



DUBLIN  
NORTH EAST  
INNER CITY

# OPENING DOORS



OPENING

MINDS

National  
College of  
Ireland

## About the Programme

The North East Inner City (NEIC) Initiative is a social regeneration initiative endorsed by Government involving local communities in the NEIC, businesses and statutory agencies creating opportunities to bring about lasting, positive change in the area.

Work experience has the potential to make a real difference in the lives of young people. Often, work placements can reflect and reproduce patterns of inequality with working class students getting working class placements and middle class pupils experiencing the benefits of 'professional placements'. The NEIC work experience placement programme is a conscious effort to combat this trend and is one strand in a coordinated effort to open doors, raise awareness and aspirations and ultimately to provide students in Dublin 1 schools with access to and insight into professions and career paths outside their existing network.

In 2018 the NEIC Initiative placed almost 100 transition year students from 2 schools in Dublin 1 in high quality work experience placements across businesses and civil and public service organisations in Dublin 1 and Dublin 2. Based on the positive impact of the placements and feedback from students, schools and organisations the programme was extended to include all 6 DEIS schools in the NEIC area in 2019. This past school year 2023—2024 we secured over 300 placements for 220 students across 90 organisations. Organisations included; PwC, Kennedy Wilson, Beauchamps, State Street, Bank of Ireland, A&L Goodbody, Mathesons, Brown Thomas, IAPI, Verve Marketing and Events,

Central Bank, Linesight, HJ Lyons, An Garda Siochana, Dalata Group, Sports Against Racism Ireland (SARI), Bord Bia, The Department of Foreign Affairs, The Department of the Taoiseach, Solas, Policing Authority, St Pat's Mental Health Hospital, Enterprise Mobility, Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA) and much more.

## The Ask

For the academic year 2024/2025 we are looking to secure high quality work experience placements for 330 students. The feedback from past students and organisations have been overwhelmingly positive and we are asking all businesses and civil public service organisations within Dublin to consider hosting a local Dublin 1 student on a work experience placement. We will partner with you in creating an engaging timetable for the week.

## 2024/2025 Placement Dates

### **Placement Dates: 2024**

28<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November (10 students)

11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> November (80 students)

18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November (140 students)

25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> November (30 students)

### **Placement Dates: 2025**

24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> February (30 students)

3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> March (40 students)

## Participant Feedback — Students



"I felt very welcomed on my placement, the people there were very nice. If I didn't understand something they would explain it again, they also gave us facts about the hospital and its history which was fun" **St. Patrick's Mental Health University Hospital**

"Yes they were very attentive and didn't make me feel like I was a child. I learned a lot about work and the different jobs" **Solas**

"My favourite part of my work experience was speaking with the people who work in the Department and getting insight on the different teams and jobs in the office. I learned that there are different jobs in the same organisation" **Department of Foreign Affairs**

"I was treated like an adult but they were also attentive. I gave a presentation at the end of my placement to the whole office and everyone was very encouraging. I think the best thing was Keith at IAPI brought us around to the company VERVE and it was a great experience to see there headquarters" **IAPI**

"I was able to spend my time learning and doing something I have never done before. I got to design a house and had to think about the importance of the shapes, different types of light and the importance of green space. I had fun meeting new people and making new friends" **HJ Lyons**

"The trip to Kilkenny to see their cyber security office was the best part, I learned a lot, I got to meet new people and students that studied cyber security. It was a really good week, we did many projects and it gave me an idea of what I want to do in the future" **State Street**

"My work experience was in Limelight Communications. Everyone was very understanding and they made sure to always check that I was doing ok. My favourite part was helping the team to set up for a movie premier. It was a really busy day but it was my favourite day. I got to make posters and create content for the marketing" **Limelight**

## Participant Feedback — Students



"My friend went for her placement in Verve last year and told me to do my placement there also. It was the best! I learned about a lot of new careers and jobs I can do even before I go to college. My favourite part was the office design" **Verve**

"The PwC placement was great! They gave us everything for free. We were able to ask the workers and high level figures in the company questions and they told us their stories and gave us advise. My favourite part was coming up with new business ideas and working with other students" **PwC**

"I felt very welcome. I was treated with respect and everyone was friendly. The best part of my placement was riding in expensive cars and learning about how it's processed to be rented" **Enterprise Rent a Car**

"I have a better idea on what I want to do after my leaving cert. I really enjoyed my work placement, we were greeted kindly everyday and also given free sweet treats along with lunch. It was really interesting to visit the four courts, definitely my favourite part" **Policing Authority**

"The work was pretty difficult to grasp at first but someone helped me understand it better so I was able to complete it. Everyone was very easy to talk to and I met new people everyday. I want to work in a team like that in the future" **Activate Capital**

"We got to meet so many people on our placement. We got to meet the Taoiseach and go into Leinster house. I learned so much about the government and the different types of departments. There are so many!" **Department of the Taoiseach**

"Everyone in the office was chatty and had a great sense of humor. They helped me with so much and gave me a lot of tips for interviews and helped with my CV" **3Q Recruitment**

## Participant Feedback — Host Organisations

### Summary

- Students received an average of **4.5 stars out of 5** for their attendance.
- Students received an average of **4.6 stars out of 5** for their appearance.
- Students receive a strong average of **4.7 stars out of 5** for their attitude, engagement and the quality of the work they provided.

"Zofia was a pleasure to have on the team. She was attentive and polite. She asked great questions and got on well with people in the room. We had a piece of work for her to do which she did very well. She attended multiple meetings which I hope gave her a good sense of what we do here. She had great admin skills and didn't need much in the way of computer training which was great. I hope she enjoyed being here. I wish her all the best in her future!" **Brown Thomas**

"Halle was a pleasure to have here; smiley, helpful, worked at an extremely fast pace, positive. Has so much potential, just needs to believe in herself which comes with time and experience. Lovely girl, was delighted to have her with us for the week"  
**Verve**

"Throughout the week Andrei exhibited a strong willingness to learn and be part of the team. He showed commitment and ability to adapt to new challenges quickly. He was supporting the team with social media management with a client, he was assigned graphic production. He learnt the system and delivered an excellent work. Overall, Andrei's dedication to learning and his positive attitude were assets to the team" **Limelight Events**

"Maryam was a very pleasant, hard working individual. She was punctual and interested in the work of the section. She proved to be very capable when taking on any tasks she was given and completed them to a very high standard"

**Department of Housing**

"Both Natalia and Brody showed great initiative all week. Excellent attitude from both" **Aviva Stadium**

"Jacob showed great initiative from the first day. He was very outgoing and friendly with everyone in the office. Jacobs kindness stood out to me. He was very engaged on the practices of the company and eager to learn more about what we do day to day. Jacob was very punctual arriving early every morning ready to start into work. His work ethic and his willingness to learn is to be commended. He will do very well at whatever he puts his hand in the future and it was a pleasure to have him working with us for the week" **Enterprise Mobility**

## FAQs

### Can I host more than one placement student?

Yes, absolutely! Many organisations involved in the programme have hosted between 2—10 placement students across different departments.

### How will I plan the work experience placement?

We are happy to assist you in planning an engaging work experience placement. We can provide you with sample timetables from previous placements, a short guide on the objectives of the placement and details about the students you will be hosting.

### How long does a placement last?

Work experience placements typically last for 1 week. As many offices now operate in a hybrid environment we are also happy to discuss options with organisations that could only host a student on site for 3 days.

### Do I need insurance to host a student on placement?

Students are covered by their School Insurers. You will receive the student's insurance documents prior to their placement week.

### What support will be available?

The NEIC Project Officer is available throughout the planning process and also during the placement to answer any questions you may have. Please see contact details below.

### What is the goal of this placement?

The goal of the placement is to give students an insight into career areas and career paths they may not have considered or be aware of. The placement allows students to engage with individuals engaged in a variety of disciplines in the workplace. It also give them the opportunity to develop their communication and technical skills whilst also building their network and gaining an insight into potential career paths that may interest them, the day to day work involved in the career area and the entry requirements.

### To discuss how we can work with you and support you please contact:

NEIC Work Experience Placement Project Officer National College of Ireland  
Career Development & Employability Team, Mayor Square, IFSC, Dublin 1.

[ncicareersteam@ncirl.ie](mailto:ncicareersteam@ncirl.ie) 

