

Learner Newsletter

Kilkenny and Carlow ETB—FET service

Issue 4

Spring 2021

Covid-19—Living with Level 5 Restrictions

Since January, there have been Covid-19 restrictions in place at level 5. This has meant that KCETB learners have returned to remote teaching and learning. Hopefully this transition to remote education has been easier than in March 2020 with learners having access to devices and more training and support for staff and learners with teaching and learning online.

The 2020 / 2021 academic year has been a very strange year but we look forward with some hope as vaccines are rolled out. For now, the 'new normal' includes remote teaching and learning, alternative assessments and programme modifications where reduced or no work placement was available.



What has changed for learners because of Covid-19?

There have been two main changes that have impacted learners; **Alternative assessments** and **Work placements**

Alternative Assessments

Many assessments have to be changed because of remote teaching and learning. The revised assessments are referred to as 'Alternative Assessments. An example of one is where an exam is changed to an assignment. Alternative assessments are created by the internal assessors and approved by the Quality Assurance department.

Work placements

For most of the courses that KCETB deliver, work placements are a key part of the learning. This is particularly true for the vocational courses like childcare and healthcare. With very few placements available, the courses had to be changed. These changes were agreed nationally and were approved by the KCETB Quality Assurance Oversight Committee.



Tell us what you think!

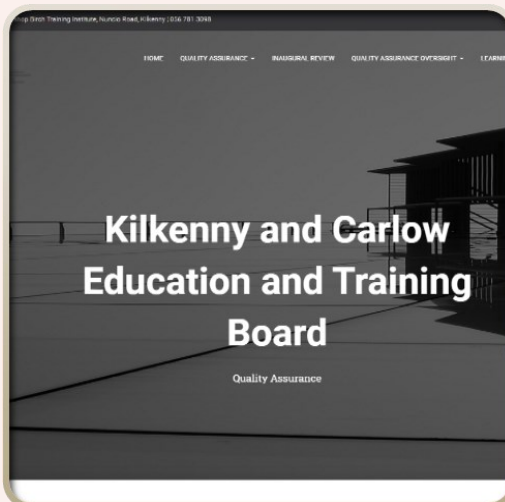
- Are you a learner on a level 5 or level 6 courses
- Has your course been impacted by alternative assessments?
- Has your course been impacted by work placements?
- Please complete the survey below to tell us what you think.
- The Microsoft Forms survey is [here](#) - or you can scan the QR code:



Quality Assurance (QA) Department

Quality Assurance have developed internal control systems for reviewing and approving changes during the Covid-19 pandemic. Check out the website:

www.kcetbqa.ie



The website is used to publish important documents like the KCETB Assessment Policy. It is also used to update information on important events like the Inaugural Review

Inaugural Review

2021 is an important year for KCETB. There will be a full review of all quality assurance, teaching and learning and monitoring activities. The Quality Assurance (QA) department is busy writing a self-evaluation report. This will be complete on 25th June 2021. There will be a panel appointed to visit KCETB in December. Some learners will be asked to participate in this. We look forward to working towards this very important milestone with you, the learner.

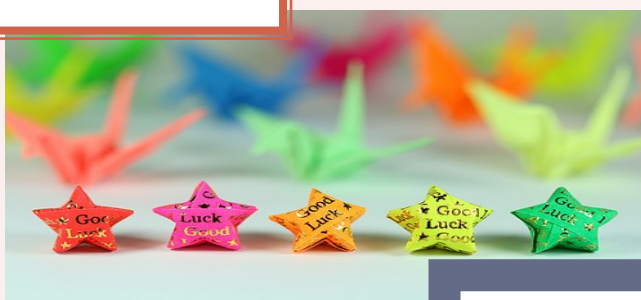
*When is it happening?
13th -17th
December
2021*



INAUGURAL REVIEW

Remember to check out the [KCETB FET video](#) on our website for more information on the Inaugural Review

2020
data



Wishing all of the KCETB Further Education and Training learners the very best of luck in their upcoming assessments!



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