



# The **Youth Work Ireland** Way

## **QQI LEVEL 5 YOUTH WORK TRAINING**

for **Youth Work Ireland** Member Youth Service  
Teams Learners In Collaboration with **LOETB**  
and **Youth Work Ireland Midlands**.



## THE YOUTH WORK IRELAND WAY

This training award is for those who would like to pursue a career in the youth and community sector and receive accreditation for Youth Work related training. It is aimed at anyone who is working in a [Youth Work Ireland Member Youth Service](#) who has no youth work accredited qualification but possibly other qualifications (3rd level or other).

This course is also for volunteers in Youth work Ireland Member Youth Services who enjoy working with young people in a range of community-based settings and would like to formalise their experience with accredited and recognised awards.

The course content will focus on Youth Work in Ireland which is delivered the Youth Work Ireland Way - as Integrated Youth Services Model, observing current challenges faced by young people, in particular and not limited to - sensitive issues such as, substance misuse, youth unemployment, homelessness and the impact of social media on the young people of today's society.

## ACORN MIDLANDS EDUCATION & TRAINING SERVICE

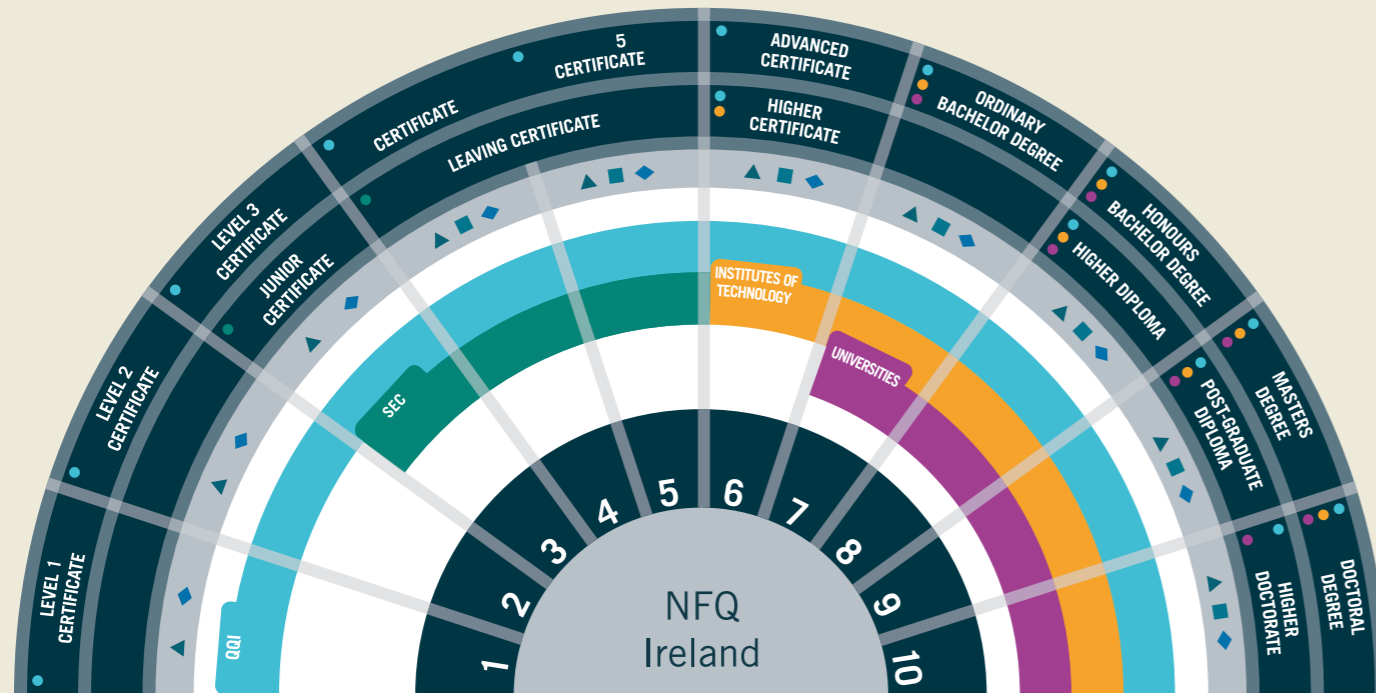
[ACORN MIDLANDS EDUCATION & TRAINING SERVICE](#) is a Community Education service based in Edenderry. We have over 15 years of experience in the delivery of QQI courses. In 2022 we partnered with [LOETB](#) and became an LOETB Centre, providing a diverse range of courses and modules to our learner groups. We also partner with [ITEC](#) to deliver ITEC accredited courses in Beauty Therapy related fields since 2020.

Our goal is to ensure that everyone has access to further education right on their doorstep, whenever they are ready for it. We provide a quality, hands on, experiential training service to all who avail of it. We offer a broad range of learning support and guidance counselling to enhance the learning experience and we strive to meet all learner requirements and empower the learner through community education.

We deliver QQI Modules level 3 - 6 in a range of areas including Youth Work, Business, Community Education and General Learning for young people and Adult Learners.



# COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT FOR MEMBER YOUTH SERVICES



## AWARDING BODIES

- Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) makes awards in further and higher education and training
- SEC - State Examinations Commission (Department of Education and Skills)
- Institutes of Technology
- Universities

## AWARDS IN THE FRAMEWORK

There are four classes of award in the National Framework of Qualifications:

- Major Awards: named in the outer rings, are the principal class of awards made at a level
- ▲ Minor Awards: are for partial completion of the outcomes for a Major Award
- Supplemental Awards: are for learning that is additional to a Major Award
- ◆ Special Purpose Awards: are for relatively narrow or purpose-specific achievement

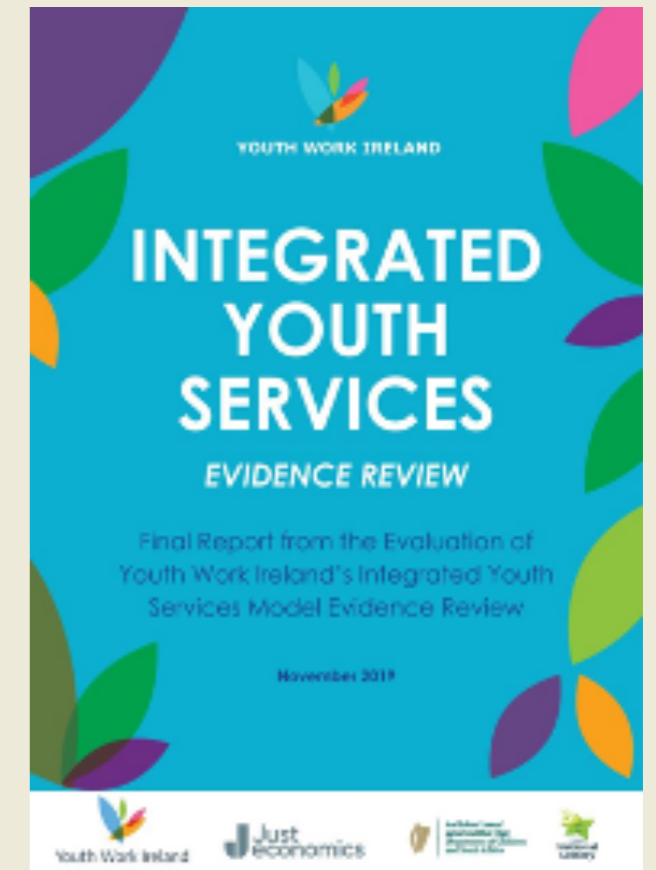
Youth Work Qualifications are in demand and we observe challenges and gaps in expertise which are recurring challenges in the Irish Youth Work Sector.

The Youth Work Ireland Member Services have analysed the needs for Youth Work Practice Training minimum standards and we offer a QQI 5 award in Youth Work which is practised the “Youth Work Ireland Way”.

**The Youth Work Ireland Way** - is upholding the Integrated Youth Service Model. The organisation set out in its 2011 paper its vision on this model of delivery. In 2020, Youth Work Ireland commissioned [Just Economics Research Limited](#), to carry out a robust independent evaluation of the Integrated Youth Services Model which concluded that integrated working yields substantial benefits for young people.

The [Youth Work Ireland Integrated Youth Service Model](#) is consistent with international best practice on integrated youth work and based on a shared ethos with the international standard in youth work commonly referred to as positive youth development (PYD). The main feature of the approach is that it offers a suite of services both locally and regionally that young people can access on a needs basis at different points in their transition to adulthood.

This speaks loudly to the skills required for youth workers in our services. We observe the qualifications of candidates in the labour market which often are not specifically in Youth Work. We value staff education, life experience and work experience and endeavours to standardise youth work practice that is fitting with our model of work in the Member Youth Services.



# COURSE AIMS FOR MEMBER YOUTH SERVICES STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

This accredited Youth Work course aims to afford the learner a structured general education in subjects across various youth working disciplines:

- To enable the learner to gain knowledge regarding the fundamental theoretical principles relating to youth work.
- To provide the learner with practical skills and competences in the field of youth work.
- To develop competence in the learner to work independently and under supervision in a youth work setting.
- To develop skills and confidence in the learner that can be used in further education or employment.
- To enable the learner to develop an understanding of the nature and unique experience of adolescence in contemporary society.
- To help the learner identify and explore key issues relevant to young people and the factors which influence and shape youth culture and subculture locally and globally.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

- This course is run part-time basis one morning per week over a 12 month period. The youth work programme runs on Thursday mornings from 9.30am - 1.30pm.
- Home learning is expected with regular assignments given.
- The learner will complete max 4 modules over these 12 months and be awarded 4 QQI Level 5 awards totalling 60 credits as well as a special purpose recognition Award by Youth Work Ireland.
- The total duration of each module is 40 hours tuition
- Each module will be approximately 12 - 14 weeks online with 1 day in person event at the end of each module.
- Location is currently Midlands but may be reviewed based on location on learners to facilitate ease of access.
- Two scheduled in-person training days at [Youth Work Ireland National Office Dublin](#) are included in the programme - attendance is mandatory.

## MODULES INCLUDE:

This accredited Youth Work course aims to afford the learner a structured general education in subjects across various youth working disciplines:

- **Young People in Society**
- **Understanding Youth Work**
- **Working with Young People**
- **Teamworking**

### \*Bonus elements

- Challenging Behaviour Course with a Trauma Informed Trained Youth Worker
- Access to an online Youth Work Resource Bank
- Access to YWI National Office Contacts
- Youth Work Resource Packs
- Peer Community of Practice
- Access to external Supervision and Guidance Supports

## ASSESSMENT

Assessment will be a mix of assignments, projects, presentations, practical work

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A pass leaving certificate is required for this course or life experience and a genuine desire to learn in this field. An initial assessment will be carried out if the learner does not hold a leaving certificate. This will be done in order to ascertain their level of ability to partake in a level 5 programme of learning. This course can also be used for Continuous professional development to form part of experience in youth work.

## PROGRESSION OPTIONS

All learners will be offered guidance counselling hours at any time to discuss their course or progression options. Contact the AMETS office at any time to avail of this.

This course offers 4 core component Minor Awards from the QQI 5 Major award in Youth Work - other QQI modules can be added to establish a full major award.

## AVAILABLE RESOURCES

This accredited Youth Work course aims to afford the learner a structured general education in subjects across various youth working disciplines:

- Fully hybrid delivery with experienced Youth work practitioners as tutors
- Literacy supports
- Work experience help
- Tutor – learner 1:1 supports
- Additional space and time if needed
- Personal development, career guidance and life coaching
- Individual Progression plans will be developed for each learner.
- Moodle support

BTEI Form in hard copy to be return to  
M Kearney  
The Acorn Project  
St. Joseph's Hall,  
Edenderry  
Co. Offaly

Online registration form: to be completed to ensure learner needs are met.

[Apply here>>](#)



**COURSE FEES**  
**€50 per learner**  
**per module**



# The Youth Work Ireland Way

## CONTACT

**Course Information / Queries**  
[tmoore@youthworkmidlands.org](mailto:tmoore@youthworkmidlands.org)

**Coordinator - Maura Kearney**  
[mkearney@youthworkmidlands.org](mailto:mkearney@youthworkmidlands.org)



# SCHEDULE FOR 2025

Module	Short Descriptor	Timeframe
<b>Working with Young People</b>	The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to work effectively under supervision in youth work settings	<b>Februray - April</b>
<b>Young People and Society</b>	The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to develop critical awareness of the nature of youth in contemporary society to explore and analyse the position of young people in Irish society and examine societal responses to their issues and concerns	<b>May - July</b>
<b>Understanding Youth Work and Team Work (Joint)</b>	<p>The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to become proficient in youth work issues, approaches and contexts.</p> <p>The Team Working award is to equip the learner with the relevant knowledge, skill and competence to work as an effective member of a team, operating independently while under general direction and within a range of diverse, team-oriented environments</p>	<b>September - November</b>

Assignments submitted in January

Learners will have the option to progress to the AMETS Youth Work major award programme, where an additional 4 modules will be offered on a part time basis.



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