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Tipperary Education and  
Training Board



# Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed

## **POST-LEAVING CERTIFICATE COURSES**

### Further Education Prospectus



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# WELCOME TO COLÁISTE MHUIRE CO-ED

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**Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed** is a foundation stone in the education of the wider Thurles community. Situated on a modern campus, with state of the art facilities and a custom built sports arena, we have a proud tradition of providing educational courses to support lifelong learning.

The College has been extensively refurbished and modernised, and is equipped with excellent teaching and learning resources. CMCO's motto; **“Rath as Saothar-Success Through Effort”** underpins our core values of Excellence in Education, Care, Equality, Community and Respect and we encourage and assist our students to reach the highest standards possible, within an environment that is instructive, supportive and welcoming.

## Further Education & Training Awards Council (QQI)

QQI validates and certifies Further Education Programmes. It sets and maintains standards in Further Education Courses. All PLC courses in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed are certified by QQI at Level 5 or 6. QQI awards guarantee learners more options, greater flexibility, high standards of quality, increased access and a ladder of progression into further Third Level Studies. Currently there are over 2,000 University & Institutes of Technology places reserved for holders of QQI Level 5 Awards.

## Entry Requirements

- Leaving Certificate with passes in at least five subjects
- Leaving Certificate Applied with a minimum of 120 credits
- QQI Certification at Level 4
- Applicants over 21 years who may have not completed the Senior Cycle, but are deemed to have the necessary competence and capacity to undertake the programme may also apply.

- We are committed to promoting equality of opportunity for all students.
- Gardai Vetting required

## General Information

There are no formal tuition fees for Irish and EU Nationals who are full time students on our courses. Courses are funded by the European Social Fund.

An administration fee is required to cover student services. Students are also required to pay examination fees.

## Work Experience

Courses are designed to meet current employment market needs by providing job orientated training and education. Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed has built extensive links with many businesses in the locality and further afield through their work experience programme.

Students complete a block release period of work experience during the year with many students finding employment locally as a result of their work experience.

## Higher Education Link Scheme

Progression to Universities and other Colleges from QQI programmes delivered at Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed is possible through the Higher Education Links Scheme (HELS).

This Scheme provides access from Level 5 and some Level 6 Advanced Certificates to a number of reserved places on higher education programmes through the CAO (Central Applications Office). Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT) and Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) provide a number of reserved places for all QQI Programmes in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.

Students are responsible for checking entry routes to the individual Higher Education Institutes and the CAO websites to ensure they meet any special or essential requirements specified such as:

- *A specific Major Award.*
- *A specific grade in specific components.*
- *Additional Award requirements such as mathematics.*
- *That all credits used for scoring purposes are achieved in one 'single sitting'*

Please go to <https://qhhelp.qqi.ie/learners/higher-education-links-scheme-2017/> for more information.

Learners who complete Advanced Certification Level 6 with CMCO may apply for advanced entry straight into the second year for some programmes. This is a Pilot scheme and will be reviewed annually. Be advised that course codes and titles may change and students are responsible for checking eligibility.

Support is available to further education students when they are registered with CMCO's further education college on all of this information.

Coláiste Mhuire Co Ed, partake in the higher education links scheme with both Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) and Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT), students are responsible for checking entry routes and progression pathways in this regard.

## Application

Application Forms are available to download from [www.cmco.ie](http://www.cmco.ie). **Courses are offered subject to demand.** Places on oversubscribed courses may be determined by interview. For students with additional learning needs, **see our website** for information regarding extra supports available.

## Guidance Counselling

The Guidance and Counselling team at Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed aims to provide a confidential and non-judgemental service, where students have the space to express and clarify their own particular concerns in relation to career, educational and personal issues.

## Interview Preparation

All students participate in career investigations and an interview-preparation programme, helping them to present themselves in the most professional manner in an interview.

## Facilities

- *5 IT Labs, Internal Wireless Network, Digital Scanners, Digital Multimedia Recording Systems, Audio & Video equipment.*
- *Full Canteen facilities*
- *2 Modern Science Laboratories*
- *Study Hub with ICT facilities*

## Grants

Students attending our full-time PLC courses are eligible to apply for government grants. Grants range depending on individual circumstances.

For further information on grants please contact the college or S.U.S.I.

## Qualification

QQI Level 5, QQI Level 6

# Nursing Studies

## Level 5 in National Qualifications Framework

QQI Code: 5M4349

### Duration

One year full time

### Objectives

- To enable students to find employment in related areas for example Nurses Aid.
- To facilitate progression to Third Level, particularly to gain entry to Nursing Degree courses.

### Entry Requirements

Leaving Certificate or equivalent

### Course Content

Anatomy & Physiology  
 Nursing Theory and Practice  
 Safety & Health at Work  
 Human Growth & Development  
 Occupational First Aid  
 Work Experience  
 Communications  
 Care Support  
 Care of Older Person  
 Infection, Prevention and Control

Modules may change due to QQI course requirements. Courses offered subject to demand.

### Qualification

QQI Level 5 Certificate in Nursing Studies



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### Career / Academic Progression

Holders of this Award are eligible to apply, through the CAO to Universities and Institutes of Technology for entry to the first year of Nursing Degree Programmes (through the QQI Higher Education Links Scheme). Please check with the individual Admissions Offices of any institution you are interested in attending.

Holders of this Award are eligible to apply through UCAS, for UK universities offering the Nursing Degree programmes.

Award holders are qualified to work as healthcare assistants in a variety of health and community settings.

### Possible Employment Opportunities

Nurses Aid in nursing home  
 Centres for independent living  
 Care Attendant  
 Cabin Crew  
 Social Care

# Health Care Support

## Level 5 in National Qualifications Framework

6



QQI Code: 5M4339

### Duration

One year full time

### Objectives

- To enable students to find employment in the area of community and health services
- To enable students to pursue Third Level education in the area of community and health services

### Entry Requirements

Leaving Certificate or equivalent

### Course Content

Care Skills  
Care Support  
Safety and Health at Work  
Communications  
Work experience  
Care of the Older Person  
Occupational First Aid  
Infection, Prevention and Control

Modules may change due to QQI course requirements. Courses offered subject to demand.

### Qualification/ Certification

QQI Level 5 Certificate in Health Care Support

### Career / Academic Progression

Learners who successfully complete the Healthcare Support Level 5 Major Award have many professional and academic opportunities available to them. Professional routes include working in General Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Home Help Support Staff. Graduates from the course may progress to a range of third level courses available on the Higher Education Links Scheme.

### Possible Employment Opportunities

Health Service  
Executive  
Care Attendant  
Cabin Crew  
Social Care

Home Help  
Residential Home  
Care  
Rehab Care

# Certificate in Early Learning and Care/SNA

## Level 5 in National Qualifications Framework

QQI Code: 5M21473

### Aim

The aim of this programme is to enable learners to develop the knowledge, skill and competence to work as autonomous practitioners, subject to practice supervision, promotion and supporting the holistic needs of children 0-6 years, and/or to take responsibility for a room or area in the early learning and care setting. This award also provides the learner with the opportunity to progress into further and higher education and training.

### Entry Requirements

- *Leaving Cert, including Leaving Cert Applied or an NFQ level 4 major award or equivalent*
- *Applicants whose first language is not English require proficiency at B2 (CEFRL)*
- *A desire to work in the sector*
- *Mature learners are welcome. Where an applicant does not have a Leaving Cert or Level 4, they will have the opportunity to demonstrate their readiness for the course in an interview and by writing a short piece outlining their interest in a career in early learning and care.*



### Modules Year 1

- *Professional Practice Placements in Early Learning and Care*
- *Children's Rights, Legislation and Regulation*
- *Holistic Care of Children 0-6 years*
- *Early Childhood Growth and Development*
- *Curriculum, Play and Creative Studies*
- *Understanding and Assisting Children with Additional Needs*

### Qualification

QQI Certificate in Early Learning and Care, NFQ Level 5

### Employment and Career Opportunities

There are employment opportunities for graduates of the programme as Early Year Assistants with opportunities to progress to Room Leader in a range of early learning and care settings both community based and private. Higher education progression opportunities include Early Childhood Teaching and Learning BA Level 8 and Early Childhood Care and Education BA Level 8.

### Possible Opportunities

Early Childhood Teaching and Learning BA Level

Early Childhood Care and Education BA Level



# Animal Care

## Level 5 in National Qualifications Framework

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QQI Code: 5M2468

### Duration

One year full time

### Objectives

- To enable students find employment in the rapidly expanding Animal care environment.

### Entry Requirements

Leaving Certificate or equivalent

### Course Content

Animal Anatomy and Physiology

Animal Welfare

Communications

Work Experience

Customer Service

Biology

Safety and Health at Work

Animal Grooming

Veterinary Assisting Skills

Modules may change due to QQI course requirements. Courses offered subject to demand.

### Qualification / Certification

QQI Level 5 Certificate in Animal Care

### Career / Academic Progression

This course is designed to equip the learner with the skills and knowledge to work in a variety of areas within the Animal Care Sector or to progress to Higher Education through the Higher Education Links Scheme. Learners study core areas of Animal Care and are enabled to put theory into practice



through the use of a fully equipped animal room and their participation in work experience.

This course is delivered by specialists who are currently practising within the profession. Regular field trips and the handling of a wide variety of animals are key features of this course. There are a range of career paths possible.

### Possible Employment Opportunities

Veterinary Clinics  
Grooming Parlours  
Pet Shops  
Kennels  
Catteries  
Animal Welfare Organisations  
Farms

Agricultural Science Industries  
Petting Farms  
Falconry Centres  
Zoos  
Wildlife Parks  
Aquariums



# Art Portfolio Course

## Level 5 in National Qualifications Framework

QQI Code: 5M1985

### Duration

One year full time

### Objectives

- Provide fundamental knowledge and understanding of art and design processes
- Develop transferable skills of visual communication and self expression
- Identify unique personal abilities and strengths in art and design
- Enable the preparation of a portfolio of artwork to gain entry to third level courses.

### Entry Requirements

Leaving Certificate or equivalent

### Course Content

Drawing  
 Painting  
 Sculpture  
 Communications  
 Work Experience  
 Appreciation of Art,  
 Craft and Design  
 Printmaking  
 Design Skills

Modules may change due to QQI course requirements. Courses offered subject to demand.

Students visit Art Galleries, Art Colleges and go on field trips at home and abroad to experience the outside artistic environment.



### Qualification/ Certification

QQI Level 5 Certificate in Art

### Career / Academic Progression

Holders of this qualification take up places in Third Level Colleges and Institutes of Technology such as LSAD, NCAD, TU Dublin, Crawford Art College, and Art Colleges abroad. Please check with the individual Admissions Offices of any institution you are interested in attending. Having completed this programme Participants may progress to the Advanced Certificate in Art and Business Course Level 6 at CMCO.

### Possible Employment Opportunities

Fashion Designer	Arts Therapy
Visual Communications	Art Teacher
Animation	Film
Creative Media	Special Effects
Game Art	Web Design
	Photography

# Business Administration

## Level 5 in National Qualifications Framework

10

QQI Code: 5M2468

### Duration

One year full time

### Objectives

- To enable students to find employment in the modern computerised office, in Financial Institutions and Public Bodies
- To facilitate progression to Third Level. Students find this course invaluable as a preparation for College.

### Entry Requirements

Leaving Certificate or equivalent

### Course Content

Business Administration Skills

Accounting Manual and Computerised

Word Processing

Communications

Work Experience

Spreadsheet Methods

The Internet

Text Production

Modules may change due to QQI course requirements. Courses offered subject to demand.

### Qualification/ Certification

QQI Level 5 Certificate in Business Studies



### Career / Academic Progression

Award holders are qualified to work in a variety of settings including Business Administration, Accounts, Newspapers, Insurance Companies, Payroll, Marketing & E-business. Holders may progress to QQI Level 6. Advanced Business Administration course in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed, Institutes of Technology and Colleges around the country will be offering opportunities for further studies. Please check with the individual Admissions Offices of any institution you are interested in attending.

On successful completion of Business Administration Level 5, students can progress to Business Administration Level 6 in this college. This programme is suitable for individuals who want to work in an office environment and acquire advanced information technology skills essential in today's world. Many students progress to Business courses in Higher Educational Institutions such as TUS and WIT.

### Possible Employment Opportunities

Tourism

Technology

Retail Management

Administration

Receptionist

Accountancy

Advertising

# Business Administration

## Adult Return to Education

### Level 5 in National Qualifications Framework



QQI Code: 5M2468

## Adult Return to Education Programme

Students over 21 years, make a very significant contribution to the centre. They are assured of a warm and friendly welcome.

## Entry Requirements

Students must have the necessary literacy competence and capacity to undertake the programme. Adults attend courses for their own personal development and achievement, to acquire new skills, upgrade existing skills or indeed simply to form friendships.

## Course Content

Business Administration Skills  
Accounting Manual and Computerised  
Word Processing  
Communications  
Work Experience  
Spreadsheet Methods  
The Internet  
Text Production  
Modules may change due to QQI course requirements. Courses offered subject to demand.

## Qualification/ Certification

QQI Level 5 Certificate in Administration

## Career / Academic Progression

Using the Higher Education Links Scheme progression to a wide range of Third Level courses are possible. Employment prospects on course completion are increased.

On completion of QQI Level 5, students may enrol for QQI Level 6 Advanced Business Administration in Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed.

## Possible Employment Opportunities

Administration  
Receptionist  
Front office  
Retail Management  
Accountancy  
Advertising

# Art

## Level 6 in National Qualifications Framework

QQI Code: 6M4029

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### Duration of Course

One year full time

### Objectives

- To enable students to find employment in an artistic environment.
- To facilitate progression to Third Level. Students find this course invaluable as a preparation for College.

### Entry Requirements

QQI Level 5 Certificate or equivalent

### Course Content

Painting

Drawing

Design Skills

Art Appreciation

Sculpture

Printmaking

Work Experience

Communications

Modules may change due to QQI course requirements. Courses offered subject to demand.

### Qualification/ Certification

QQI Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Art.



### Career / Academic Progression

Students who want to take their skills in the area of practical art skills to a new level and work in various areas of art attend this second year course to top up their original QQI Level 5 qualification. This is a one-year professional practice course in the area of art, craft and design. Students will work with a range of skills, focusing on a practical art skills, gaining employment in the art industry, or preparing for third level studies which can also include preparation of portfolio if required.

### Employment Opportunities

Fashion Designer  
Visual  
Communication  
Animation  
Creative Media  
Game Art

Arts Therapy  
Art Teacher  
Film  
Special Effects  
Web Design  
Photography



# Administration

## Level 6 in National Qualifications Framework

QQI Code: 6M5013

### Duration of Course

One year full time

### Objectives

- *To enable students to find employment in an administration and/or office environment.*
- *To facilitate progression to Third Level. Students find this course invaluable as a preparation for College.*

### Entry Requirements

QQI Level 5 Certificate or equivalent

### Course Content

Administrative Practice

Spreadsheets

Communications

Word Processing

Finance

Work Experience

Supervisory Management

Web Authoring

Modules may change due to QQI course requirements. Courses offered subject to demand.

### Qualification/ Certification

QQI Level 6 Advanced Certificate in Administration

### Career / Academic Progression

This course is designed to develop the existing skills of learners who have completed a Level 5 course in one of the following areas: eBusiness, Information Processing or Business Administration. The course is designed to allow the learner to gain advanced



knowledge and skills in the general area of office management. The learners will receive specialist training in Microsoft Office applications and Office Administration as well as developing speed and advanced accuracy in text production. In addition this course provides a range of core subjects which are essential to the understanding of Business and Office environments.

Graduates will be equipped with the knowledge, skill and competence to work independently or in a supervisory capacity in an administrative role, both nationally and internationally in any employment area.

Upon successful completion of this course, learners may be eligible to apply through the Higher Education Links Scheme for entry to a range of higher certificate and degree programmes at Institutes of Technology and Universities. Please check with the individual Admissions Offices of any institution you are interested in attending.

### Possible Employment Opportunities

Receptionist

Office Administration

Tourism

Retail Management

Accountancy

Advertising

# Advanced Certificate in Early Learning and Care

## Level 6 in National Qualifications Framework

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QQI Code: 6M21471

### Aim

The aim of this programme is to enable learners to develop the knowledge, skill and competence to work as autonomous practitioners, subject to practice supervision, promotion and supporting the holistic needs of children 0-6 years, and/or to take responsibility for a room or area in the early learning and care setting. This award also provides the learner with the opportunity to progress into further and higher education and training.

### Entry Requirements

- *Leaving Cert, including Leaving Cert Applied or an NFQ level 4 major award or equivalent*
- *Applicants whose first language is not English require proficiency at B2 (CEFRL)*
- *A desire to work in the sector*
- *Mature learners are welcome. Where an applicant does not have a Leaving Cert or Level 4, they will have the opportunity to demonstrate their readiness for the course in an interview and by writing a short piece outlining their interest in a career in early learning and care.*

### Qualification

QQI Advanced Certificate in Early Learning and Care, NFQ Level 6

- *Those who prefer to finish after one year can achieve a Level 5 Certificate in Early Learning and Care on successful completion of the Year 1 modules.*

*However, those completing 2 years -*

### Modules Year 2

- *Advanced Professional Practice Placements in Early Learning and Care*

- *Sociology and Social Policy in Early Learning and Care*
- *The Developing Child*
- *Curriculum and Pedagogy*
- *Inclusive Early Learning and Care*
- *Supervision and Administration in Early Learning and Care*

**Note:** In order to progress to Year 2 of the course, learners must successfully achieve all of the programme learning outcomes associated with Year 1.

### Employment and Career Opportunities

There are employment opportunities for graduates of the programme as Early Year Assistants with opportunities to progress to Room Leader in a range of early learning and care settings both community based and private. Higher education progression opportunities include Early Childhood Teaching and Learning BA Level 8 and Early Childhood Care and Education BA Level 8.

### Progression Opportunities

Early Childhood Teaching and Learning  
BA Level

Early Childhood Care and Education  
BA Level



## Testimonials

I have benefitted both personally and professionally from the course” - *Laura*

“I was impressed with the commitment, energy and support of the tutors”  
- *Childcare student*

“I am fortunate enough to have secured employment directly from my work experience”  
- *Childcare student*

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I found myself in a truly welcoming and encouraging environment from which I thoroughly benefitted”  
- *Tracy*

“With my completed portfolio, I was accepted into Model Making & Design and I now have my own Model Making Studio” - *Mark*

“I have made friends in PLC that I will carry through to College”  
- *Chloe*

CMCO had me so prepared for my first year as a student nurse and I had a clear understanding of the fundamentals of nursing which was a fantastic help”  
- *Nursing Studies student*

Tutors were always so approachable, supportive and accommodating” - *Childcare student*

“I hadn’t studied Art in school and by the time I finished my PLC course and transitioned to College, I was able to do things and make things for myself”  
- *Seán*

“With the help of the amazing tutors and staff, I have received the skills and qualification I need to progress further in life”  
- *Ceire*

“Completing the Nursing Studies course changed my life in so many ways and gave me a great introduction into college” - *Ciara*

I had a fantastic year completing my Animal Care course, making lots of friends along the way”  
- *Joanne*

“The course is very beneficial as it gave me a better knowledge of skills and helped me decide the career I would like to pursue” - *Jamie*

It was the enthusiasm and encouragement I experienced in CMCO that laid the foundations for my desire to go on to LSAD and consequently, to enjoy a new life as a printmaking artist” - *Frank*

# National Framework of Qualifications

All QQI Awards have been placed on the National Framework of Qualifications. It is easy to see at a glance where the Award you wish to pursue stands on the 10-Level Framework. QQI qualifications offered here in CMCO is Level 5 & 6.



## Coláiste Mhuire Co-Ed

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Facebook: [Colaiste Mhuire Co-Ed., Thurles](https://www.facebook.com/ColaisteMhuireCoEd)



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