What is Attract-Transition-Succeed (ATS)?

The National Plan for Equity of Access 2015-2019, has set out five goals in order to achieve increased participation of underrepresented groups in higher education. With this in mind, the ATS project addresses priority goal five with the development of an innovative, inclusive and sustainable model of regional access in order to increase the diversity and social mix of the student population within the higher education institutions (HEIs) in the West and North-West of Ireland. This is achieved by the development of a series of tailored packages, in collaboration with the West/North-West Higher Education Cluster, to widen participation in further education.

Consequently, the aspiration of this Reach for ATS outreach programme with Letterkenny Institute of Technology is to raise expectations of students in the hope they will progress on to third level education. The target groups for the outreach programme include groups that are currently underrepresented in higher education, including senior cycle post-primary students (see National Plan for Equity of Access). Therefore, we would encourage schools to choose students who they would think would benefit most from this programme.
How the ATS programme will benefit your students

The project aims to increase students’ confidence in maths and communications, with the aim to encourage progression to third-level education. This will be achieved by completing two short educational “stages” over two terms in the coming academic year 2019/20 (please see programme calendar for further information).

The stages are designed to support the senior-cycle curriculum and offer students the opportunity to experience maths and communications at third-level. Class delivery will be augmented by online support, and participating students will be offered a free trip to LYIT at the end of the project to explore what educational opportunities are available to them.

It is up to the discretion of each school to select up to thirty students who they believe may benefit most from this programme. A school can identify students who they believe could develop their confidence in their educational abilities, and these students can be chosen from any senior cycle cohort; for example, schools may decide to choose ten transition, ten LCA and ten traditional leaving certificate students to participate. Target groups can be students from low income families, or students from families that do not have a tradition of progressing to third-level education.
How to get involved...

✓ *Rethinking Maths* and *Rethinking Communications* contain two stages: Discovery and Exploration.

✓ Each school will be asked to choose thirty senior-cycle students (for example, ten students from Transition Year, LCA and the traditional Leaving Certificate cohort).

✓ Schools will then be asked to include *Rethinking Maths and Rethinking Communications* in their class timetables; one stage will be covered per term, and each stage will take four weeks to complete.

✓ Students will be encouraged to work independently; there will be a blended learning approach to completing these stages, with a combination of in-class and online support. Therefore in-class tuition will be provided on a fortnightly basis.

✓ Schools will also be asked to choose both a preferred term and week to begin the programme, and you will need to get ethical consent from your students prior to this.

✓ At the end of the programme, students will be invited to LYIT and transport and refreshments will be covered.

Click here to register!

Rethinking Maths

Discovering
Topic 1: Divide and Conquer
Topic 2: Think Outside the Quadrilateral
Topic 3: The Life of Pi
Topic 4: What’s the point?

Exploring
Topic 1: Sine of the Times
Topic 2: The Equaliser
Topic 3: Show me the Money
Topic 4: What’s your Problem?

Rethinking Communication

Discovering
Topic 1: Acting Confident
Topic 2: Leading Projects
Topic 3: Time to Talk
Topic 4: Onwards and Upwards

Exploring
Topic 1: Where to start?
Topic 2: Mapping Minds
Topic 3: Beat the Clock
Topic 4: Eye on the Prize
### Programme Calendar

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- **Twenty Schools** will take part for the 2019/2020 academic year (organised in two groups of ten).
- **Ten schools will take part** and complete the programme **over two terms**, with a break in between each term (see calendar above).
- **The dates mentioned in the above calendar are approximate, and are subject to change. Slots will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis.**
- **There will be two stages per topic**, and each stage takes **four weeks to complete**.
- **Tutors will visit schools every second week**; topics not discussed in class must be covered online/independently.
- **A trip to LYIT will also be included at the end of the programme**, which is not included in the above calendar.
Frequently Asked Questions

How does the programme calendar work?

The calendar outlines how the programme will be structured. For example, “School 1” will begin the first stage of the programme in term 1, week commencing Monday 9 September 2019. This will then followed by the second stage in term 3, week commencing Monday 13 January 2020.

How long does each stage last?

Each stage will take four weeks to complete, and tutors will visit schools twice during each stage. Visits will take place every two weeks; during the non-visiting weeks students are expected to complete online exercises. See “stage outline example” for more information.

How much class time is needed?

In total, four class hours are required per term; two class hours are required for each visiting week (Maths x 2 hours and Communications x 2 hours). It is up to each school to decide if they want to set aside class hours during the non-visiting weeks.

What are the IT requirements?

There are no specific IT requirements; tutors require a basic classroom set up with a projector, and the online activities can be completed on students personal IT devices. A dedicated online space will be available for students to access the learning materials.

Stage Outline Example

| Week 1: Tutors Visit - Topics one and two covered |
| Week 2: Online activities (based on topics one and two) to be completed during this week |
| Week 3: Tutors Visit - Topics three and four covered |
| Week 4: Online activities (based on topics three and four) to be completed during this week |

Attract Transition Succeed
What are the topics?

Rethinking Maths

Discovering

**Topic 1:** Divide and Conquer  
*Order of operations*

**Topic 2:** Think Outside the Quadrilateral  
*Perimeter, area and volume*

**Topic 3:** The Life of Pi  
*Area, circumference and geometry of circles*

**Topic 4:** What’s the point?  
*Decimals, fractions and percentages.*

Exploring

**Topic 1:** Sine of the Times  
*Trigonometry*

**Topic 2:** The Equaliser  
*Algebra*

**Topic 3:** Show me the Money  
*Financial mathematics*

**Topic 4:** What’s your Problem?  
*Maths focussed on problem solving.*

Rethinking Communication

Discovering

**Topic 1:** Acting Confident  
*Performance-based exercises to assist with public speaking, presentations and group work*

**Topic 2:** Leading Projects  
*A leadership skills workshop*

**Topic 3:** Time to Talk  
*Preparing and delivering presentations*

**Topic 4:** Onwards and Upwards  
*Personal development and self-reflection*

Exploring

**Topic 1:** Where to start?  
*A reading and comprehension skills workshop*

**Topic 2:** Mapping Minds  
*A writing-skills workshop*

**Topic 3:** Beat the Clock  
*Time management skills for study and exam time*

**Topic 4:** Eye on the Prize  
*Exam Skills*
Get Involved

Your school can get involved by contacting Sheila Giblin on +353 074 918 6082 or by emailing Sheila.Giblin@lyit.ie. Please let us know your ideal start date and class times, and we will try our best to accommodate you.