

# National FET Learner Forum

## Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board

### Learner Information Sheet

**#FETLearnerForum**  
**#LearnerVoice**

**Date:** Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023

**Venue:** Connacht Hotel, Old Dublin Rd, Galway, H91 K5DD

**Time:** 10:00AM-12:15PM followed by  
lunch from 12:15PM-1:30PM

**Contact:** Lauren Swan

**Email:** forum@aontas.com

PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY. IT EXPLAINS YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS EVENT AND HOW YOU ARE REIMBURSED FOR TRAVEL.

### What is the National FET Learner Forum?

The National Further Education and Training (FET) Learner Forum is designed to provide a platform for you to share your experience in FET. You share your experience by:

- Participating in focus group discussion (1 hour)
- Completing a survey (15 minutes)

During the focus group, the facilitators will ask questions to encourage discussions and share ideas, so we can help improve the FET service. It's really important to note that there are no right or wrong answers. We want to hear about your own experiences with the FET service and get your honest feedback.

You Discuss

AONTAS Reports

SOLAS and your ETB  
get Information

"What has been working well in your experience of in-person or online learning?"

"What has not been working well in your experience of in-person or online learning?"

"What changes would you make to improve learning?"

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After your discussions, you will then be asked to complete a survey. You can complete this survey on a laptop, on your phone, or on paper. The survey will take about 10 minutes to complete. In the survey, you will be asked to answer questions on:

- Your background
- Your course or programme
- Teaching and learning resources
- Facilities
- Services and supports

#### Agenda for the Day:

10:00AM-10:30AM

Registration, tea, coffee and refreshments

10:30AM-11:00AM

#### Introduction:

- Welcome from Galway and Roscommon Education and Training Board staff member
- Short presentation about the National FET Learner Forum by AONTAS

11:00AM-12:00PM

Group Discussion (8-10 Learners per Group)

12:00PM-12:15PM

Survey

12:15PM-1:15PM

Lunch

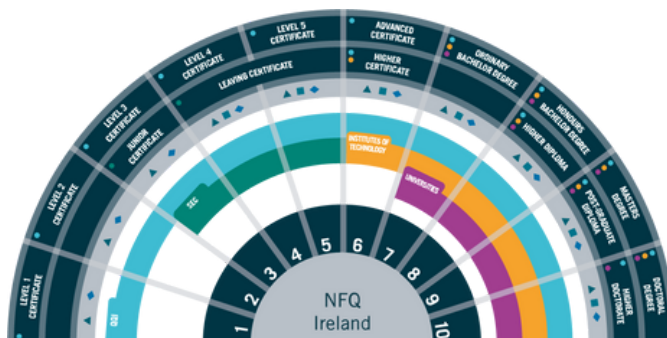
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#### Registration:

For registration you will be asked to confirm the level of the course you are taking. This refers to the level of your course on the National Frameworks of Qualifications (NFQ). You can find an image of this framework below. If you are unsure of what level you are on, you can ask your tutor in advance of the meeting and they can tell you prior to your arrival.



#### Consent:

You will be asked to complete a consent form on the day of the event. This consent form has been provided along with this information sheet. Please take the time to read this over in advance of the meeting. On the day, you will be asked to sign this consent form. If you have any questions on this, please feel free to email us.

#### Questions:

Do I have to participate?

No. Your participation is voluntary

Are my opinions anonymous?

Yes. All information collected will be anonymised before reporting. All personal details will be kept by AONTAS for one year and will then be destroyed. It will not be shared with any outside bodies.

Are the groups recorded?

Yes. They will be audio recorded for reporting purposes.

Will photos be taken?

Yes. You will sign a consent form for photos. If you do not want your photo taken, you can opt out. Just let a member of staff know.

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#### Travel Reimbursement:

Each learner is eligible for reimbursement to cover the estimated expense of travelling to and from the event. This reimbursement will be given in the form of a 'One4all' voucher and will be given at the event.

Distance Travelled		Voucher Amount
0-120km Roundtrip	=	€20
+120km Roundtrip	=	€50

#### Please note the following:

- Each nominated learner is reimbursed with a voucher. The amount it is worth is based on the distance you travelled to and from the event
- The above reimbursement will be paid on the day of the event
- Learners who have a bus booked will not be entitled to the reimbursement
- In cases where learners travel together, the driver will receive the reimbursement
- These reimbursements cover travel only. No subsistence or accommodation is covered

#### AONTAS - The National Adult Learning Organisation

AONTAS is a voluntary membership organisation. We believe that all adults in Ireland have a right to quality learning throughout their lives. We also promote the value and benefits of adult learning. Learners are at the centre of our work and we know that your experiences provide important information which should be used to help change the services and policies which affect your learning. AONTAS consults learners to find out about the learners' experiences of these services. Because of this SOLAS has tasked AONTAS to create a National FET Learner Forum, and as part of this, run regional focus groups.