

Comenius Stay On

Co. Clare. Ireland.
Ennis Schools Completion
Programme (SCP)
Ennis Community College.



Lifelong
Learning

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Report on School Retention Ireland

What has been the drop out rate in your country over the last three years?

- **Nationally- (Latest available figures)**

- **2004 87.7 Retention**

- **2005 89.2 Retention**

- **2006 90.2 Retention**

Overall Year by Year Improvements.

Regional Figures

2005 Clare

- 1384 sat Leaving Cert and Junior Cert
- 95.95 Sat Junior Cert
- 91.69 Sat Leaving Cert

2006 Clare

- 1402 LC/ JC
- 95.51 Sat Junior Cert
- 90.15 Leaving Cert

National Unemployment figures

- 37% of early school leavers are unemployed Nationally (Cso 2012)
- 11% of all early school leavers unemployed are in the age group of 18-24 years

National Systems/organisations in place in Ireland

- DEIS Programme
- NEWB(National Education Welfare Board)
- Schools completion programme (SCP)
- Home School community Liaison scheme(HSCL)
 - Primary & post primary
- Family learning projects
 - Primary, post primary & early school leavers
- Adult education Programme- Back to education (BTEI)
- Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme(VTOS)
 - Early school leavers

How do these work to prevent students dropping out?

Nationally

- Department of education
 - DEIS, BTEI, family learning and VTOS
- Nationally led by department of children youth affairs and family agency
 - SCP, HSCL, NEWB

Locally

- SCP
 - Targets young people at risk- 549 primary & post primary
- Liaises with
 - NEWB
 - HSCL
 - BTEI & VTOS
 - HSE
 - Other agencies

What has worked so far?

Nationally

- SCP core elements evaluated and are part of core plan nationally
 - Homework clubs
 - Breakfast clubs/school meals
 - Summer programmes
 - Transition programme
 - Behaviour support work
 - Educational support
 - Attendance tracking
 - Personal supports
 - Interagency collaboration
 - Family supports
 - Mentoring
 - After school clubs
 - Extra curricular activities/sports

Regionally

- Local steering committees work in an interagency method linking groups and schools and choosing core elements to deliver
 - Home links
 - Attendance monitoring
 - Educational supports
 - Behavioural supports
 - Interagency work
 - Parent educational links
 - Attendance tracking
 - In school/ out of school initiatives.

What we plan to do over the next two years ?

- Study Skills
- Enhanced focus on guidance for 3rd years (transition to senior cycle)
- Enhanced guidance provision throughout the senior cycle – (big focus on this throughout Europe)
- Survey students to find out current attitudes
- Trips to colleges/ visits to companies
- Link to current scholarship programme
- Careers fair in school next year
- Link to school business partnership
- Link to local employers – guest speakers etc.
- Measuring success /change – data on retention, attitudes of students.