



Limerick Education Centre

Annual Report

For The Year Ending December 31st 2007



Limerick Education Centre

Park House,
Parkway Centre,
Dublin Road,
Limerick.

**Ionad Oideachais Luimnigh,
Tuairisc Chinn Bhliana 2007** ▶▶▶

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Management Committee

Officers:

Mr. Denis Treacy,
Gaelchólaiste Luimnigh,
Sir. Harry's Mall,
Limerick.

Chairperson

Mrs. Mary McNeice O'Regan,
Parteen N.S.,
Parteen,
Co. Clare.

Vice-Chairperson

Ms. Gerardine Uí Cathasaigh,
Gaelscoil Sairséil,
Luimneach.

Treasurer

Committee:

Ms. Lucy O'Meara (Rec. Sec)

Gaelscoil Aonach, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

Mr. Thomas Hardy

Villiers Secondary School, Limerick.

Ms. Maree McCarthy

Glenstal Abbey, Murroe, Co. Limerick.

Ms. Bríd Quinlan

Parteen N.S., Co. Clare

Ms. Elizabeth Maxwell

Southill Junior School, Limerick.

Mr. Patrick Hanley

Scoil Íosagáin, C.B.S. Sexton Street, Limerick

Mr. Martin Wallace

Castletroy College, Limerick

Mr. Terry Twomey

Limerick Institute of Technology

Mr. Cathal dePaor

Mary Immaculate College

Staff

Mr. Seamus Toomey	Director
Ms. Fiona Shanley	Operations & Development Manager
Ms. Gina O' Connor	ICT Advisor
Ms. Siobhán O'Keeffe	Reading Recovery Teacher Leader
Ms. Úna Mc Namara	Secretary
Ms. Betty Enright	Accounts
Ms. Noreen Kelly	Assistant Administrator
Ms. Emily Moloney	Project Administrator
Ms. Jenny Lewis	Probationary Teacher Project Admin.
Ms. Brid Finn	SLSS Sciences Administrator
Ms. Breda Tuohy	Housekeeper
Mr. Viktor Manev	Caretaker

Ceased Employment during 2007

Mr. Joe O'Connell	Director (March 31st, 2007)
Mr. Dermot Chadwick	Acting Director (April - Aug. 2007)
Ms. Anne Cremins	Secretary (CES)
Ms. Mary O'Donovan	Secretary (CES)
Mr. Michael Heffernan	Secretary (CES)
Mr. Barry Cronin	Secretary (CES)
Mr. Jimmy Kennedy	Caretaker (CES)
Mr. Donogh O'Dwyer	Caretaker (CES)
Mr. Paddy Mullins	Caretaker (CES)

Third-Party Service Providers

I.T. Technical Support:
Auditor:
Solicitor:

Fitzpatrick Business Systems
Corbett Cussen & Co.
Holmes O'Malley Sexton

Director's Report

Reamhrá

Is mian liom mo bhuíochas a ghabháil do bhaoil an bhoird bainistíochta as ucht a ndíogras, a dtacaíocht, a bhfuinneamh agus a gcairdeas. Members of the Management Committee give of their time in a voluntary capacity yet accept the tasks of management with continuing energy and interest. I would like to thank them all and in particular the officers for their time and work in supporting the Centre. In paying a special tribute to the Chairperson, Mr. Denis Treacy I wish to acknowledge his keen interest, guidance and support over the past year as Chairperson.

I would like to express my deep gratitude and pay tribute to all of the staff of the Centre for their hard work, dedication and professional approach, níl neart go cur le chéile.

A special word of appreciation to all of the Trainers/Facilitators/Regional Development Officers/Curriculum Support Personnel who have conducted courses as part of our local programme or as part of one of the many national programmes. All concerned are dedicated professionals and their approach is focused on delivering quality training and support to the teachers that they work with.

In all matters the staff of the Teacher Education Section of the Department of Education and Science has been most supportive and courteous. I would like to thank the Principal Officer, Alan Wall and all of the section's personnel for their support and encouragement. A special word of appreciation to Ms. Lynda O' Toole and Dr. Jim Kavanagh, Senior Inspectors, TES who have offered sterling advice and support for all the initiatives spearheaded by Limerick Education Centre.

In endeavouring to design local programmes or indeed to plan the implementation of National Programmes the support of school management and of the community of teachers is essential. For all of the support that I have received from numerous schools and teachers I am deeply indebted.

Finally I would like to thank my colleagues in the Education Centre Network for their friendship and professional support.

2007 at a glance

2007 witnessed a period of change and transition at the Limerick Education Centre.

January saw Fiona Shanley assume her new position as the Centre's Development and Operations Manager. This newly created role was one awarded by the TES to only 5 Education Centres in recognition of the scale and scope of work undertaken by them. In this respect I would like to thank the Teacher Education Section of the DES for its acknowledgement of the quality and scope of services provided by the Limerick Education Centre to the educational community that it serves.

At the end of March and after over nine years service in the role of Director Joe O'Connell departed the Education Centre for 'pastures new'. On behalf of the Management Committee, staff, and all those associated with the Limerick Education Centre, I would like to express our deep gratitude and appreciation for the dedication, loyalty, professionalism and innovation Joe brought to the Centre during his tenure. We wish him health, happiness and continued success in the future.

The end of March also saw the cessation of the Community Employment Scheme (CES). The scheme had been in operation in the Education Centre for over twenty years and in its later years had allowed the Centre to avail of the invaluable service of 7 part-time workers at any given time. On behalf of the Management Committee I would like to thank; FÁS, the scheme organisers, and all the participants who served in the Education Centre.

In April, Mr. Diarmuid Chadwick was appointed to the role of Acting Director, the duties and responsibilities of which he carried out until the end of August. On behalf of the Management Committee I would like to acknowledge and thank Diarmuid for his stewardship of the centre during this time of transition.

On the first of October I assumed the role of Director at the Limerick Education Centre a position that is providing me with new opportunities and challenges which I am enjoying thoroughly. I do so with the support of an excellent dedicated staff and Management Committee and look forward to serving the Centre's community into the future.

Other appointments made during 2007 include;-

- | | | | |
|---|-------|---------------|---|
| • | Jan | Emily Moloney | SLSS Sciences Administrator |
| • | March | Viktor Manev | Caretaker |
| • | June | Jenny Lewis | Probationary Teacher Project Administrator |
| • | Oct. | Emily Moloney | Project Administrator (transferred from SLSS) |
| • | Nov. | Brid Finn | SLSS Sciences Administrator |

During this period of change Limerick Education Centre continued to pursue the central aim of providing quality support to the educational community that it serves. The Centre places great emphasis on delivering a high quality local programme serving our local needs in tandem with a conscious approach to innovation and development work.

Local Courses respond to teacher identified needs and act as an immediate response to these needs as well as offering capacity building within the catchment area. In 2007 the Centre has cooperated on specific regional programmes which offer an enhanced opportunity for teachers to network and learn together.

In addition to the tutor led/guest speaker local and regional programme the Centre continues to encourage the development of teacher networks at both primary and post-primary level alongside the support and work of the teacher subject associations. I would like to thank all those involved in organizing and developing these initiatives.

The partnership approach to addressing needs has been and will continue to be the most advantageous route. Limerick Education Centre continues to work in close co-operation with the national support services including PCSP, SDPI, SDPS, SLSS as well as the Unions, Professional Associations, Colleges of Education, The Universities, Trustee and Management Bodies and Diocesan personnel. This has also been expanded in 2007 to incorporate the Health Service Executive and other Government Departments and agencies including the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and the NCCA. LEC sees its role as facilitating and encouraging such collaboration. The Centre can and does act as an agent for change and encourages professionals to engage in investigative approaches to design and delivery of new approaches.

Pupil targeted projects always bring great joy as they remind us that our core existence is to support the teaching in our schools which has the impact on the quality of learning. Write-A-Book, FÍS, etwinning and Séidéan Sí are among our main pupil focused projects and I would like to thank all those who participate and support participation in the projects and I would especially like to thank Ms. Lucy O' Meara, Ms. Aisling Geary and Ms Irene O'Meara and their team of readers who along with others spearhead the Write-A-Book project in our area and to our ICT Advisor Ms. Gina O' Connor for her project work in the area of ICT.

Reading Recovery is a main part of the DEIS initiative and as a specific support has impacted greatly in the past year. The two groups of teachers who have graduated from the training give testament to the tremendous professional opportunity afforded to them but more importantly to the liberation of literacy given to the children who benefited from their new skills. I would like to pay tribute to Ms. Siobhan O'Keeffe, Teacher Leader, the teachers and school principals participating in the programme

and to St. Michael's, Tipperary Town for acting as base school for the school year 06/07. I would also like to congratulate Ms. Róisín Hogan who has completed her training and is now the Reading Recovery Teacher Leader in Kilkenny Education Centre.

In aiming to emulate the success of *It's About Time!* TES, The Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government and the Heritage Council have agreed to support the development of a resource suitable for post-primary and Transition year in particular. I would like to thank Ms. Mary Sleeman, Mr. Matt Kelleher, Mr. Mr. Denis Power, Ms. Fiona Shanley and Mr. Joe O'Connell for all of the work they do to promote this awareness.

In the past year projects such as **The Health Promoting Schools Network, Enhancing Teaching and Learning in the Primary Classroom, The Pilot Project to Support the Learning School, The Intercultural Education Guidelines** demonstrate the impact of collaboration. Each of these projects involved a multi agency inter-disciplinary approach and aim to bring greater congruence to the services provided. Table 1 indicates the participation in the different projects.

1. An Integrated Arts Resource (Ms. Peggy Sweeney, Ms. Gerardine Uí Cathasaigh, Ms. Lucy O' Meara, Ms. Irene O' Meara)
2. Intercultural Education (NCCA, Network of Education Centres)
3. A Pilot Project to Support the Learning School (Post-Primary) (TES, SESS, SDPI, SLSS, LDS, Education Centres R4.)
4. Enhancing Teaching and Learning in the Multi-Class Environment. (PCSP, Education Centres R4)
5. *It's about time* for post-primary (TES, DOEHLG, Heritage Council))
6. Health Promoting Schools (HSE, DES, SDPI, SDPS, SPHE, Mary Immaculate College)

ATECI.

Limerick Education Centre participated fully with the Association of Teacher and Education Centres during 2007 and under the new executive structure LEC was represented by the Director at each of the meetings. In a time of structural change ATECI requires to position itself to promote the network. One of the major difficulties in this is the fact that all of the officers operate in a voluntary capacity and take on this mantle on top of an already heavy workload. The Association needs to continue to seek a professional fulltime secretariat to pursue its role and function.

Pupil Transfer Project.

LEC continues to support the administration of the pupil transfer from primary to post-primary within the 18 post-primary schools in the city. In doing so the Centre has worked closely with the Trustee Bodies, The Primary and Post-Primary Principals, The DES, The NEWB and professional bodies and unions to secure a working situation which minimizes

difficulty for pupils and parents. I would like to pay special tribute to the Development and Operations Manager Ms. Fiona Shanley for her work in this area and I would like to thank the principals of all of the primary and post-primary schools for their cooperation.

Probationary Teachers Project.

In 2006 LEC was asked by the Inspectorate of the Department of Education and Science to design and populate a national database pertaining to the probationary teachers. This project proved to be a huge undertaking and was most successful. As a result the project was expanded and Ms. Jenny Lewis was appointed as the project's administrator. The Probationary Teacher Project is built around an ethos of co-operation and in this respect I would like to acknowledge the contribution of; the network of education centres, teacher unions, the primary principals of the country and especially Mr. Pat O' Neill of the DES Inspectorate.

Proposed development of the purpose built Centre.

LEC has been unfortunate to the extent that the modern resources available to all have not come our way as of yet. This continues to be a source of annoyance and embarrassment to all involved in the Education Centre. We sincerely hope that our efforts to have our purpose built building will come to fruition soon. The reality is that this issue lies totally within the domain of the Department of Education & Science and it is imperative that it is awarded priority status at the earliest opportunity.

Limerick Teachers' Choral Group

Le Chéile created some history in their own right with the choir's visit to Vienna. This trip, allied to performances in the Flying Museum in foynes and other venues locally give great pleasure to all those involved and those who attend and hear the musical delights they offer. A special tribute to the Musical Director, Ms. Gerardine O Cathasaigh for all of her work with the group.

National Programmes, Primary:

The Revised Primary Curriculum.

2007 saw different aspects of the implementation of the Revised Curriculum with seminars in Music, Learning Support, SESE and Drama allied with continuing work in the embedding process exemplified by the Cuiditheoireacht service. Limerick Education Centre is responsible for 205 primary schools that are clustered into 72 different cluster groups. The logistical dimension to this work is greatly assisted by the full cooperation of all involved and I would like to express my deep appreciation to all of the school principals for their understanding regarding the complexity of the delivery and scheduling. In the school year 2006/2007 LEC was enabled; by the careful planning of all in PCSP HQ and Ms. Úna McNamara in LEC, to issue schools with their annual calendar for inservice.

The localized evaluation of the programme to date shows that the satisfaction rating is excellent and our local input in terms of organization is much appreciated. The team of trainers and curriculum support personnel that were involved and continue to be involved in the PCSP are engaged in tremendous work and I would like to acknowledge this and express my gratitude to all of the trainers and in particular the Assistant National Coordinator with responsibility for this region Ms. Mary McAuliffe, her colleagues in Head Office and National Coordinator, Ms. Marie McLoughlin.

There are many challenges ahead in the whole area of the revised primary curriculum, none more so than the embedding of the revisions into the system. LEC continues to play its part in supporting our local schools through both our local programmes and our summer course programme and indeed by assisting schools to become self-evaluating units who can then expect the Centre to respond to their needs.

School Development Planning.

The support service, based in Drumcondra Education Centre continues to develop and nurture the process of planning in our schools. The collaborative approach advocated is the cornerstone to successful development of our schools.

Limerick Education Centre continues to develop its role by working with the facilitators in the region and it is hoped that the work of the support service will become more embedded in the parallel support programmes that the Centre offers. I would like to thank the Regional Co-ordinator, Mr. Seán Balfe for his excellent work in the area and to express my gratitude to the local facilitators, both full-time and part-time.

Circus and Fairground Education Support Service.

The continuing development of the programme throughout 2007 was mainly attributable to the work of the National Coordinator, Ms. Mary O' Connor.

I would like to pay tribute to Mary and to all of the teachers throughout the country who are involved in the support service, I would like to thank the Showman's Guild which represents the parents, Mr. Martin Shiel of the DES and Mr. Michael Leonard, Cigire, for their involvement in the programme.

The programme is one of partnership between the Education Centre Network, The Parents' Guild and the Department of Education and Science and it has now reached a significant point in its development.

There are many issues regarding the maintenance of the support service and these will have to be fully addressed if the aim of the service is to continue to be achieved. It is hoped that the DES will conduct a full review of the service in the near future and this will be a very worthwhile development.

December 2007 saw the tenth anniversary of the service and in recognition of the role and support of LEC during those ten years representatives of Circus & Fairground presented a plaque to the Centre which will be displayed prominently.

National Programmes, Post-Primary

SLSS (Second Level Support Service)

The support service offered a programme of inservice which included a variety of models of professional development to all post-primary teachers.

SLSS co-ordinates the programmes of post-initiative support and the Regional Development Officers work on subject specialisms as well as generic programmes. In line with the spirit of cooperation LEC along with the colleague Centres in the region meet with the personnel involved at least twice each term. I would like to thank and express my gratitude to all the members of the team for their work in supporting the aims of the Centre Network and for their contribution to our project work and in particular to the Learning School Project. Thanks also to Emily Moloney and Brid Finn for their excellent work on behalf of SLSS Biology, Physics & Chemistry.

School Development Planning. Post –Primary.

Limerick Education Centre continues to be involved in the SDP initiative. This association is being developed through meetings with the regional coordinators and also with the schools involved.

2007 saw yet another increase in demand from schools for facilitation and guidance. The Director is involved in working with the schools on this topic and has facilitated a number of schools. The ATECI nominated the Director to represent it on the consultative body of SDPI and it is a pleasure to work on the association's behalf in this domain.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the regional coordinator Ms. Anne Tuohy both at school level and also at project level.

Additional Programmes Post-Primary.

LEC is involved in assisting the Junior Science Support Service, Senior Cycle History, Senior Cycle Geography, Junior Cycle Mathematics, Religious Education Support Service, Social Personal and Health Education, Junior Cycle Physical Education and T4, (the technologies support service) in this region. The regionalisation of the SLSS saw Limerick Education Centre awarded the administrative support role for the Sciences. The Centre has enjoyed playing host to the Biology, Physics and Chemistry teams over the last 12 months.

Again I would like to thank all of the development officers who work with these support services for their commitment, professionalism and expertise and for the manner in which all engage with the Centre and the staff located here.

Mar fhocail scoir, ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas ó chroí a ghabháil do gach éinne a chabhraigh liom le linn mo thréimhse mar stiúrthóir. I would like to thank everybody who supported me during 2007.
Rath Dé ar an obair.

Seamus Toomey
Director.
February 2008.

ICT Annual Report 2007

The overall key activity of the ICT Advisory Service is to promote the ongoing use of ICT by teachers and pupils in 260 local schools in the Limerick/Tipperary region. Through a series of planned activities throughout 2007 the ICT Advisor assisted, encouraged, demonstrated and advocated the use of ICT in the classroom.

This annual report of ICT activities undertaken in 2007 will be presented under the following headings

ICT Courses and Teacher Professional Development in ICT

Tutors

Local ICT Projects/events

School Visits

Scoilnet, Internet and School Websites

ICT Advisors Professional Development

ICT and Special Needs

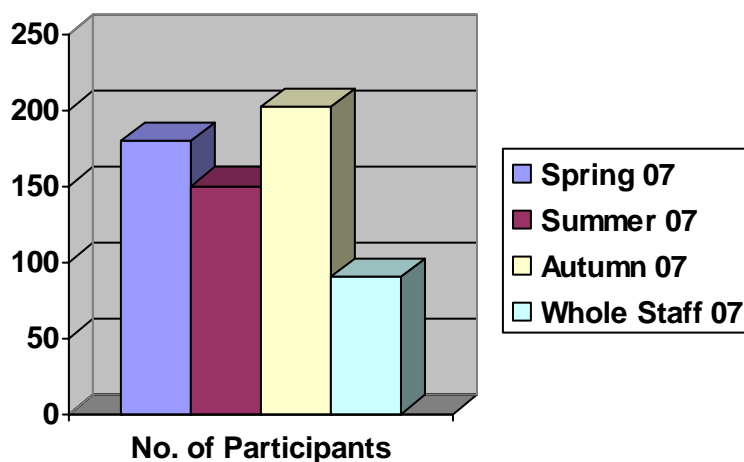
ICT Courses and Teacher Professional Development

As part of the professional development of teachers, **39** ICT courses and support workshops were delivered throughout the year in venues in Limerick City, Newcastlewest and Tipperary Town. The Online Course, ICT as a Teaching and Learning Resource, was provided for the first time ever and there was a 100% completion by participating teachers.

Other new Courses/workshops included

- T4
- Interactive Whiteboard Exhibition
- ICT for Visiting Teachers
- Discover Sensors
- Video Training for Maths Recovery

Approximately **621** teachers and principals attended courses and workshops in 2007.



The following schools participated in whole staff ICT courses/workshops:

- Presentation Girls Primary School
- Castletroy College 2 courses
- Mid West School For Hearing Impaired
- Desmond College
- St. Johns Boys NS
- Gaelscoil Nenagh
- Scoil Mhuire Murroe

On completion of all courses teachers were awarded NCTE certificates and completed an online course evaluation form. The evaluations are used by the NCTE and the ICT Advisor for future course planning. Overall feedback was very positive and the tutors are to be commended on their excellent delivery of the many innovative ICT courses.

Tutors

Throughout the year the ICT Advisor met with tutors to discuss future planning of courses. Online evaluations, school visits and tutors expertise and insight into local needs is invaluable when planning and developing new ICT courses.

Tutor newsletters from the NCTE also kept tutors informed of ICT news and events throughout the year.

In 2007 9 tutor training courses were completed by LEC tutors. Tutor Training Courses were completed in the following

- Kidsmart (2 tutors)
- Internet Safety (4 tutors)
- FÍS (1 Tutor)

The ICT as a Teaching and Learning Resource Online Course(3tutors)

In December 07 LEC hosted the new ICT and T4 tutor training course and it was attended by 20 T4 tutors from all over the country.

Local ICT Projects

ICT projects play an important role in developing exemplary models of ICT integration in schools.

The following innovative ICT projects were coordinated and supported by the ICT Advisor

- Programming Pilot Project
- Dissolving Boundaries
- FÍS-Film in Schools
- ICT Exemplary Lessons
- Dormant Account Grants
- Interactive Whiteboard Exhibition
- LEC ICT Website Launch
- ICT for T4 Teachers
- Discover Sensors
- Virtual Learning Environments

Programming Pilot Project

In conjunction with LERO, the Irish Software Engineering Research Centre (UL), a 6 week basic programming course was piloted with transition year students in Castletroy College. Using new free software called Scratch students created interactive stories and games which were shared on the web at (<http://scratch.mit.ie>). Plans are in place to offer this course to teachers in 2008.

Dissolving Boundaries- www.dissolvingboundaries.org

This project which links schools north and south continued to excel in 2007. LEC have 6 schools actively involved in the project. 2 training days were provided by national coordinator Nigel Metcafe.



FÍS-Film in Schools –www.fis.ie

There are 5 Schools participating in this 3 year programme. A training workshop and ongoing support was provided by the ICT Advisor throughout the year. Web support was also provided by the FÍS website.

A local screening of the 5 films produced by the schools was kindly hosted by Limerick Institute of Technology. Patrickswell NS was selected to go through to the national awards for their thought provoking film “Sneakers”.

ICT Exemplary Lessons

The ICT Advisor in cooperation with the NCCA provided ongoing support and advice to 3 Limerick Schools in their preparation and implementation of exemplary lessons using NCCA’s ICT Guidelines. These lessons were tested and submitted in June 2007 and all 3 schools received €4000 grants from the NCCA. The schools were St. Munchins GNS, The Mid West School For the Hearing Impaired, and Gaelscoil O’ Doghair.

Dormant Account Grants

€127,000 was awarded to selected Limerick schools and the ICT Advisor provided schools with support and advice on hardware and software purchases. Several schools have invested in interactive whiteboards and staff training is being provided by the ICT Advisor.

Interactive Whiteboard Exhibition

In May 2007 a very successful interactive whiteboard exhibition was held in LEC and this provided teachers with the opportunity to compare the various boards on the market.

LEC ICT Website Launch

In March 2007 the ICT Advisor designed and launched the site www.lec.ie/ict. This site provides teachers with ICT advice and support and has been very well received by all. It is regularly updated with all the latest news.

ICT for T4 Teachers

Teachers of the 4 technology subjects attended extra evening classes in CAD provided by the ICT Advisor. Over 30 teachers attended this 10 hour course.

Discover Sensors

Science teachers partook in 2 in-service training days in the use of sensors and data logging.

Virtual Learning Environments

A course in Moodle was provided to teachers in Castletroy College and an evening course for teachers from other schools is planned for 2008.

School Visits

The ICT Advisor made 120 visits to schools in 2007. Whole staff training and presentations were provided as requested along with advice and information for individual staff members and management.

In addition schools were supported and advised by mail shot, telephone, post, newsletters, and websites www.lec.ie/ict , www.ncte.ie. and text messages.

Scoilnet, Internet and School Websites

Throughout the year the ICT advisor promoted Scoilnet, Internet and School websites. The arrival of Broadband in all schools has seen a marked increase in use of these sites. The site has been significantly improved over the past 12 months by the NCTE.

ICT Advisors Professional Development

The ICT Advisor participated in essential continuous professional development throughout 2007.

The ICT following courses, conferences and events were attended.

- All NCTE meetings
- CESI conference 2007

- Dissolving Boundaries Seminar
- BETT 2007
- 3 Cluster meetings
- A Network Management Systems workshop Mayo EC

ICT and Special Needs

ICT for Visiting Teachers:

A national 3 year ICT training programme was devised with Limerick, Laois Education Centre and the DES for the 45 Visiting Teachers of the Hearing and Visually impaired. In 2007 9 days inservice was delivered in venues nationwide. 18 more days are planned for 2008. This programme provides this group of teachers with the opportunity to improve their ICT skills and knowledge.

ICT for Maths Recovery Teachers:

ICT training in the digital video cameras and filming were provided by Limerick, Drumcondra and Cork ICT Advisors to the Maths Recovery teachers. 3 workshops were provided with more planned for 2008.

A word of thanks from the ICT Advisor

As ICT Advisor I would like to thank the following for their support throughout the year:

Jerome Morrissey and the NCTE staff, the Board of Management in Limerick Education Centre, the NCTE tutors, all the staff in LEC, my assistant Noreen Kelly and teachers and principals throughout Limerick and Tipperary.

Finally I wish to thank Seamus Toomey for his support and wish him well in his new role as Director.

Gina O'Connor

ICT Advisor

February 2008

Report on Circus And Fairground Support Service 2007

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2, Market St.,
 Listowel,
 Co. Kerry.



Ten Years of the Circus and Fairground Support Service:

1997-2007

- The CFSS is 10 years old this year. It was established in 1997 by Limerick Education Centre as a project, following a European Directive. To mark the 10 years of the service, the Showman's Guild of Ireland presented a commemorative plaque to LEC at a small function held in the Centre on 14th Dec. 2007. A presentation was also made to the National Co-ordinator on the day. Tribute was paid to Mr. Joe O'Connell, former Director LEC, who oversaw and directed the growth of the CFSS over the past 8 years.



- Tributes were also paid by the Guild to those who had the vision and persistence to bring the Gold Card Project to fruition in 1997, including all at LEC at the time and the personnel from the DES who were involved at that stage, but most especially to Dr. David O'Grady (for LEC), Mr. Sean MacNamara (inspector) and Ms. Josephine O'Connor (DES Sp. Ed.)

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- The representatives of the Guild thanked the Directors and staff of all of the Education Centres who administer the CFSS, and expressed their gratitude to all the teachers – literally from Malin to Mizen - who have taught with the Service over the past decade.

Mary M. O'Connor

National Co-ordinator CFSS

11th Feb. 2008



Mary O'Connor
National Director CFSS
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Listowel,
Co. Kerry
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Email: circus@eircom.net

Reading Recovery (Limerick) Annual Report, 2007

- Total number of schools contacted in June (as per DEIS list) for participation in the Reading Recovery (RR) programme: **34** (Four of these schools did not prove suitable for RR as they were senior schools.)
- Total number of schools who chose to participate in the RR programme in September 2007 : **12**
- Total number of teachers training to become RR Teachers : **12**
- Total number of trained RR teachers receiving Continuing Contact : **23**
- All teachers involved with RR are also teaching full-time hours within their schools. This is creating a problem for some teachers as they are finding it difficult to juggle their Special Education post with RR. A review is needed to see how we can best facilitate these teachers to ensure they are giving 50% teaching time to RR as is required by the Standards and Guidelines (2007)
- Total number of support visits for 2007 : **67**
- Total number of children who received RR in 2007 : **167**
- Total number of live lessons in the centre : **22**
- Teacher Leaders met six times between August and December.
- At present we have 140 children participating in the Reading Recovery programme.
- We now have a total of 12 schools participating in programme that are travelling from Clare, Tipperary and Kerry. The library system is underway and available to all RR teachers in Ireland.
- However we have not yet been in a position to move towards an electronic library system.
- A special word of thanks to Seamus Toomey, Director, LEC; to Fiona, Noreen, Una and all the staff and Management Committee of LEC, who continue to support Reading Recovery with interest and enthusiasm.

What were the programme outcomes for Reading Recovery children?

There were five possible outcomes for children who received Reading Recovery.

1. Accelerated Progress (Discontinued): These children have made sufficient progress in literacy learning, within the time available, to catch up with the average band for their class, and have been judged to be likely to continue learning at the same rate as their peers, without the need for further special support.

2. Progress (Referred): The children have made progress, but have not reached the average band in literacy and will continue to need additional support.
3. Ongoing: These children started the programme late in the school year, and have not yet completed it, but will do so in the new school year.
4. Left: These children left the school part way through their programme.

Outcomes

Outcome	<u>All Programmes</u>		<u>Completed Programmes</u>	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Accelerated progress (discontinued)	81	50.6	81	81.8
Progress (referred)	18	11.3	18	18.2
Ongoing	57	35.6		
Incomplete	2	1.3		
Left	2	1.3		

NOTE: "All Programmes" includes every child entering Reading Recovery in 2006-2007. "Completed Programmes" are only those children whose programmes were actually completed during 2006-2007.

SOURCE: Reading Recovery National Network, Annual Data Collection: 2006-2007

Siobhán O'Keeffe

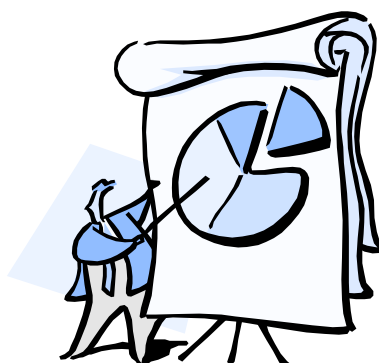
Reading Recovery Teacher Leader, Limerick



Notes (to Report):

¹ Reading Recovery National Network (2007) *Standards and Guidelines for the implementation of Reading Recovery* Institute of Education, University of London

Analysis 2007



Centre Activity 2007		
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Figure 5	Number of Participants	<i>Page 26</i>
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Figure 7	In-Service Days by Host Venue & Subject Area	<i>Page 27</i>
Post-Primary Programmes 2007		
Figure 8	Number of Participants by Subject Area	<i>Page 27</i>
Local Courses / Events 2007		
Figure10	Number of Participants	<i>Page 28</i>
Figure 11	Number of Primary & Post-Primary Participants	<i>Page 28</i>

Centre Activity 2007

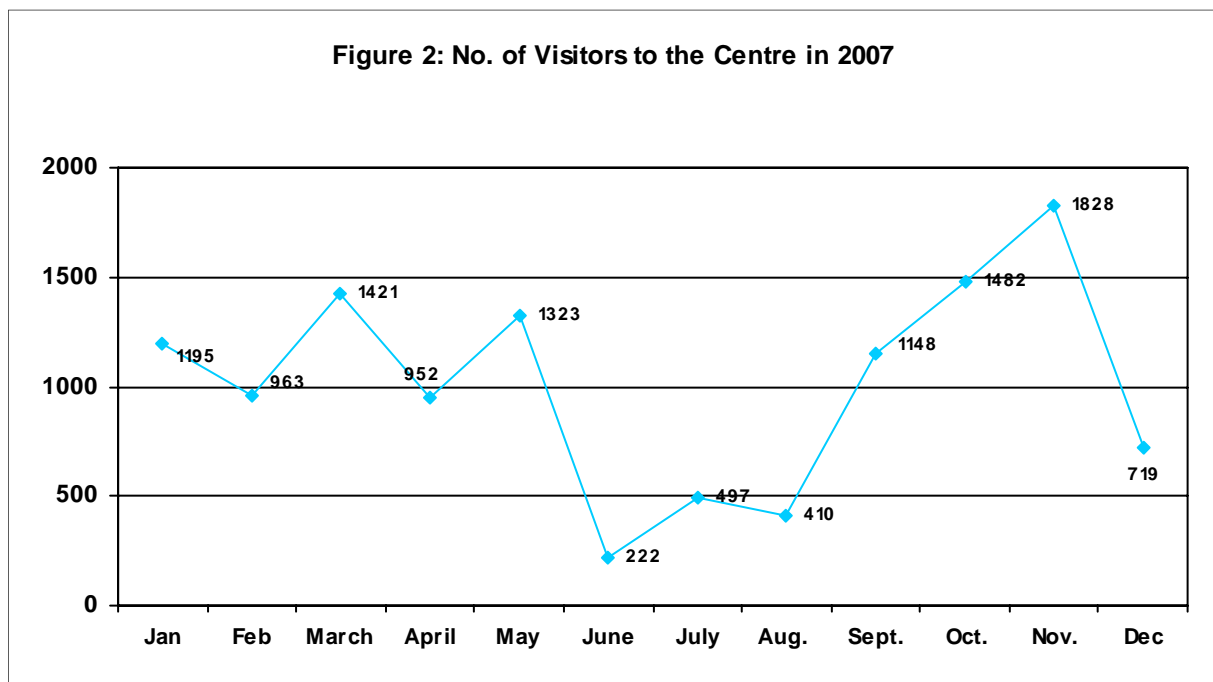
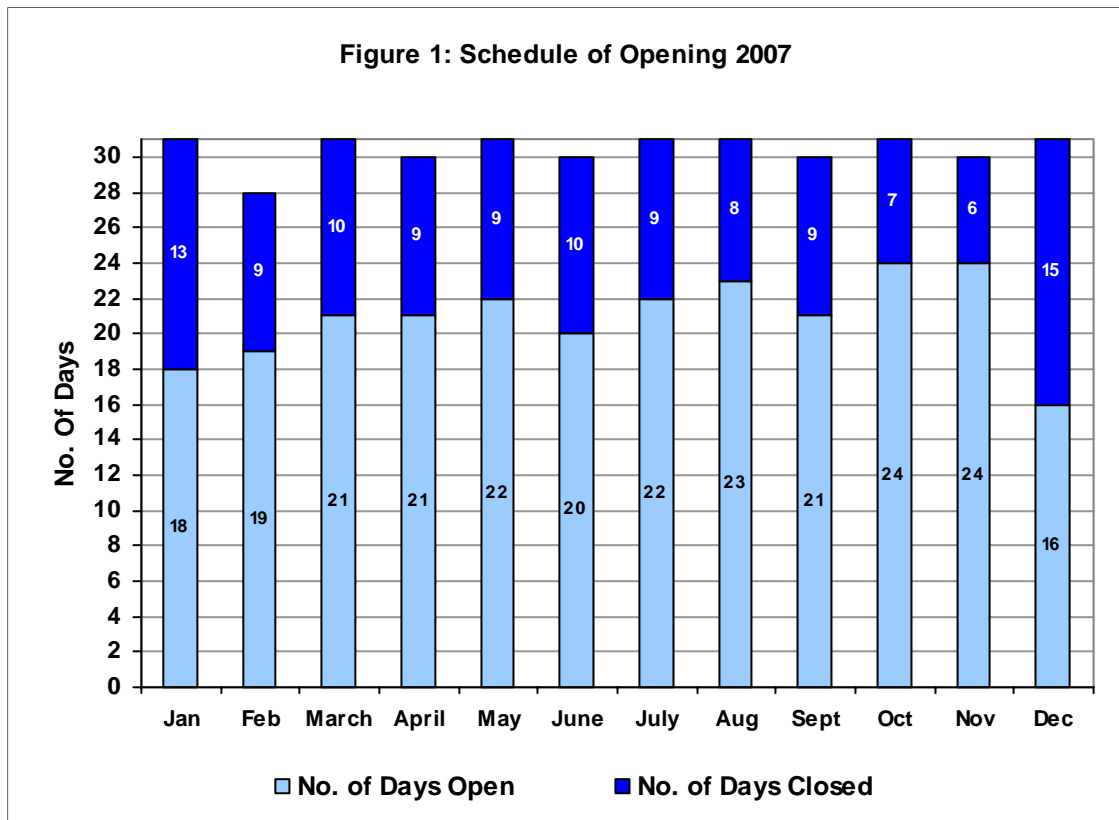


Figure 3: No. of Visitors to the Centre by Time of Day

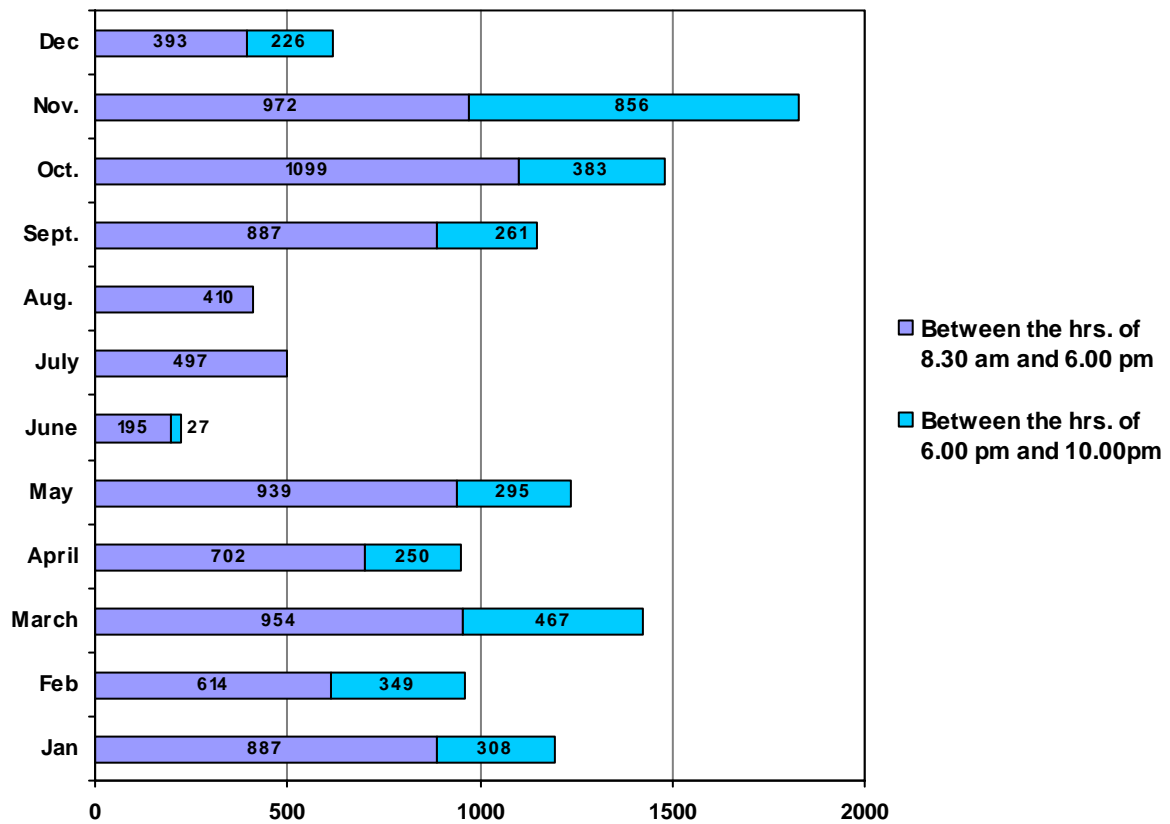
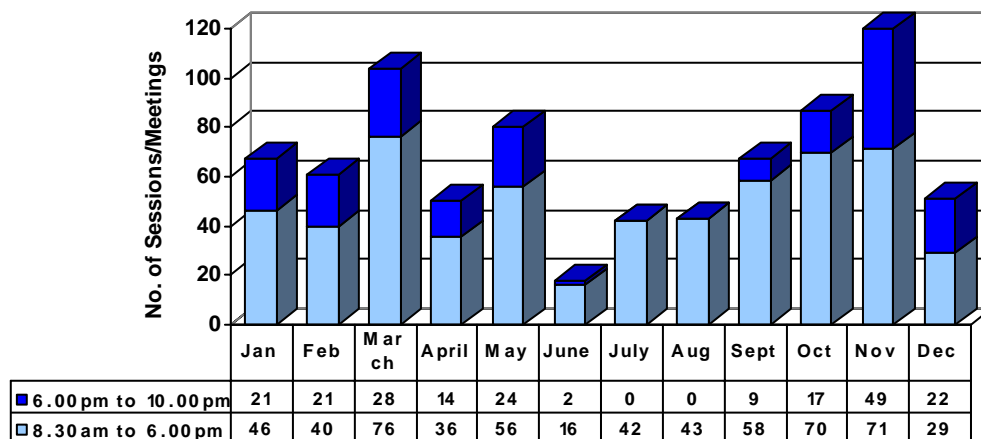
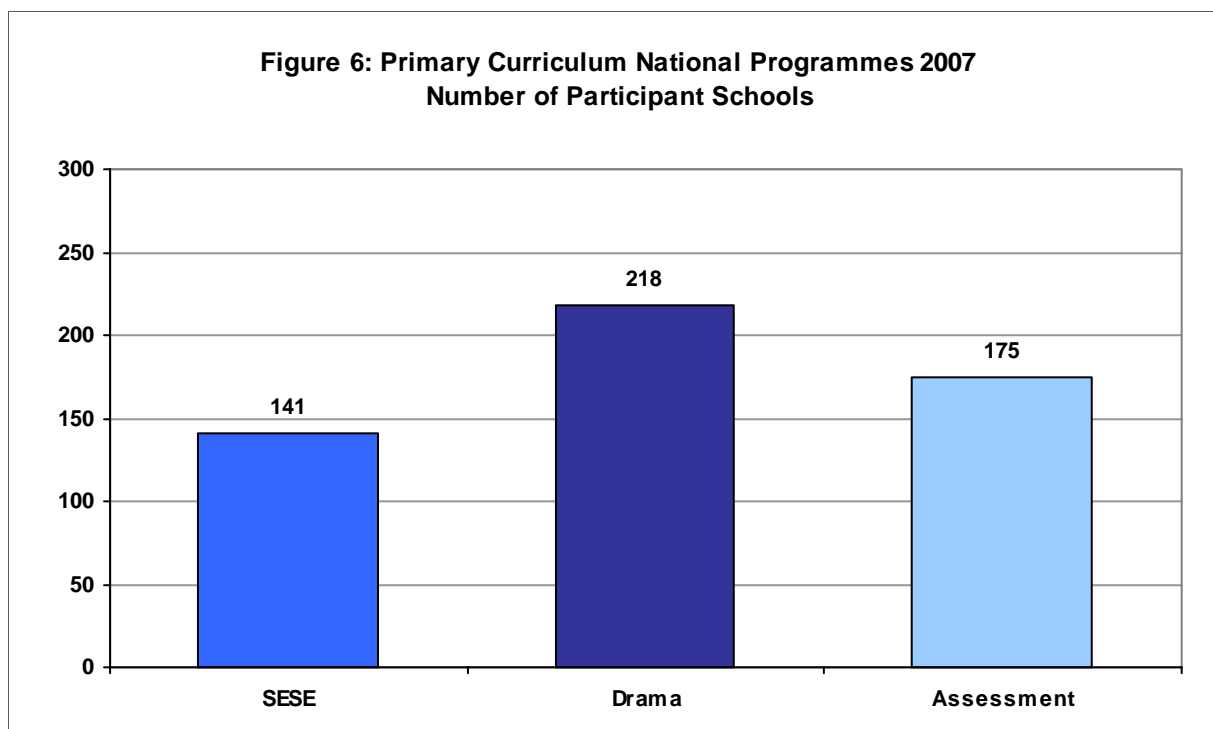
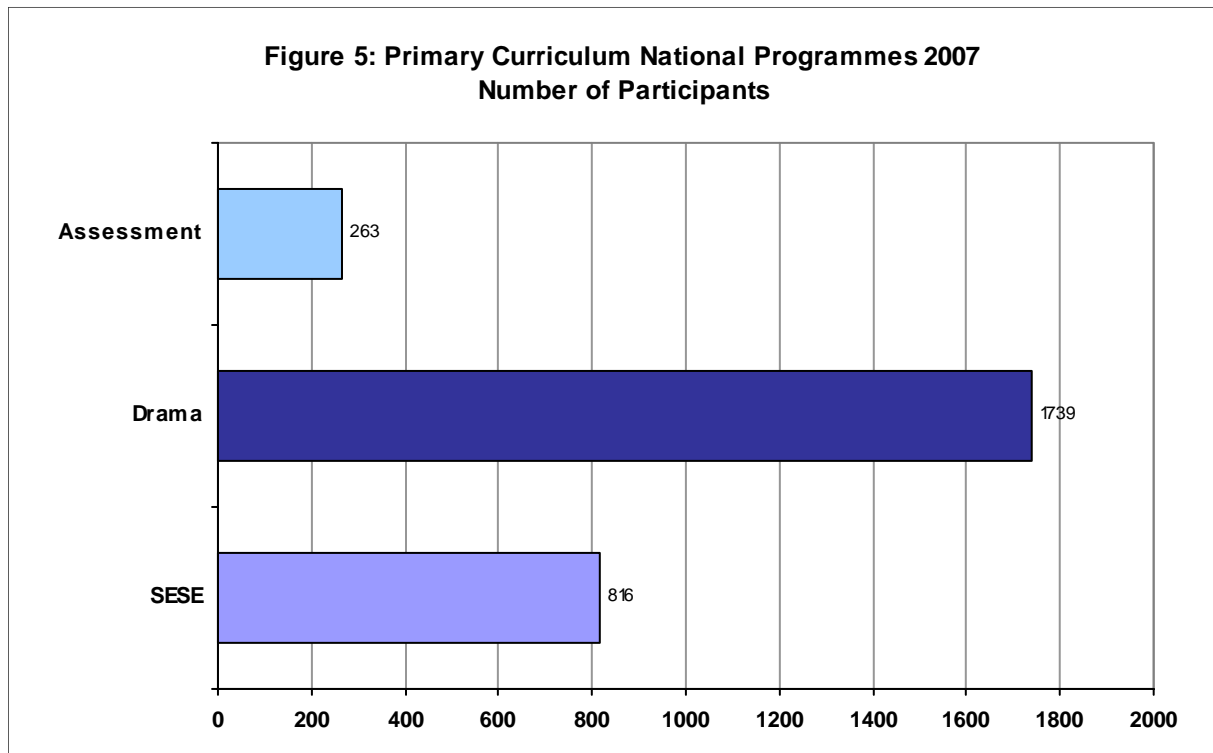
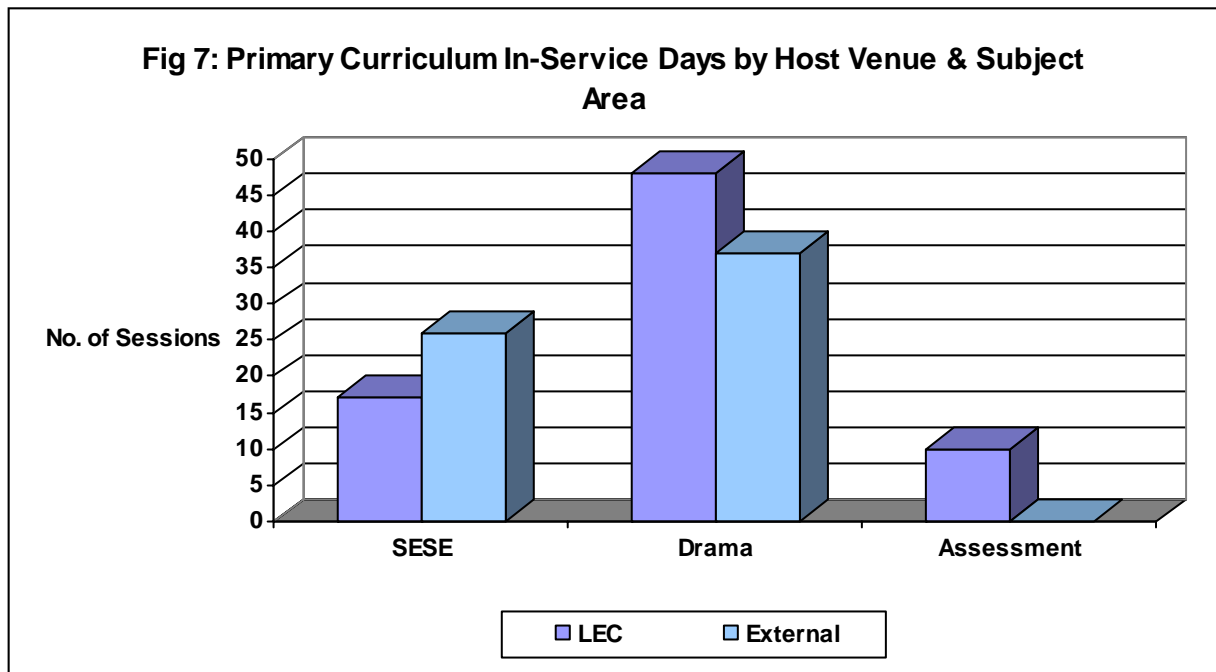


Figure 4: Number of Training Sessions / Meetings Hosted in LEC By Month and Time of Day

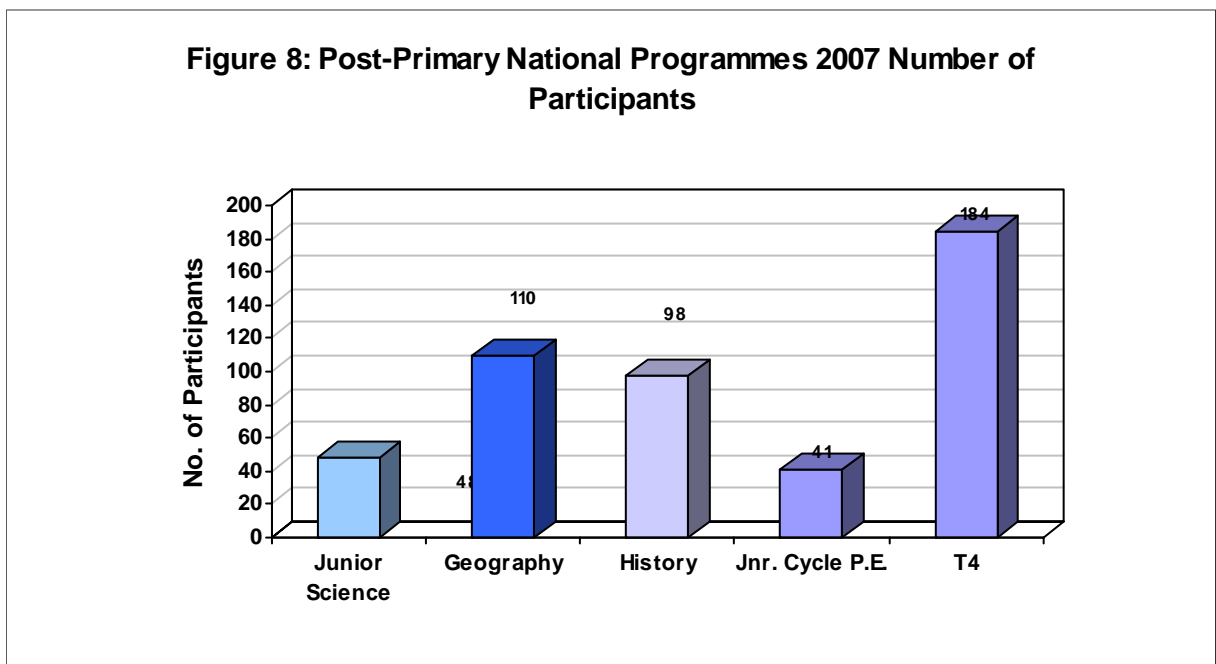


Primary Curriculum National Programmes 2007:





Post-Primary Programmes 2007:



Local Courses / Events 2007:

Figure 9: Number of Local Course/Event Participants 2007

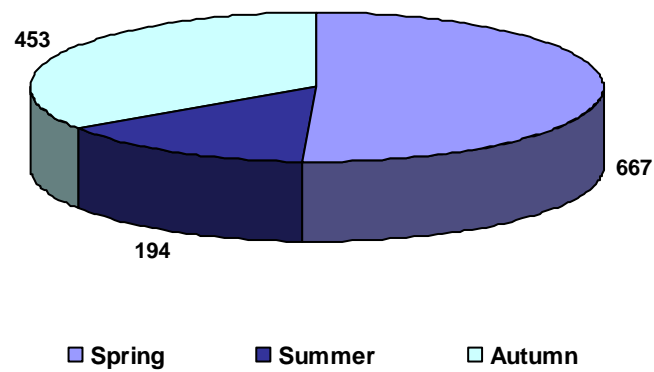
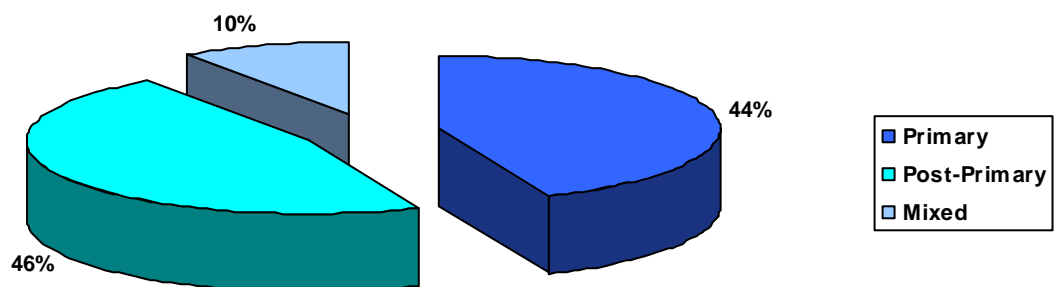


Fig 10: No. of Primary, Post-Primary & Mixed Local Course/Event Participants 2007



Limerick Education Centre

Accounts

For the year ended 31st December 2007

