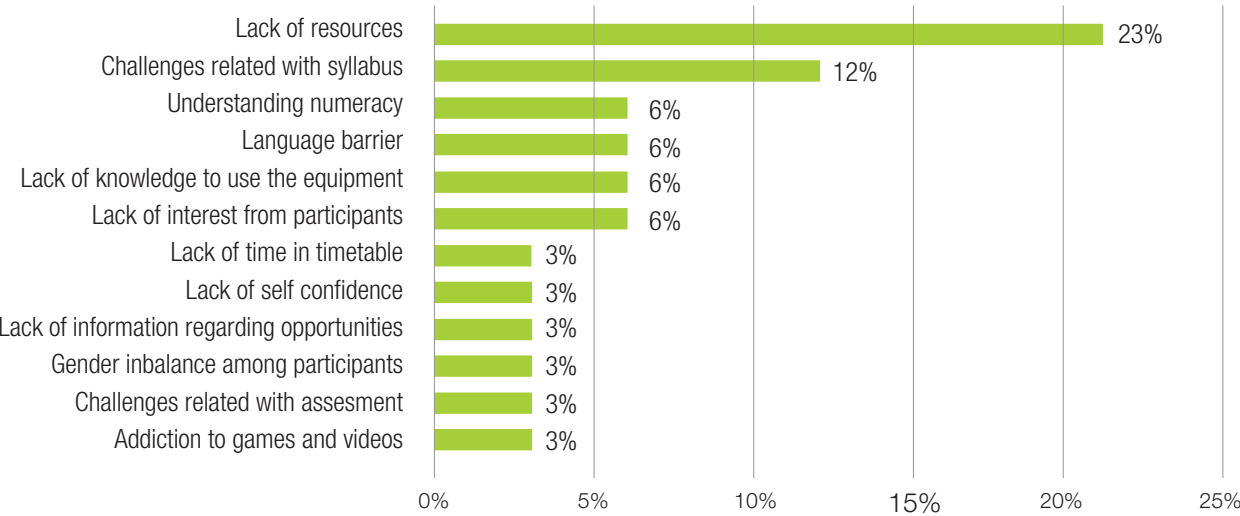**Completed**
5 educators attended from 4 schools

Training feedback

Participants were asked to fill questionnaires before and after each training session **in order to capture their perspective on a number of issues.** In total, 23 participants filled the pre-training questionnaire and 11 participants filled the post training questionnaire. On the pre-training survey, participants were asked about what possible challenges they will face while trying to do creative media activities with young people, if they have a particular understanding of Creative Media activities, and if they understand what maker movement means, among other questions.

Pre-training survey results

The results of the pre-training survey shows 23% of the educators believe that lack of resources will be a challenge and 13% expected challenges related with the syllabus. Other possible challenges raised by the educators include problems in understanding numeracy, language barrier, lack of knowledge to use provided equipment, and lack of interest from young people in the project. The details of the result are presented in the chart below.

Lack of resources	23%
Challenges related with syllabus	12%
Understanding numeracy	6%
Language barrier	6%
Lack of knowledge to use the equipment	6%
Lack of interest from participants	6%
Lack of time in timetable	3%
Lack of self confidence	3%
Lack of information regarding opportunities	3%
Gender inbalance among participants	3%
Challenges related with assesment	3%
Addiction to games and videos	3%

0%   5%   10%   15%   20%   25%

Other findings from the pre-training survey are:

91%
For 91%of participants, it is their first time to attend such type of training

91%
reported that they will show their colleagues what they learned during training sessions so that they may have an opportunity to implement Creative Media activities

61%
have a particular understanding of Creative Media activities

13%
13% reported having some understanding

26%
reported not having any understanding of Creative Media activities

22%
Only 22% understand what 'Maker Movement' is

48%
are able to explain what the benefits of Creative Media in the 'Informal' model context

43%
can identify 21st century influence and skills arising from Creative Media activities

9%
while 9% somewhat can identify the influence and skills

Post-training survey results

In the post-training survey, participants were asked to judge the overall **quality of the training in terms of the learning objectives.** There were 13 questions presented related with this where by participants were asked to score a particular area of the session out of five. The table below presents the questions asked and the scores obtained from eleven participants.

	5 out of 5	4 out of 5	3 out of 5	Avg. score
How you would rate this training course?	82%	18%	0%	4.8
The course was relevant to my work	46%	45%	9%	4.4
The pace and flow of this training course helped with learning	82%	18%	0%	4.8
This course's learning outcomes were clearly defined	64%	27%	9%	4.5
The learning outcomes were achieved	73%	18%	9%	4.6
How would you evaluate the quality of resource material?	82%	18%	0%	4.8
Resource material was presented in a clear and understandable way	73%	27%	0%	4.7
The course structure was satisfactory	91%	9%	0%	4.9
How would you evaluate the exercises and / or practical work for this course?	73%	18%	9%	4.6
How do you rate the Instructor on this course?	91%	9%	0%	4.9
The Instructor showed a clear understanding of the content of the course	100%	0%	0%	5.0
The Instructor responded satisfactorily to all your questions?	100%	0%	0%	5.0
How would you rate the training facilities for this course?	82%	18%	0%	4.8

Overall, the feedback from participants is very positive with an average score of 4.8 out of 5. Encouragingly, 91% of the participants gave a score of 4 or more out of 5 for 'The course was relevant to my work' statement. The same percent of participants also scored 4 or more for 'The learning outcomes were achieved'.

2018 Clár TechSpace Sites

Connacht Site Status

There are **20 organisations** in the Connacht site. Out of these, 50% (10) are open and active where by groups are running smoothly with projects on the go and getting regular support. Furthermore, 36% (7) have shown interest in attending the training (New Possible), 10% (2) are open and some project work is done but not running smoothly, and nothing has been done in the last 6 months in 5% (1) organisation.
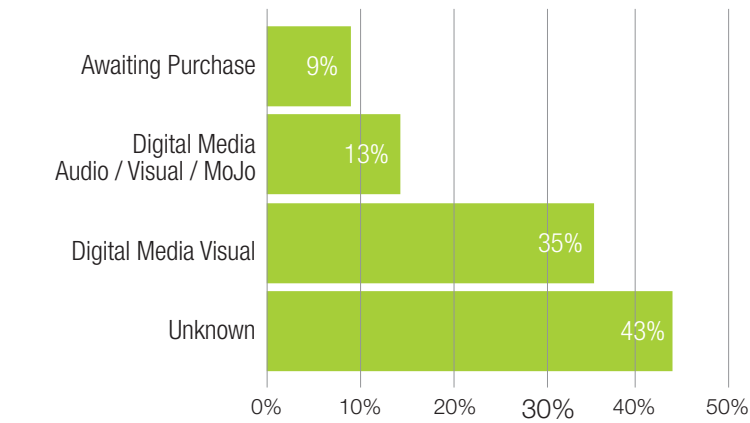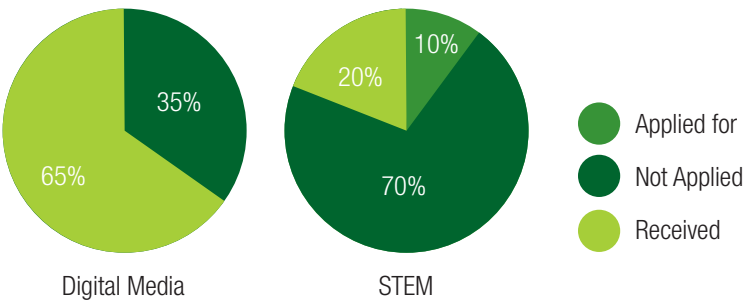
Open and Active — 50%
New Possible — 35%
Open and Struggling — 10%
Not open in last 6 months — 5%
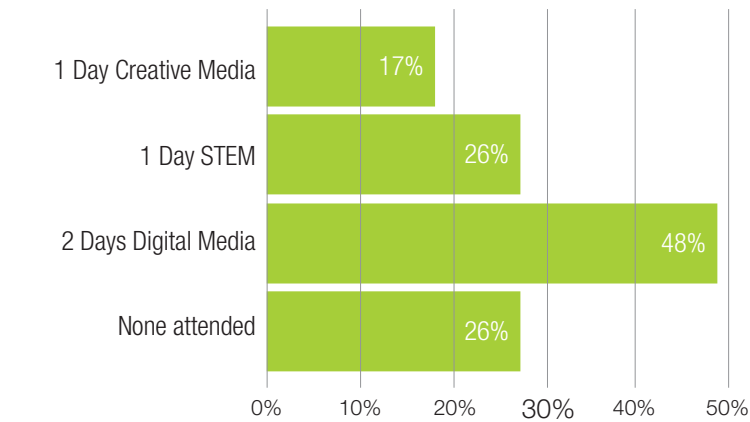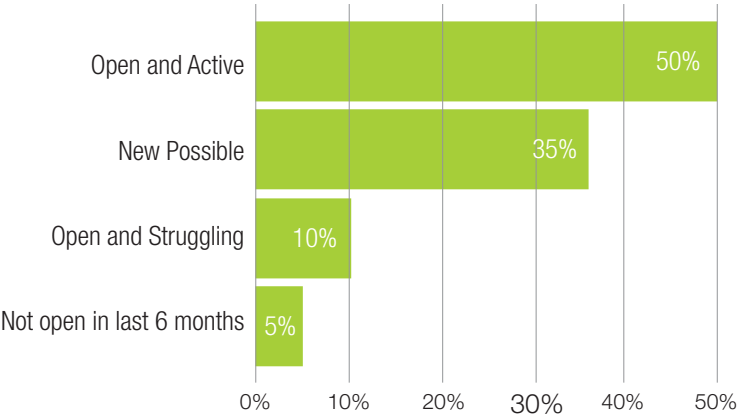
Trainings completed

Three types of training were conducted in 2018 and youth in 48% (11) of the 20 organisations attended the two days Digital Media training, 26% (6) attended the 1 day STEM training, 17% (4) attended the 1 day Creative Media training and 26% did not attend any training. Youth in 6 of the 20 organisations (26%) attended more than one training.

1 Day Creative Media — 17%
1 Day STEM — 26%
2 Days Digital Media — 48%
None attended — 26%

Grant status

Of the 20 organisations, 13 (65%) applied for grants for Digital Media projects and 2 (10) applied for STEM projects. In addition, 4 organisations (20%) received grants for STEM projects.

Digital Media: Not Applied 35%, Received 65%
STEM: Applied for 10%, Not Applied 70%, Received 20%

Applied for
Not Applied
Received

Equipment acquisition

13 of the organisations are awaiting purchase (39%) of equipment, 2 organisations (6%) have already bought Digital Media audio/visual equipment, one organisation has acquired a only a software and another organisation obtained STEM equipment.

Awaiting Purchase — 9%
Digital Media Audio / Visual / MoJo — 13%
Digital Media Visual — 35%
Unknown — 43%

Munster Site Status

There are 21 organisations in Munster site. Out of these, 43% (9) are open and active and 19% (4) are new sites set up and beginning to run (New and open). Also 19% (4) of the organisations expressed interest in attending trainings, 14% (3) lapsed and 5% are under investigation.

Open and Active — 43%
New and Open — 19%
New Possible — 19%
Open and Struggling — 14%
Not open in last 6 months — 5%
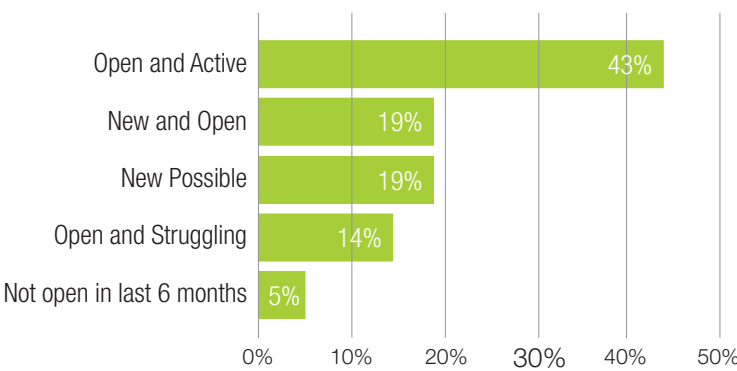
Trainings completed

Out of the 21 organisations, youth in 14 (67%) organisations attended the 2 day Digital Media training. The 1 day STEM training was attended by youth from 12 (57%) of the organisations and youth from 1 organization did not attend any training.

1 Day Creative Media — 29%
2 Days Digital Media — 38%
Digital Media & STEM — 29%
None attended — 5%
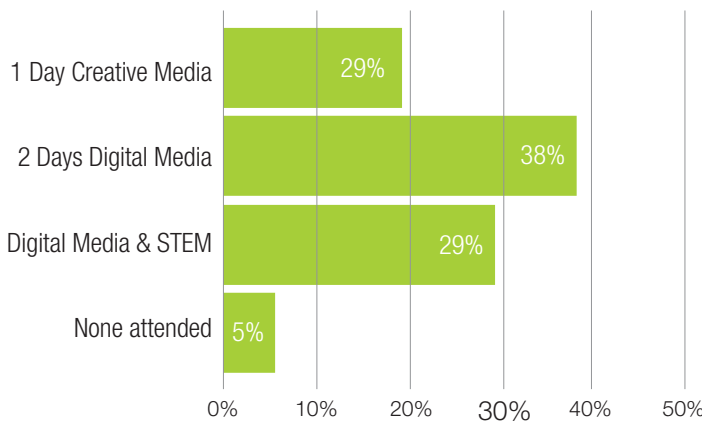
Grant status

14 of the 21 organisations (42%) received grants already and while 5 (15%) applied for grants and are waiting for a decision. One organisation is on the process of submitting an application and another organisation did not apply for any grants yet.

Applied for 15%
Received 42%

Applied for
Not Applied
Pending Application
Received
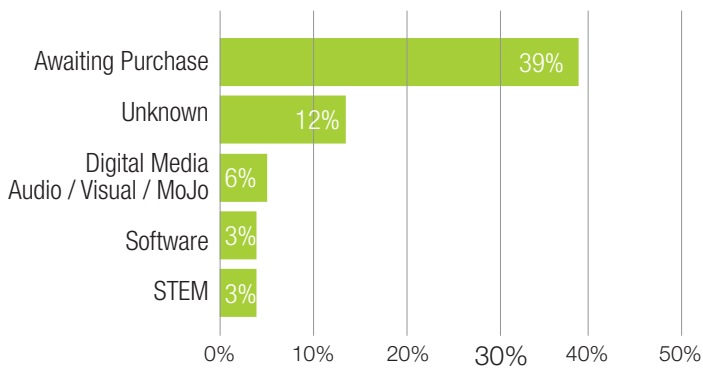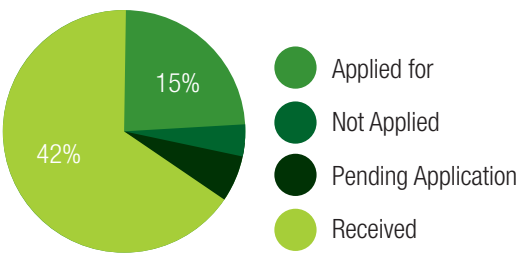
Equipment

13 of the organisations are awaiting purchase (39%) of equipment, 2 organisations (6%) have already bought Digital Media audio/visual equipment, one organisation has acquired a only a software and another organisation obtained STEM equipment.

Awaiting Purchase — 39%
Unknown — 12%
Digital Media Audio / Visual / MoJo — 6%
Software — 3%
STEM — 3%

Barriers to achieving Active and Open Sites

Availing of Equipment Grants process to avail of equipment is still a challenge for some educators. **This is due to ETB Schools not being able to pay for equipment prior to drawing down a grant.** This has caused delay in some of the groups reaching their full active potential. It was identified that Camara Education Ireland will develop and play a key role in 2019 to bridge the supplier gap and work alongside local ETB School Directors to ensure that the process is aligned and easy for Educators to avail of.

With only one teacher or educator being trained per school in some cases teachers or volunteers have moved on from their positions, gone on maternity leave or principals unable to allocate time to one specific teacher. It was recommended that the focus of Creative Tech Support Sessions in the coming months would be to enhance **the educator network with a whole school and local surrounding schools.** This will build a sense of community of practice to enhance local collaborations and resource sharing.

Some school principals and teachers are unaware that they are an official TechSpace Site and that support and equipment are available to them.

06 —

Some Stories of
Impact for Young
People

06 —

Inis Mór

Eoin, a teacher from Coláiste Naomh Eoin did the first round of TechSpace training but due to a lack of teachers it was difficult for them to implement the Clár TechSpace programme. The coordinator organised a Creative Consultant session on Inis Mór in February 2018 and they entered the competitions at Creative TechFest 2018. **The entire team has a great interest in the TechSpace training** and there is Creative Media training arranged for the end of March.

Coláiste an EachRéidh agus Great Escape Rooms

A great opportunity arose from Great Escape Rooms in Galway – **an opportunity for Clár TechSpace students to work on a new room!** The first session took place on the 6th of February – the students had to design a prop and work with the team to create it. The students will be coming in once a week until the prop/room is completed.

Holograms in Connemara

Teachers and Creative Consultant or representative young people from three schools and local youth organisation Muintearas in Connemara attended a support workshop **to learn how to deliver hologram workshops at TechFéile 2018.** Portable holagram workshops were successfully delivered at Tech Féile 2018 by TechSpace Educators and Cluster Coordinator from Connacht.

Youth Band Tógra

Tógra were nominated by their TechSpace Educator from Pobalscoil Chorca Dhuibhne to open performances at Tech Féile in February 2018. **Their energy and creative talent was so impressive they were invited to open the ESB Creative Tech Fest in Google in November.** This allowed those young people to gain exposure, feature in press releases and enjoy the experience of. Also at the TechFéile event in february youth performers met successful band Kila who offered support and advice on embarking on the Creative journey of playing in a band and celebrating the Irish Language.

Jack

Just after I began my role as cluster coordinator, my colleague Aoife Lee from Galway came to Knocknaheeny in Cork City to run a digital Summer Camp for a group of local young people. The week had everything from 3D printing to planning and producing a podcast. There was one young boy Jack Sheehan who was **unsure about some of the tasks as he had never done anything like this before.**

One thing Jack was sure about was that he LOVED pugs! When we were in the studio recording Jack's anxiety got a little overwhelming so we went outside and had a chat, by the end of our chat Jack had learned that my job was all as Gaeilge and I asked him would he help me out and do a small recording as Gaeilge. **At first he was pretty hesitant but when I explained it could it be about pugs he was excited.** We wrote the piece together, with Jack correcting my "h-aon déag" to "aon bhlian déag d'aois" at one point and then we went through it a few times and added some phonetics in just in case. He went into the studio and recorded it from start to finish in one take. He went on to win the 'Cúpla Focal' competition in Google with his mom and dad watching proudly from the audience. Not only was winning a major accomplishment for Jack but it was the first time he had ever travelled on the train or gone on stage on his own. Seeing the confidence that this Clár TechSpace experience gave Jack was brilliant. He has since offered to 'help me out' as Gaeilge if I ever need it again!

# From Fundamental Soldering to an Hydraulic Arm

Terence Mac Swiney Community College is a secondary school with about 90 students in the heart of the north side of Cork City. **They joined the Clár TechSpace network last September and have been extremely active ever since!** The school itself is not a gaelcholáiste but it is hoping to start an Irish stream next September, because of that the school jumped at the opportunity to be part of such a great network. Whenever I have done my usual check ins on my sites, the teacher Stephen always shocks me with the great projects they have going on. For example **the TechSpace group have built a hydraulic arm!** One of the most refreshing things about this particular Clár TechSpace group is that they are trying to improve their Irish every step of the way. It is unusual for them to be speaking Irish outside of the classroom but whenever I enter the school they try their best to speak as Gaeilge to me the whole time but I think we all struggled with a translation for 'Hydraulic Arm'!
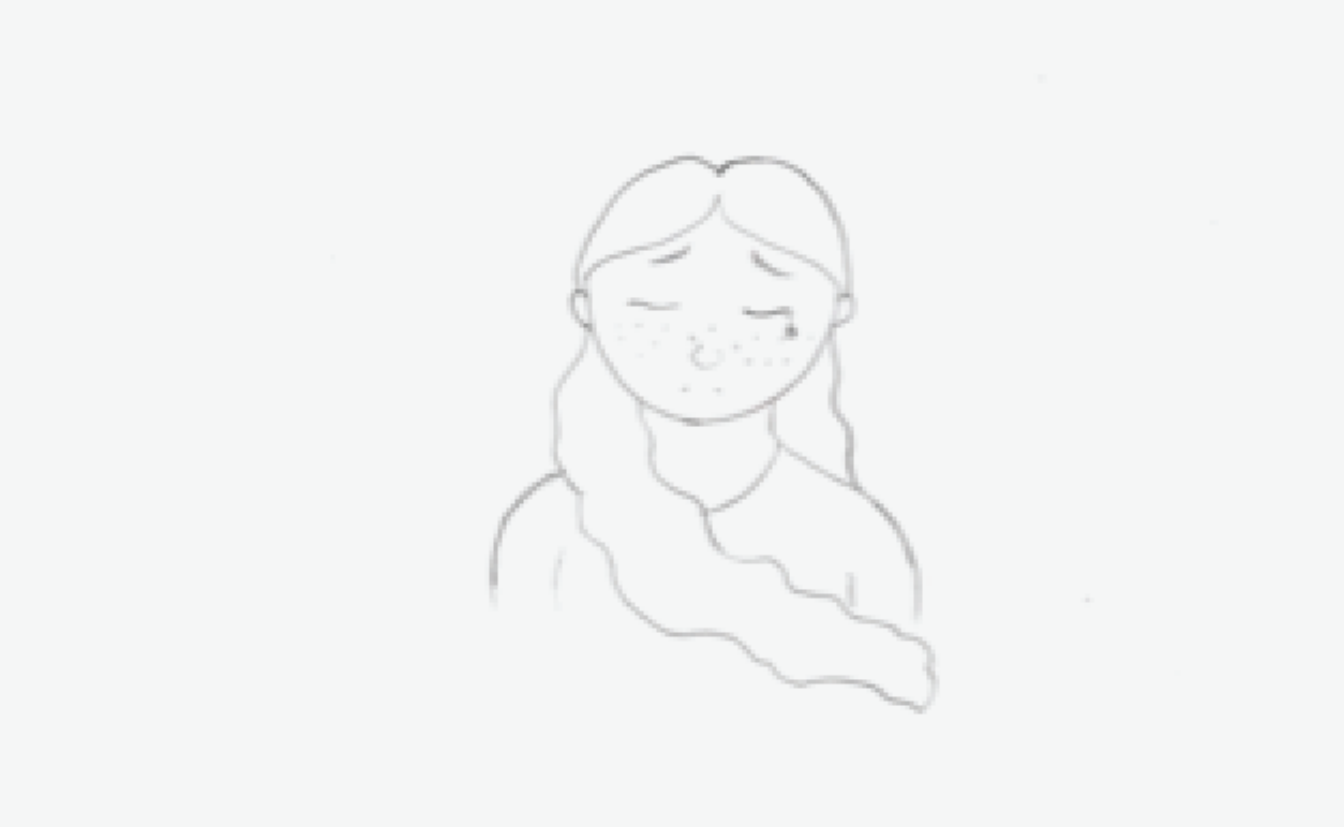
Animation course as part of Mol Teic an Daingean

TechSpace Mol Teic an Daingean approached us with an interest in delivering an animation workshop to young people over a period of 10 week. **We were delighted to support Mol Teic by supplying them with the required software and also an educator with fluent Irish.** The group of young people wanted to tell the story of Grainné Mhaol, which they have managed to do in a artistic and professional way. It is great to see a group of young people learn the skill set of animation in 10 weeks and having a finished video for submission for Tech Féile 2019.

The eight young animators gathered every Saturday for 10 weeks to put this video together. They learned the story of Gráinne Mhaol, **they portrayed their own understanding of our ancestor's literature in their own style,** through the Irish language and through a modern means of communication.

100 INSPIRATION BOXES

100 YOUTH PROJECTS
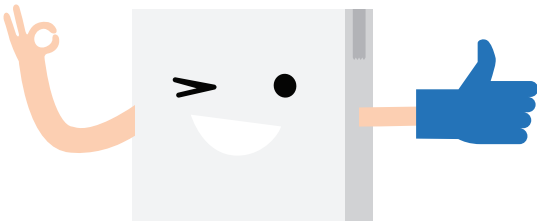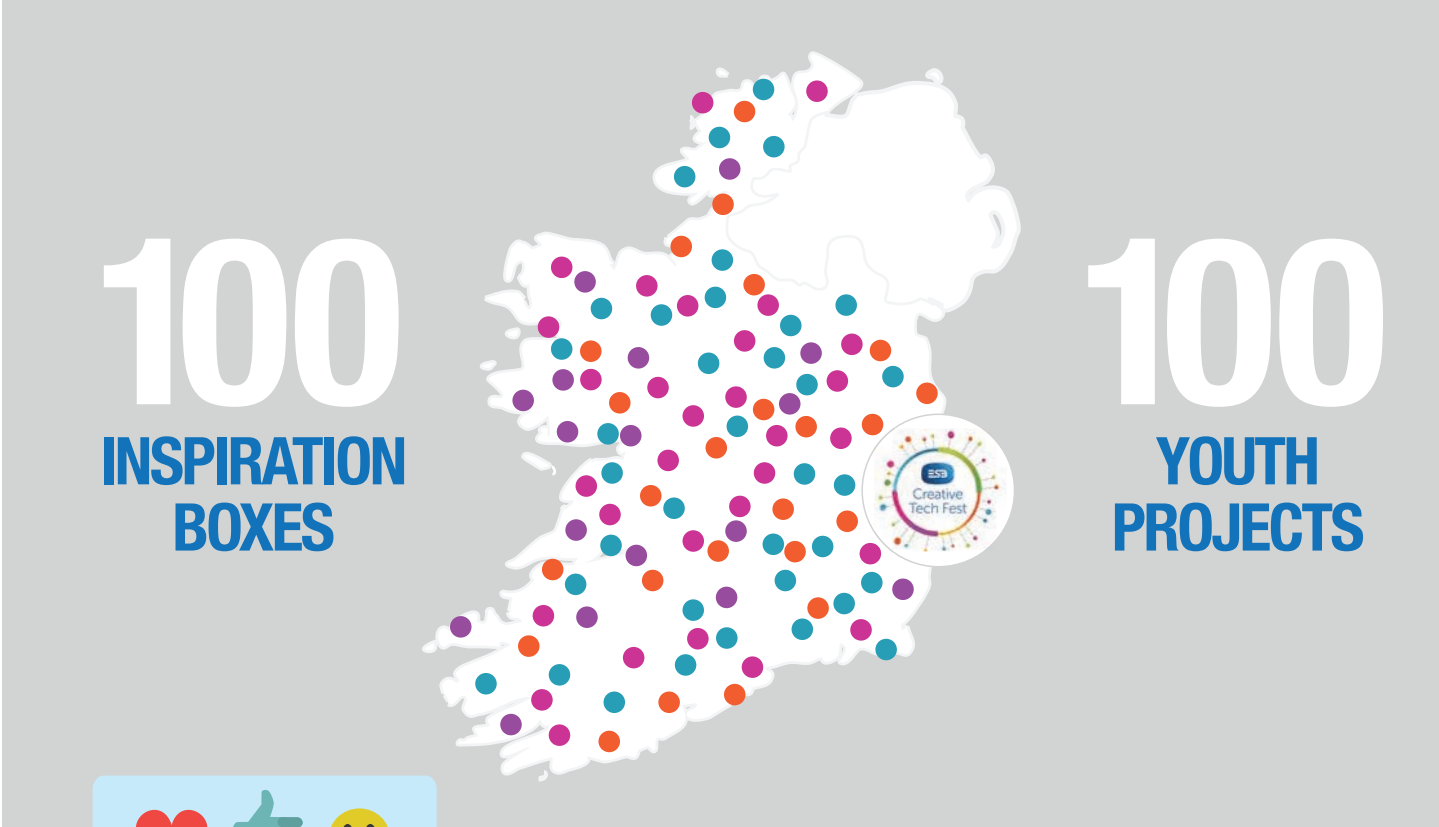
Inspiration Boxes

We piloted the delivery of over 10 inspiration boxes to the network in the Connacht & Munster, giving educators the ability to deliver project submissions for ESB Creative Tech Fest. **The aim of the inspiration boxes, is to encourage the young people to create, invent and be inspired** for new project ideas for submission for national awards at our events. The design was well received by educators of the new products we delivered and a keen interest has grown for the inspiration boxes since. We are currently developing the boxes so we can deliver new things for educators to try out and bring back to their young people.

07 —

Conclusion

07 —
In Conclusion

The Clár TechSpace Programme is on track to be delivered at a national level. Camara Education Ireland have successfully delivered Clár TechSpace and **prepared it for structurally robust national expansion in 2019.**

With over 70 schools and youth clubs running the TechSpace Programme through Irish due to be **open and active by 2020 across the country,** an ever growing innovative community of creative technology educators will deliver STEAM and Digital Creativity activities for young people through the Irish Language.

The TechSpace Programme is providing a positive space for young people and educators in Ireland to create, invent and inspire future generations and to bring the irish language along with them. **A greater focus will be placed on marketing and communications of Clár TechSpace into 2019 to heighten national awareness** of the programme and to attract matched funding to sustain the growth of the programme, and to meet the demand for further training and support for educators to learn about Digital Creativity and STEAM through Irish.

samhlaigh | cruthaigh | spreag