OLLSCOIL TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
TU DUBLIN
TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY DUBLIN







Rochtain agus For-rochtain Bliain á hAthbhreithiú 2025 - 2026

Access and Outreach Year in Review 2025 - 2026



Ábhair
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Rochtain agus For-rochtain
Access and Outreach

Access and Outreach is a cross-campus service that ensures the widest possible participation in higher education for local communities and underrepresented groups, with a particular focus on the ***National Access Plan*** and the University's ***Strategic Intent*** in regard to widening participation. It encompasses a range of activities aimed at reducing barriers to higher education for historically underserved communities and providing access entry routes. Close cooperation with targeted schools at primary and post-primary levels and with community groups is a key element. Through a combination of early interventions, sustained engagement and tailored supports, it aims to reduce barriers and promote equity, inclusion and success for all learners.

TU Dublin's ***Plan for Access & Participation 2024–2028*** outlines a strategic commitment to widening participation in higher education, particularly among underrepresented and disadvantaged groups. It focuses on building strong community and school partnerships, increasing awareness of educational opportunities and providing support from early engagement to pre-entry and transition supports. Key priorities include targeted outreach to socio-economically disadvantaged communities, Traveller and Roma communities, students with disabilities, mature students and International Protection Applicants.

Strategic Intent

TU Dublin's access and outreach activities are firmly embedded within both the institutional strategy and national policy frameworks that promote equity and inclusion in higher education.

The National Access Plan sets out a clear agenda to increase the participation of underrepresented groups in higher education. It prioritises inclusive pathways, targeted supports, data-informed interventions and strengthened community engagement principles that are reflected in TU Dublin's approach to widening participation.
TU Dublin's Strategic Intent commits to "embracing diversity and fostering an inclusive learning environment" as a core institutional value. This includes increasing access to higher education, addressing educational disadvantage and deepening partnerships with schools, community organisations, and further education and training (FET) providers.
The Access and Outreach team play a key role in advancing these objectives through a coordinated programme of engagement, transition support and inclusive educational practice, supported by collaboration across academic and professional services.
By aligning its access and outreach work with both national priorities and its own strategic goals, TU Dublin ensures that access and participation are not peripheral activities, but central pillars of its mission to be a truly inclusive, engaged and socially responsive university.

Access & Outreach aligns its work with the ***United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals***:



Creating inclusive pathways to higher education through outreach programmes, access entry routes and school and community partnerships.





Addressing socio-economic barriers, targeted outreach activities and supporting underrepresented groups.



Access & Outreach's ethos promotes inclusion and trust in the university's institutional structures, enabling equitable student participation in higher education contributing.



Collaboration with communities, schools and national bodies.

Achoimre Fheidhmeach 2025 - 2026

Executive Summary 2025 – 2026

During 2025 – 2026, the Access and Outreach team successfully delivered a broad range of initiatives and engaged a diverse cohort of learners from underrepresented or socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds. Key achievements include:

Primary and Secondary School Engagement: Campus visits, faculty taster days, STEM programmes, apprenticeship activities, literacy initiatives, media focused websites, debating, Maths outreach and a sports programme were delivered to raise students' aspirations and build familiarity with higher education.

Pre-Entry Support: Information sessions on TU Dublin and national access entry routes, College Awareness talks, intensive Maths sessions, a Maths revision course and Inspiring the Future events increased Senior Cycle students' knowledge of the options available to them and the university system while supporting them to navigate the application process.

Parental Engagement: Parents were engaged with in a variety of ways – an information session about access entry routes, a Junior Cycle study skills session and a programme training parents to share information about the IT tools their children use in schools with other parents.

Community Outreach: Information sessions and progression-focused sessions were delivered in collaboration with local organisations and FET providers. These supported mature learners, International Protection applicants, Traveller and Roma applicants and others exploring pathways. Apprenticeships and trades were also promoted.

Universal Design and the Certificate in Independent Living Skills: The two year Certificate in Independent Living Skills was completed successfully on the Blanchardstown and Tallaght campuses. Universal Design for Learning continues to be embedded into TU Dublin's work areas.

Capacity Building: Professionals working with IPA students attended the inaugural Migrant Further & Higher Education Support Network meeting. Information sessions engaged School Guidance Counsellors, Adult Guidance Counsellors and statutory and voluntary organisations. Traveller culture was promoted through an Involve Meath training session for TU Dublin students. An OPEN Network meeting, an MSI Network meeting and a delegation from a university in China were hosted by the team.

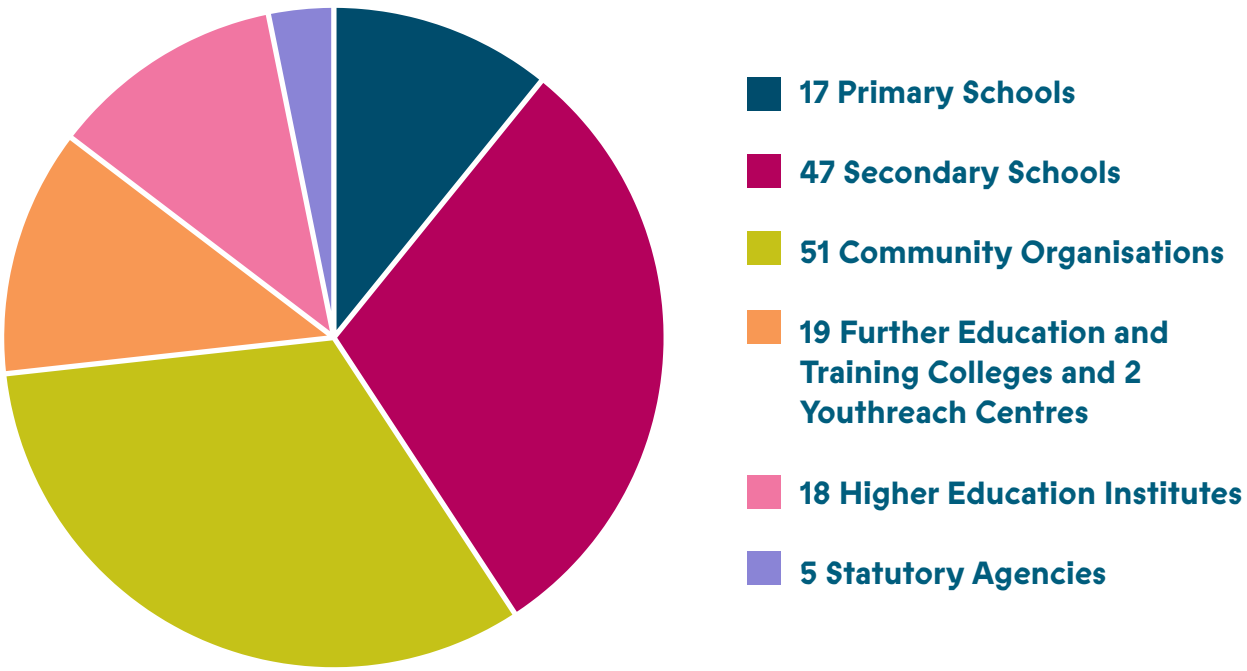
Events: A career exploration day, an education fair and information sessions provided essential information to prospective students; a conference focusing on care experienced students informed professionals within the sector. Hosting an array of community events such as the Intel Mini Scientist, SPACEFest and Foroige's Leadership for Life programme engaged the wider community.

Resources: A range of practical resources were created to support mature students, parents and teachers.

Access and Outreach Impact

Primary Schools Outreach	1397
Junior Cycle Outreach	3580
Senior Cycle Outreach	822
Pre Entry Access	1038
Parent Engagement	349
Community Outreach	315
Certificate in Independent Living	12
Capacity Building	223
Access & Outreach Organised Events	326
Total	8,062

Number of Organisations



Gníomhaíochtaí Bunscoile
Primary School Activities

Engaging, hands-on activities for primary pupils aim to inspire curiosity, introduce new subjects and careers and make attending university an achievable goal.

TRY FIVE +: Try Five+ is a collaborative initiative designed to inspire and empower primary school pupils through a series of hands-on STEM workshops. Developed in alignment with the school curriculum, the workshops foster science aspirations, challenges stereotypes and promote inclusivity. It nurtures the next generation of innovators, scientists, and engineers by making STEM education exciting, relevant and inclusive. 4th and 5th class pupils participate in a range of workshops based on the theme of Space, Science and Exploration.

Pupils also participated in a Women in Space Poster Competition and a Build a Moon Base Art Competition. Try Five+ supports teachers through a range of diverse resources, teacher training manuals, pupil workbooks and a dedicated website. The project is funded by Research Ireland, the Department of Education and Youth, Esero and Workday.

Sustainability Action Lab: This supports TU Dublin academics, students and partners from all sectors of society to collaborate on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals aligned themes and challenges. Initiatives include:

- **CLiC News:** The CLiC News website has been running for 14 years. Second year Journalism students in TU Dublin are responsible for the production and content of the website. The Access and Outreach team engages the local schools and upon registration, the pupils can read all of the Journalism students' stories and develop their writing skills by leaving comments. Stars are awarded based on content, grammar and spelling.

- **Switch on STEM/Slice of Science/Seeds of Science/Healthy Habits Hub:** TU Dublin students designed and delivered a series of interactive STEM activities and demonstrations for primary school pupils. Rotating through activity stations, pupils took part in hands-on experiments while engaging directly with TU Dublin students, learning about STEM topics, university life, and future study opportunities.

Switch on Apprenticeship: Pupils from local primary schools were introduced to woodwork, bricklaying, metalwork, painting and plumbing. Lecturers explained each trade and pupils got hands on experience of using hand and power tools through bricklaying and virtual spray painting. They also made wooden mug holders, metal phone stands and copper pipe candle holders.

Introduction to Timber and Woodwork: [NEW in 2025 – 2026] Participants used hand drills and screwdrivers to practice their manual dexterity and applied patience and problem-solving skills to build a small lock box. These new workshops were delivered to two primary schools and one secondary school.

Love Actually Charity STEM Try Five + Workshops: [NEW in 2025 – 2026] In partnership with the Love Actually charity, Access & Outreach delivered inclusive STEM workshops for children with special educational needs. Through hands-on science activities, participants explored STEM concepts in an engaging and supportive environment, building curiosity, confidence and problem-solving skills.

Smoothie Science: The Smoothie Science workshop gave primary school pupils the opportunity to prepare healthy smoothies while learning about nutrition, healthy eating and the science behind food. Through practical activities, students explored ingredients, balanced diets and food preparation in an engaging and interactive way.

Baking Workshop: This hands-on workshop introduced pupils to the fundamentals of baking. Through practical activities, they learned basic baking techniques, explored the science behind baking and developed teamwork, creativity, and confidence while experiencing a university teaching kitchen.

Chess Tournament: In partnership with the TU Dublin Chess Society, pupils were introduced to the fundamentals of chess through interactive workshops. Pupils developed their skills by practicing in school before returning to TU Dublin to participate in a friendly inter-school chess tournament, promoting strategic thinking, problem-solving, concentration, and teamwork.

Scratch Coding: Members of the TU Dublin Computer Science Society introduced pupils to Scratch coding through fun, hands-on workshops. They explored the basics of coding by creating simple animations, games, and interactive stories, helping to develop computational thinking, creativity, and digital problem-solving skills.



Gníomhaíochtaí Meánscoile
Secondary School Activities

An tSraith Shóisearach
Junior Cycle

Junior Cycle activities engage students in fun, interactive subject-based activities, as well as enhancing personal, academic and life skills.

Junior Cycle Workshop Programme (JCWP): The JCWP is an early intervention initiative funded by basis.point that targets 1st to 3rd year students and aims to demystify higher education. The programme provides students with opportunities to engage in university activities through interactive in-person and online workshops. It fosters a connection to higher education for students by introducing them to diverse areas in STEAM. Students also took part in online study skills workshops where sessions are delivered virtually by an external facilitator. Students had time to practice and reinforce what they learned and this approach helps equip students with the essential skills needed to support their learning.

Junior UniLabs: The four-day immersive programme welcomed students from six schools to the Grangegorman campus. They explored STEM through practical workshops, met researchers and lecturers and experienced university life first-hand. Students participated in coding, electronics, renewable energy, sports, physics and rocketry workshops alongside study skills, wellbeing, and team-building activities, creating an experience that supported both academic curiosity and personal development.

The **Sports for Life and Wellbeing Programme** is also supported by basis.point and Dublin City Council. It complements the JCWP by helping 1st year students transition from primary to secondary school. Delivered over four weeks, it introduces a range of sports that highlight the health benefits of physical activity while also developing resilience, confidence, teamwork and other key social and emotional skills. By building these attributes early, the programme prepares students to face challenges and embrace opportunities throughout their educational journey.

Gníomhaíochtaí Idirbhliana
Transition Year Activities

TY activities are designed to appeal to TY students and help them develop skills, increase their knowledge and clarify what they want to do after they finish school. Activities introduce them to new subjects and highlight the range of subject areas available in higher education.

STEM Passport for Inclusion: [NEW in 2025 – 2026] This national programme aims to address inequalities within STEM by providing underrepresented students with accredited STEM qualifications, mentoring and pathways into STEM education and careers. Students who attend three days of workshops focusing on AI and engineering and complete three assignments.

Concern Debating: In collaboration with the Concern Debating team, schools attend a workshop that introduces them to debating terms, the structures of a debate and the purpose of advocacy. They form teams and research their assigned motion over five weeks. Schools return to TU Dublin to debate with each other in front of a panel of adjudicators.

TY News: Funding from the Programme for Access to Higher Education (PATH 3) allowed the team to develop a website that encourages TY students to write and publish articles about topics that are of interest to them. Involvement will stimulate an interest in reading and writing, encourage them to become content creators rather than just content consumers and get a greater understanding and appreciation of the importance of journalism. Teachers attended a training session that explained how to use the website and create school profiles etc. Schools will be invited to use the website in 2026 – 2027 and publish their articles.

Maths Outreach: During Maths Week, students from the Holy Family School for the Deaf came onto the Grangegorman campus and worked on interactive and creative Maths activities with the School of Maths.



An tSraith Shinsearach
Senior Cycle

Senior Cycle outreach offers students an introduction to university life, course options, subject tasters and guidance about the university application process. School visits and campus events raise awareness, build confidence and support informed decision making about higher education.

Senior Cycle Insights: Students visit TU Dublin campuses and engage in a variety of taster workshops that increase awareness about the options available to them after school and consider if TU Dublin fits into their career and college choices. All activities are delivered by either TU Dublin lecturers or industry experts.



Subject Areas:

Applied Social Care, Fine Art, Horticulture, Hot Kitchen, Make-up for TV and Film, Maths, Medical, Painting and Decorating, Photography, Printing, Product Design, Refrigeration, Air Conditioning and Heat Pumps, Visual Merchandising, Plumbing and Bricklaying, Community and Youth Development, Electronics, Horticulture, Music, Law, Woodwork, Biology, Computer Science, Baking.

Taster workshops focusing on apprenticeships and trades are also available to Senior Cycle students who come from the **Traveller and Roma communities**. See page 18 for more details

Rochtain Réamhiontrála

Pre-Entry Access

The Access and Outreach team aims to ensure that talented, capable students of all ages and backgrounds can benefit from a university education. The Pre-Entry team provides information about TU Dublin's access entry routes, national access entry routes, support with completing university applications and offers initiatives that prepare students for university life.

Inspiring the Future: This collaboration between TU Dublin and South Dublin County Partnership is a one-day event that took place on the Grangegorman and Tallaght campuses. In each location, students visited the campus to hear about access entry routes into university and engage with a panel of TU Dublin students who shared their experiences of university life.

Participant took part in a STEM based workshop and topics included Medicinal Chemistry, Forensic Chemistry, Food Science - Biodiversity in Nutraceutical Products, Physics, Optometry and Clinical Measurement Physiology, Introduction to Ardui Programming, Introduction to PLCs. Each day ends with lunch and a campus tour.



Pre-Entry Supports include:

- Higher Education Access Information Sessions
- HEAR/DARE Talk - Open Days
- Access Entry Routes Webinar
- Campus tours
- Maths Support for Senior Cycle students

Rannpháirtíocht Tuismitheora
Parental Engagement

Programme to Enhance Digital Literacy (PEDL): PEDL is aimed at parents of 1st year students. It provides parents with practical experience of the digital tools that students use in school such as Microsoft Teams and Google Classroom etc. Parents are trained to deliver the programme to other parents and it all takes place in schools. Participation allows schools to enhance parental involvement, build digital skills and strengthen positive connections between the home and school. It fosters digital inclusion and empowers parents to be active participants in their children's educational journey.

Access Information Evening for Prospective Students and Parents:
The information session was delivered to prospective students and their parents/ guardians with the opportunity to learn more about the supports available to Access students applying to TU Dublin programmes. The session covered the CAO application process, HEAR, DARE, SUSI, TU Dublin Access Entry Routes, and the financial and academic supports available to Access students. Parents and students also had the opportunity to ask questions and gain a clearer understanding of the application process and the range of supports available throughout their journey to higher education.

"Helping your Child Succeed" Study Skills Sessions for Parents
Moving from primary to secondary school is a big change for students and parents. This informative and practical online talk helps parents understand how to support their child as they begin secondary school. It provides useful tips and links directly with the Junior Cycle Study Skills workshops their child is taking part in at school. Attending gives parents an insight into how they can support their child's education.

Gníomhaíochtaí For-rochtana Pobail
Community Outreach Activities

Community Outreach initiatives offer prospective students an opportunity to explore disciplines within higher education. Sessions provide a hands-on, engaging introduction to a range of subjects, helping participants gain an insight into course content and potential careers.

Taste of TU Dublin: Taste of TU Dublin is designed for people considering higher education. It is aimed at those who may have experienced social, economic, or educational disadvantages and would benefit from learning about the supports, resources and pathways available to help them access and succeed in higher education. We engage with community organisataions, Further Education, statutory bodies and this year we collaborated with two Youthreach Centres.
Taste of TU Dublin was selected as one of just four national impact case studies featured in the National Access Plan 2022-2028 Impact Case Studies 2023 - 2024, recognising its innovative and impactful approach to empowering underrepresented groups to access higher education.

Outreach Information Sessions: These are tailored sessions that help people understand the different entry pathways into higher education. These sessions were delivered to Hill Street Family Resource Centre and Conaí Clubhouse.

Preparation Days for Mature Students: These are offered to incoming mature students beginning an undergraduate course and run on the Tallaght, Grangegorman, and Blanchardstown campuses. These days boost confidence, provide essential information about returning to education, and help students connect with their peers. Topics covered include academic writing, IT skills, financial support and TU Dublin services.

North Inner City Learning Neighbourhood: The Access and Outreach team in partnership with Dublin Adult Learning Centre organised a tour of the Grangegorman campus that explored its history and its redevelopment. The tour was given by the Grangegorman Development Agency, with information about Access and Outreach and access entry routes etc. also provided. This was attended by local Educations Centres, and members of the local communities.

Apprenticeship Information Days: These sessions focus on inclusion, with a warm welcome extended to members of the Traveller and Roma communities. Young people explored apprenticeship options, met with university staff and learned about the supports available for students from diverse backgrounds. Attendees engage directly with academic staff, ask questions and gain practical insights into course options, application processes and career prospects.

Try a Trade Days: Participants from the Traveller and Roma communities get a hands-on introduction to apprenticeships, allowing them to try out trades such as plumbing and bricklaying under the guidance of TU Dublin staff. In addition to practical experience, groups learn about access entry routes and get a guided tour of the workshops, giving them a real sense of the learning environment.

Tailored Traveller and Roma information sessions: Sessions included information about access entry routes and supports available within TU Dublin. These were delivered to both schools and community organisations and the participants included prospective students, parents and organisations staff who could disseminate the details to a wider audience.



Universal Design and Certificate in Independent Living Skills (PATH 4)

The Programme for Access to Higher Education (PATH) is a HEA fund committed to increasing under-represented groups in higher education. PATH 4's phase 1 focuses on embedding Universal Design approaches and inclusive practices in HEIs to benefit all students, particularly neurodiverse students and to enable increased participation of students with intellectual disabilities. Phase 1, the Universal Design Fund ran from 2022–2024 and was extended in 2025 and called the Inclusive Environment Fund. This is due to finish in 2026. The 2nd phase supports course provision for students with intellectual disabilities.

Universal Design / Inclusive Environment Fund

This Fund is divided into two sections and builds on the existing work completed in the initial phase of the Universal Design project. There is progress across four themes:

- Design for Neurodiversity
- Digital Accessibility
- Altitude Charter / UD Policy
- Underrepresented Student Voice

Section A - Universal Design:

This is led by a Universal Design Champion across four areas:

- An exploration and scoping exercise of the National Charter for Universal Design in Tertiary Education 'Altitude Charter'
- Support Neurodiversity Outcomes
- Digital competency of accessibility for learning materials aligned with European Accessibility Act
- Enhance Universal Design culture and practice through training, policy integration and technological advancements

Section B – Anti-Racism:

This is led by TU Dublin staff and develops and implements anti-racist practice.

Certificate in Independent Living Skills

This certificate has been created for students with intellectual disabilities, as part of the Pathways Together Programme. The HEA funded programme provides students with opportunities to develop independent living skills, build confidence and integrate into the university and the broader community. Core strands focus on Personal Development, Preparation for Employment that includes work placements and Co-Learning with peers from Level 7 and Level 8 programmes. A structured summer programme included trips to the Epic Museum, Explorium, the GAA Museum and the Zoo.

It is delivered on the Tallaght and Blanchardstown campuses and includes both standalone and inclusive modules. This two year programme began in 2024/2025 and finished in July 2026 with 12 students graduating in October 2026; the programme has been extended and a new group of 16 students will begin in September 2026.



Acmhainn a Fhorbairt, Imeachtaí agus Acmhainní
Capacity Building, Events and Resources

Many activities increased parents and professionals' capacity building and ability to disseminate up-to-date and accurate knowledge. The team organised Access and Outreach events and collaborated with external organisations by hosting education focused events on TU Dublin campuses. A range of resources were created that supported programmes and initiatives.

Capacity Building

Migrant Further & Higher Education Support Network: In 2024 - 2025, Access and Outreach published 'Financial Supports for University in Ireland: A Guide for International Protection Applicants, Refugees and other Migrants'. Professionals attending a follow up TU Dublin seminar established this network as a means of sharing information, exchanging effective strategies and case studies, strengthening data collection and expanding members' knowledge base. The first in-person meeting took place in Grangegorman in May. The network continues to grow and is extremely active.

Information Sessions

- **School Guidance Counsellors:** Access and Outreach hosted a dedicated information session for school Guidance Counsellors to provide updates on the range of access, outreach and student support initiatives available to prospective students. The event showcased programmes for Junior Cycle, Senior Cycle and Transition Year, digital literacy initiatives, the STEM Passport for Inclusion, and the latest TU Dublin developments. Counsellors also received detailed information on Access TU Dublin entry routes, HEAR and DARE, QQI pathways, financial supports, disability and access services, the Access Foundation Programme, Roma and Traveller supports, and apprenticeship pathways. The session provided an opportunity for guidance professionals to engage directly with TU Dublin staff, strengthening partnerships and ensuring schools are equipped with up-to-date information to support students in accessing higher education.

- **Adult Guidance Counsellors:** Adult Guidance Counsellors received information about Mature & QQI entry routes, the Access Foundation Programme, the Community Development and Youth Work Degree and the Learn and Work programme.

- **Statutory and Voluntary Organisations:** Tailored information sessions increased external professionals' knowledge and ability to provide accurate and accessible information and support to care-experienced individuals. These sessions were delivered to Tusla Aftercare Workers, Tusla Unaccompanied Minors Teams, Focus Ireland, Daughters of Charity Family Support Service.

Traveller and Roma Cultural Awareness: Members of the team contributed to changing perceptions about the Traveller and Roma communities for both TU Dublin students and staff by:

- Supporting 18 students throughout the academic year by assisting with applications, signposting relevant services, and providing guidance on higher education pathways.
- Providing an interactive training session for first year Community Development and Youth Work students. The 'Traveller Culture and Identity' training was delivered by Involve Meath and aimed to enhance students' understanding of Travellers' unique culture and identity, while also highlighting TU Dublin supports for members of the Travelling community.
- Delivering a talk for 'Certificate in Community Development' students about the range of access entry routes and supports available.
- Contributing to an internal professional development course for staff called 'Unconscious Bias and an Inclusive Work Environment'.
- Presenting at an Irish Traveller Movement webinar, to provide information on pathways to higher education and Apprenticeships.

Hangzhou Norman University [HZNU], China Visit: Staff from HZNU visited TU Dublin to find out about the primary school programme Try Five+ and learn about the content, how it is promoted, how it is run and the outcomes.

Outreach Pre-Entry Network [OPEN]: OPEN is the national network of pre-entry Access practitioners than aims to share good practice in higher education outreach. TU Dublin hosted an OPEN meeting in June that provided a forum for HEI colleagues to share information and hear about Tusla education services.

Mature Students Ireland [MSI]: MSI is a network for those with responsibility for mature students. TU Dublin hosted an in-person MSI meeting.

Events

Events promote collaboration, raise awareness and reinforce a shared commitment to widening participation while also increasing the connection with prospective students and community organisations. In addition to attending 64 external events, the team organised four events and hosted eleven education focused events.

Access and Outreach Events

Event	Details
Empowering Care-Experienced Students Through Their Education Conference	This EPIC Conference brought care-experienced students, researchers, educators and policymakers together to examine the barriers and opportunities within education and to identify how learning environments can support care experienced young people to succeed. The conference was a follow up event to a collaborative research project conducted by TU Dublin and EPIC in 2025.
Education Fair	TU Dublin collaborated with local community organisations, further education providers, and statutory agencies to showcase the educational pathways, financial supports, and resources available to individuals interested in progressing to higher education.
Access and Outreach Schools' Christmas Concert	Students from local secondary schools had the opportunity to perform in TU Dublin's state-of-the-art Concert Hall, showcasing their talents while experiencing a professional performance venue and exploring future study opportunities in the creative arts. The event also fostered collaboration with local music teachers through a shared performance initiative.
Certificate in Independent Living Skills Launch	The full-time Level 4 Certificate programme tailored specifically to students with intellectual disabilities was officially launched. Students, parents, lecturers and a Social Care student on placement on the programme spoke about their experiences.

Events Hosted by Access and Outreach

Event	Details
Foróige Leadership For Life Youth Conference	Foróige's Leadership for Life Programme ran on the Blanchardstown campus for one week for young people in the area. On completion, young people have the opportunity to graduate with a Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action, with associated academic credits that go towards a third level qualification.
Mater Event Career Day	TU Dublin hosted a career exploration day for TY students, in collaboration with the Mater Private Network. This pioneering initiative aims to address the global shortage of healthcare professionals. Students were introduced to clinical and non-clinical healthcare roles in nursing, physiotherapy, radiology and support services. TU Dublin courses were also highlighted.
School of Sanctuary "Champion" Awards	TU Dublin hosted the School of Sanctuary "Champion" Awards an official recognition of primary and secondary schools who have worked to symbolise and realise an inclusive, welcoming and safe space for all pupils and their families, especially newcomers who come from refugee and migrant communities and other ethnic minorities, including the Traveller community.
Career Day with Home School Liaison Officers, JustAsk & D. 7 School Completion Programme	Senior students from Dublin 7 schools attended a Careers Fair where they met professionals from a wide range of career sectors, explored different career pathways, and gained valuable insights into the world of work. TU Dublin staff were also on hand to provide information on Access Entry Routes, student supports, and the pathways available to higher education.
Traveller Pride event	This Blanchardstown Traveller Development Group (BTDG) event took place on the Blanchardstown campus. It included an overview of BTDG work and achievements, a play, poetry reading and music.
Intel Mini Scientist	The Intel Mini Scientist competition introduced primary school students to the world of scientific inquiry through hands-on investigation and experimentation. Working individually or in teams, students developed and presented their own science projects, building curiosity, critical thinking, problem-solving, and communication skills while fostering an interest in STEM.

Empower's Domestic Violence Working Group Conference	The 10th CPD-accredited Annual Community Conference focused on "Trends in Domestic Violence", fostering learning, collaboration, and awareness among professionals and community partners.
Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative Awards	This leadership programme is for young people aged 15-18 and was run in partnership with the GAA, Foróige, and the University of Galway
Launch: Place Standards Tool Findings for Corduff	Fingal County Council, in partnership with the Corduff Task Group, published the findings of the Place Standard Tool Project, providing valuable insights into residents' experiences and to identify priorities for positive change.
School Completion Programme D.7 Book launch	Through the HSCL initiative, a book produced by students was successfully launched in TU Dublin.

Resources

"Guidelines for Mature Applicants to Ensure You Make a Strong CAO Application"

"A Mature Student's Guide to starting in TU Dublin"

PEDL Parent Resources: These resources help parents build digital confidence and support their child's learning and include participant handbooks, online resource hubs, presentation materials, video tutorials and practical guides.

Try Five Teacher Resources: These curriculum-aligned resources support primary teachers to deliver engaging STEM learning. Resources include lesson plans, classroom activities, pupil workbooks, teacher guides and downloadable learning sheets.

Comhdhálacha
Conferences

Access and Outreach staff actively disseminated research, shared innovative practice and contributed to national and international dialogue on widening participation, STEM education and digital inclusion. During 2025–2026, staff delivered presentations, workshops, posters and knowledge exchange sessions at national and international conferences, showcasing initiatives including Try Five+, STEM Passport for Inclusion, PEDL, widening participation for underrepresented communities, and access pathways to higher education.

Highlights included presentations at the HEA PATH 3 Showcase, SAI Conference, Educational Studies Association of Ireland (ESAI) Conference, Computers in Education Society of Ireland (CESI) Conference, the International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation (ICERI), the European Space Agency (ESA) Teach with Space Online Conference, and the IARU Region 1 Youngsters on the Air (YOTA) Summer Camp. Staff also welcomed colleagues from Hangzhou Normal University (China) for a knowledge exchange visit focused on STEM education and outreach initiatives.

A full list of conference presentations is provided in Appendix 1.

Comhpháirtíochtaí Seachtracha agus Tacaíocht Inmheánach Ollscoile a Aithint

Acknowledging External Partnerships and Internal University Support

TU Dublin and the Access and Outreach team gratefully acknowledge the invaluable support of our external partners. Their collaboration has significantly enhanced the university's ability to reach underrepresented communities, promote educational equity and create inclusive opportunities for learners of all backgrounds. Through financial contributions, joint programmes and community engagement, these partners have played a vital role in supporting TU Dublin's mission to widen participation and foster a more diverse student body. This shared commitment continues to strengthen pathways to higher education and enrich the lives of prospective students.

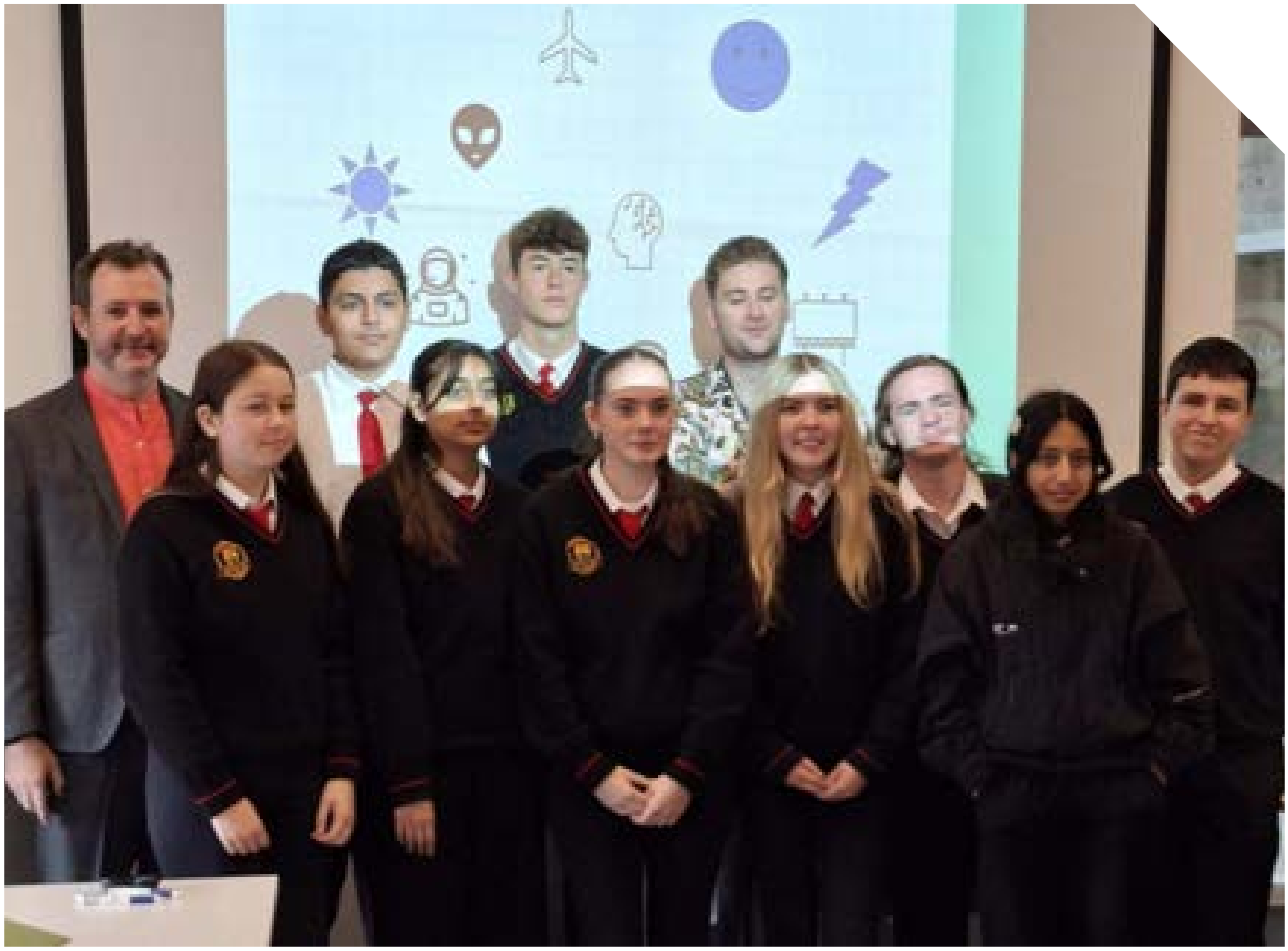
The team also gratefully acknowledges the invaluable support of TU Dublin colleagues and TU Dublin students in enabling and enhancing our initiatives. Staff and students from across the university, including academic schools, student support services, professional and administrative teams and everyone who volunteered their time, expertise, and enthusiasm to deliver meaningful engagement with schools and communities. Facilitating campus visits, delivering subject workshops or supporting events and programmes are central to the success of our work. This shared commitment across the university helps build stronger connections with communities and ensures that TU Dublin continues to be a welcoming and accessible institution.

We would also like to acknowledge and sincerely thank the primary and secondary schools, community organisations, FETs and higher education institutions who have partnered with us. Collaboration has been instrumental in supporting our shared goals; this collective effort is at the heart of Access and Outreach and we look forward to continuing these valued partnerships in the years ahead.

Aguisín 1 Comhdhálacha

Appendix 1 Conferences

Conference	Topic	Format	Location
HEA PATH 3 Showcase	Enhancing Access to Higher Education for Migrant Communities through the Development of Resources	Poster and Presentation	Croke Park, Dublin
HEA PATH 3 Showcase	Advancing Access to Apprenticeship for Members of the Traveller and Roma Communities	Presentation	Croke Park, Dublin
SAI Conference	Pre-Entry Engagement in Practice: Informing, Advising and Preparing Students for Higher Education	Presentation	Dublin Business School, Dublin
18th annual International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation - ICERI	Houston, We Have A Solution: Hands-on Space-themed Interventions In Underserved Primary Schools To Reduce Gender Differences In Stem Motivation	Presentation	Seville (Spain)
European Space Agency (ESA) TEACH WITH SPACE ONLINE CONFERENCE 2025	Try Five +	Presentation	Online
CESI - Computers in Education Society of Ireland	PEDL Power: How Parents, Schools & AI Can Team Up for Digital Confidence	Presentation	Gaelcholáiste Luimnigh, Limerick, Ireland
IARU R1 YOTA Summer Camp/Conference	Using Rocketry workshops to build relationships with school and further outreach	Workshops	Paris, France
Knowledge Exchange Visit -HZNU (Hangzhou Normal University, China)	STEM Education - Try Five +, Junior Cycle Project, STEM Passport, TU Dublin School of Maths, Primary School Visits to observe projects/ discuss with teachers.	Presentation	TU Dublin, Dublin




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TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY DUBLIN

Chruthaigh **Rochtain agus For-rochtain**
OT Baile Átha Cliath an treoir seo

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