DESIGN & CRAFTS COUNCIL OF IRELAND
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# CRAINING Learning skills for life



Today the experience of making is more important than ever as we continue to move in a fast-paced society, one largely dominated by digital and technological interface experiences. Making takes time, while learning skills and applying skills to tasks involves a dedication and devotion to materials and processes. The opportunity to discover the power of making by hand in a school environment is vital to enable young children flourish in their creativity.

Through exploring craft materials such as felt, clay, willow, wood and new mixed media, these hands-on making experiences can open up a world of possibility for children. These creative interactions can enable young children to gain confidence in their own ability to make and shape their environment.

The CRAFTed: Learning Skills for Life primary schools programme has been developed by the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland (DCCoI), in partnership with the Association of Teacher Education Centres Ireland (ATECI). CRAFTed facilitates teachers and children in exploring their creativity, introducing the dynamic world of craft, design and making techniques into the classroom.

Each participating class works together as a team on a creative project that links in with specific education curriculum strands.

Importantly, CRAFTed allows for the learning of important skills such as collaboration, problem solving and thinking through creativity. The programme encourages children to fulfill their own potential as young individuals through the creative, imaginative world of making.

### Muireann Charleton

Education & Innovation Manager Design & Crafts Council of Ireland



CRAFTed is a nationwide primary level initiative in support of the national curriculum that involves positive, collaborative engagement between teachers, craftspeople and young students. Its aims and objectives are to:

- Raise awareness of craft, design process and creative enterprise amongst primary children, teachers, parents and the wider schools community
- Provide positive, creative, hands-on making experience for primary school children
- Support the delivery of the Visual Arts
   Curriculum at primary level in Ireland
- Offer practical skills and lesson planideas to teachers and makers
- Facilitate opportunities for teacher-maker collaboration and 'paired teaching'
- Promote integrated learning of multiple subject areas with a specific emphasis on numeracy and literacy skills
- Use creative, child centred, process led methodologies
- Provide set hours in the classroom with a professional craftsperson









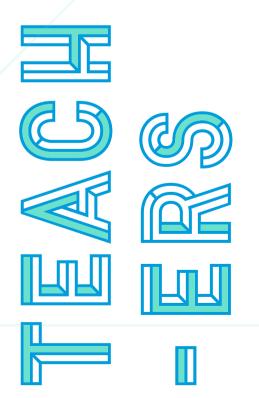
### CRAFTed increases participation and meaningful engagement in craft and design activity among young children by:

- Enabling the child to develop natural abilities, to acquire craft techniques and to practice the skills necessary for creative expression and for joyful participation in different art and craft forms
- Enabling the child to acquire knowledge, skills and attitudes to develop an informed and critical understanding of social, environmental and scientific issues
- Developing the child's awareness of, sensitivity to and enjoyment of visual, aural, tactile and spatial qualities in the environment





KAREN BROGAN, TEACHER



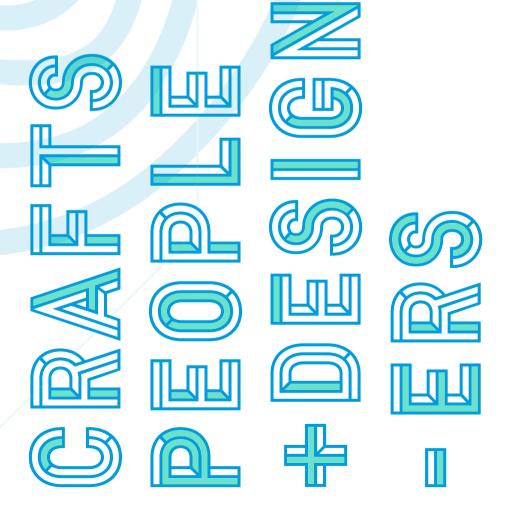
# CRAFTed fosters an innovative learning space within classrooms that contributes to enriching the curriculum and the wider school community enabling teachers to:

- Develop an appreciation of the skills involved in craft based disciplines and an awareness of the potential of the craft creative process as a learning tool
- Gain an awareness and understanding of the role of craftspeople and the importance of craft to Irish culture, heritage and society
- Develop an understanding of the potential for integrated learning using process based creative teaching methodologies through the Visual Arts, (VA) and Social, Environmental and Scientific Education (SESE) curricula, while supporting and underpinning numeracy and literacy skills



'The energy and eagerness of the boys to embrace working with textiles was amazing and rewarding, the hunger they had to learn the skills was boundless.'

ANNE MARIE GRIFFIN, CRAFTSPERSON



# CRAFTed nurtures continuing professional development in creative practice within educational contexts enabling participating makers to:

- Develop project and classroom management skills to enable makers to direct and deliver future crafts based programmes
- Develop a working knowledge of the Visual Arts and SESE curriculum at primary level and facilitate the development of the creative process that will assist in the delivery of the curriculum
- Develop an understanding of the potential for integrated learning using process based creative teaching methodologies through the Visual Arts, (VA) and Social, Environmental and Scientific Education (SESE) curricula













