

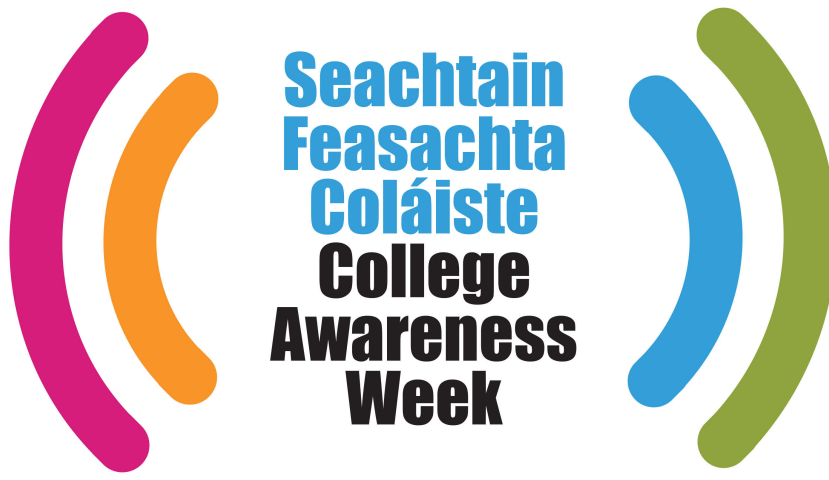
## THE LONG-TERM BENEFITS OF GOING TO COLLEGE FOR STUDENTS

### The Benefits of Creating a College Going culture in schools

- Pathways to College Activities include, for example, projects relating to college/courses choices, mock CAO/HEAR/DARE applications, campus visits, careers fairs, talks by experts, and workplace visits.
- Engaging in such activities helps to equip students with the knowledge needed to make informed decisions regarding subjects choices/levels, college courses and career pathways.
- Thus, the idea of progressing to college is promoted and made highly visible in the school and community.
- Reference: Trinity Access Project Overview 2022

### The Immediate Benefits of Going to College for students

- Learn a new subject or gain more in-depth knowledge
- Acquire a qualification for the workplace
- Be stimulated by world-class lecturers
- Have access to amazing facilities – libraries, computer rooms, labs, sports centres
- Meet new people from around Ireland and the world
- Join a student club or society
- Play sports
- Socialise
- Travel the world through internships, study abroad programmes
- Increase your confidence and sense of achievement and direction



## THE LONG-TERM BENEFITS OF GOING TO COLLEGE FOR STUDENTS (CONTINUED)

### The Long-term Benefits of College Graduates for Irish Society

- Graduates of higher education tend to have a higher level of trust in public institutions; are more likely to vote; and have a greater awareness of, and sense of responsibility towards, social justice.
- The Central Statistics Office explored the link between crime and education in the 2016 census and found that 57% of prisoners in Ireland had an education level of Junior Cert or below.
- Graduates of Higher Education are also more likely to live longer and experience obesity less than those with lower levels of education.
- Reference: HEA Graduate Outcomes Surveys 2020, 2021, 2022

### The Benefits of Further Education and Training as well as Apprenticeships

- FET Routes are available in every community and offer learners a pathway to take them as far as they want to go, regardless of any previous level of education.
- FET courses have a focus on both facilitating progression to higher education and direct generation of employment outcomes.
- The FET route offers students the opportunity to transition into college courses without the necessary Leaving Certificate points.
- There is research by the ESRI among others, which suggests some skills mismatch in the Irish workforce, and that more vocational options and pathways could help to address this, starting at secondary school.
- Reference: Future FET: Transforming Learning The National Further Education and Training (FET) Strategy

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