

Survey of Learners in Community Education



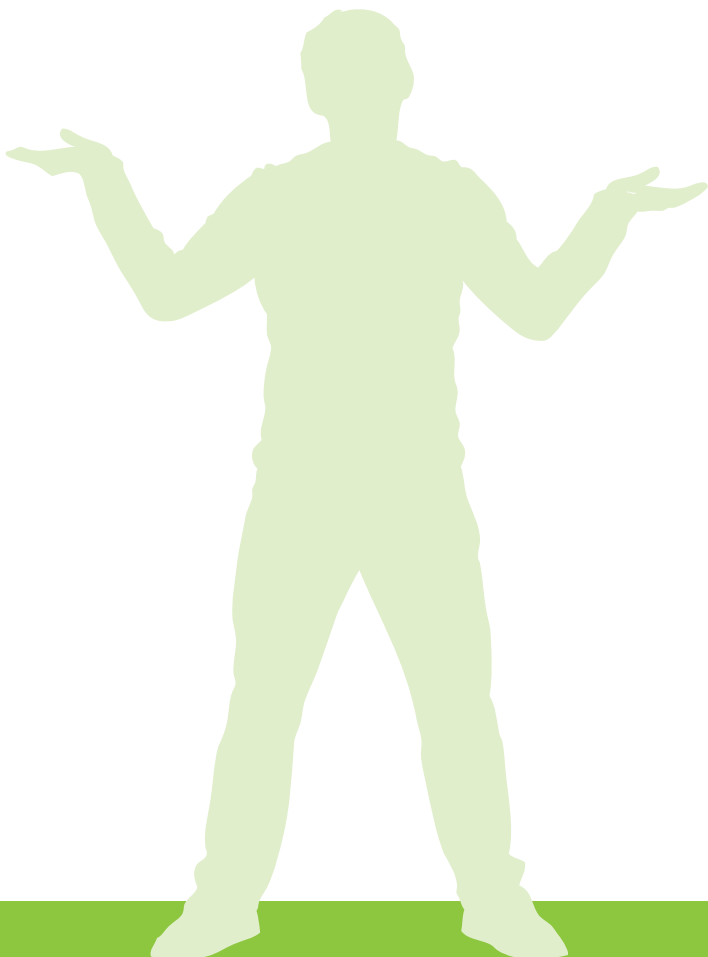
Survey of learners in community education

This survey has been put together by AONTAS to learn more about your needs as a community education learner and if community education has helped you. The work of AONTAS is based on the belief that all adults have a right to learn throughout their lives. AONTAS has worked very hard to convince every government to provide the money and opportunities needed to make sure every adult can get involved in learning if they want to. This work is very hard as many people still believe that learning stops when you leave school.

AONTAS is doing this survey to find out how community education can help people through groups like the one in which you are involved. Your help today is very important. Learners all across the country are filling out this survey. By filling it out you are adding your voice to hundreds of others who are telling us what they think of community education.

The survey has three main parts – general questions about yourself, about your experience of community education and about how community education may have helped you. If there are any questions you do not feel comfortable answering, you can skip them. Your answers are totally private – only our researchers will read your answers so that they can put together their research. **This is not a test.** Please be honest, you do not have to tell us what you think we want to hear.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your help is very important.



1 – About you

The questions in this section will help us to understand a bit about your background, so that we can get a better picture of community education learners across Ireland.

General details

1. Are you male or female? Tick one box only

- (a) Male
- (b) Female

2. What age are you? Tick one box only

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) 16–17 years | <input type="checkbox"/> | (g) 55–64 years | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) 18–20 years | <input type="checkbox"/> | (h) 65–74 years | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (c) 21–24 years | <input type="checkbox"/> | (i) 75–84 years | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (d) 25–34 years | <input type="checkbox"/> | (j) 85–94 years | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (e) 35–44 years | <input type="checkbox"/> | (k) 95 years or older | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (f) 45–54 years | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

3. What is your marital status at present? Tick one box only

- (a) Single (never married)
- (b) Married (first marriage)
- (c) Married again (following widowhood)
- (d) Married again (following divorce/annulment)
- (e) Separated (including deserted by partner)
- (f) Divorced
- (g) Widowed

4. How many dependent children* do you have? Tick one box only

* This includes children aged 0–17 years as well as children aged 18–24 years if not working but living in your house.

- (a) None
- (b) One
- (c) Two
- (d) Three
- (e) Four or more

5. How many people are in your household? Please write your answer

(a) Number of people over 14 years of age _____

(b) Number of people under 14 years of age _____

6. What is your nationality? Choose one answer only

(a) Irish

(b) Other (please write) _____

If you are not Irish, please tell us if you are:

(a) A refugee

or

(b) An asylum seeker

(c) Other (please write) _____

7. What is your ethnic or cultural background? Choose one answer only

(a) White Irish

(b) Irish traveller

(c) Any other white background

(d) African

(e) Any other black background

(f) Chinese

(g) Any other Asian background

(h) Other (*please write*) _____

8. What type of area do you live in? Tick one box only

(a) A city (such as Cork, Dublin, Galway, Kilkenny, Limerick or Waterford)

(b) A large town (such as Clonmel, Drogheda, Sligo or Wexford)

(c) A small town or village

(d) A rural area

9. What county do you live in?

I live in county _____

10. Do you have any of the following long-term conditions?

Choose more than one answer if relevant

- (a) Blindness, deafness or a serious problem with your sight or hearing
- (b) A condition that seriously limits one or more of your basic physical activities such as walking, climbing the stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying
- (c) A learning or technical disability
- (d) A mental or emotional problem
- (e) Other, including any serious illness (please write) _____

Education

To help us learn about your journey through education, please answer the following questions.

11. Please tell us your highest level of education – both when you left school for the first time and your current level of education.

Tick one box in each column

	Level of education when I left school for the first time	My current level of education
(a) No formal education		
(b) Primary level or similar		
(c) Lower secondary level (Intermediate Cert, O Levels, or FETAC* Levels 1, 2 and 3)		
(d) Upper secondary level (Leaving Cert, A Levels, or FETAC Levels 4 and 5)		
(e) Apprenticeship, vocational, trade or craft qualification (certificate, diploma, or FETAC Level 6)		
(f) Third-level qualification		

* FETAC means the Further Education and Training Awards Council

12. Please tell us your mother's or father's highest level of education or training.

Tick one box only

- (a) No formal education
- (b) Primary level or similar
- (c) Lower secondary level (Intermediate Cert or O Levels)
- (d) Upper secondary level (Leaving Cert or A Levels)
- (e) Apprenticeship, vocational, trade or craft qualification
- (f) Third-level education
- (g) I don't know

Employment

13. Please tell us about your job status

Tick one box in each column

	What was your job status <u>when you began</u> community education?	What was your job status <u>one year ago</u>?	What is your <u>current</u> job status?
(a) Working for pay or profit			
(b) Looking for my first regular job			
(c) Unemployed			
(d) Studying			
(e) Looking after home or family			
(f) Retired from employment			

	What was your job status <u>when you began</u> community education?	What was your job status <u>one year ago</u>?	What is your <u>current</u> job status?
(g) Unable to work due to permanent sickness or disability			
(h) Other (please write)			
If you are working for pay or profit, unemployed or retired, what is (was) your main job? (Please be specific, for example, "shoe store manager")			

Your household

14. Please answer yes or no to the following statements about your household.

Tick one box only for each statement

- (a) I have had problems with money due to ordinary living expenses. Yes No
- (b) Our household has not had a proper meal for at least one day in the past two weeks due to a lack of money. Yes No
- (c) We have been without heating at some stage in the last year due to a lack of money. Yes No
- (d) We cannot afford a roast (or similar meal) once a week. Yes No
- (e) We cannot afford a meal with meat, chicken or fish (or similar vegetarian meal) every second day. Yes No
- (f) We cannot afford two pairs of strong shoes for each member of the household. Yes No
- (g) We cannot afford a warm, waterproof coat for each member of the household. Yes No
- (h) We cannot afford new clothes for each member of the household. Yes No

15. Please describe your current accommodation. Choose one answer only

- (a) A house or bungalow
- (b) A flat or apartment
- (c) A bed-sit (with some shared facilities such as a toilet)
- (d) A caravan or other temporary mobile unit

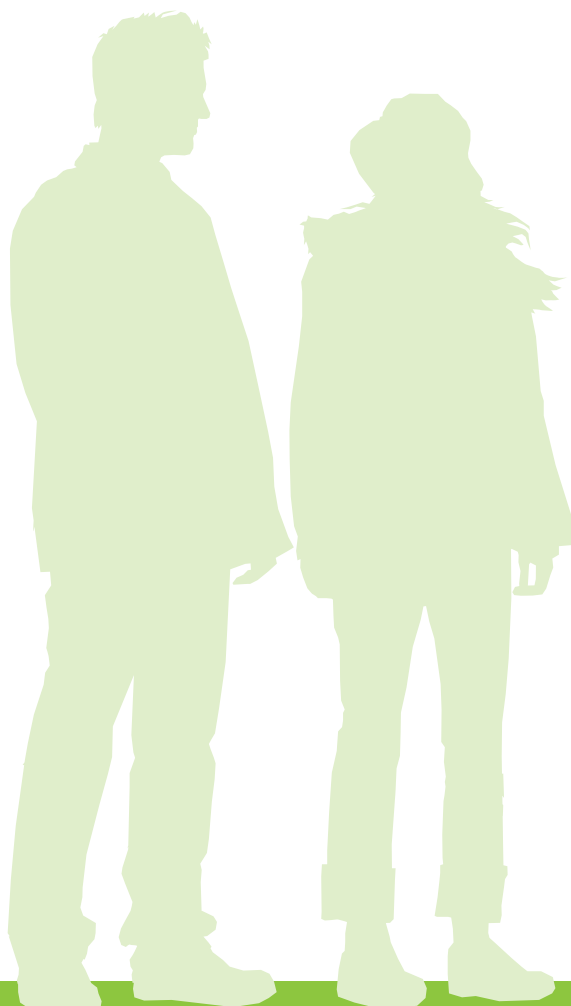
(e) Other (please write) _____

16. What type of housing do you currently live in? Tick one box only

- (a) I own my house.
- (b) I bought my housing from the local authority under a Tenant Purchase Scheme.
- (c) I live in co-operative housing.
- (d) I rent my housing from a local authority.
- (e) I rent my housing from a voluntary body.
- (f) I rent privately.
- (g) I do not pay any rent (for example a caretaker).
- (h) I am 'out of the home' (for example, homeless).

17. How do you usually travel to work or to this training course? Tick one box only

- (a) I walk.
- (b) I cycle.
- (c) I travel by bus, minibus or coach.
- (d) I take the train, DART or Luas.
- (e) I travel by motorcycle or scooter.
- (f) I drive a car.
- (g) I get a lift by car.
- (h) I travel by lorry or van.
- (i) I travel by other means.



Unpaid work

18. Do you give any regular, unpaid personal help* to a friend or family member with a long-term illness, health problem or disability, including problems that are due to old age?

*Personal help includes help with basic tasks such as feeding or dressing.

Tick one box only

- (a) Yes, for one to 14 hours a week
- (b) Yes, for 15 to 28 hours a week
- (c) Yes, for 29 to 42 hours a week
- (d) Yes, for 43 or more hours a week
- (e) No

19. In the last four weeks, have you done any of the following activities without pay?

Tick all relevant answers

- (a) I helped or did voluntary work for a social or charity organisation.
- (b) I helped or did voluntary work for a religious group or church.
- (c) I helped or did voluntary work for a sports organisation.
- (d) I helped or did voluntary work for a political or cultural organisation.
- (e) I did another type of voluntary work.
- (f) I did no voluntary work.

20. If you did voluntary work in the last four weeks, how many hours did you spend doing this work on average each week?

Tick one box only. If you are not doing voluntary work skip this question

- (a) One to five hours a week
- (b) Six to 10 hours a week
- (c) 11 to 20 hours a week
- (d) 21 to 30 hours a week
- (e) 31 to 39 hours a week
- (f) 40 or more hours a week (full-time)



Financial support

21. Can you tell us if you got any of the following forms of financial support during the last 12 months? Choose all relevant answers

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| (a) Rent Allowance | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) Jobseekers' Allowance | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (c) Jobseekers' Benefit | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (d) Disability Allowance | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (e) Illness Benefit | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (f) Carer's Allowance | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (g) Farm Assist | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (h) Family Income Supplement | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (i) Back-to-Work Allowance | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (j) Jobs Initiative Scheme | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (k) One-Parent Family Payment | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (l) Community Employment Scheme | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (m) Social Economy Scheme | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (n) Pre-Retirement Allowance | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (o) Invalidity Pension | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (p) Widow's or Widower's Pension (Non-Contributory) | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (q) State Pension (Non-Contributory) | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (r) Guardian's Payment (Non-Contributory) | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (s) Supplementary Welfare Allowance | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (t) Medical card | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> |

(u) Other (please write) _____

2 – Your experience of community education

In this section, we want to get a better understanding of your experience of community education, including the reasons why you decided to take part and the forms of support that you think are important for learners in community education.

22. When did you first start community education?

Month: _____ Year: _____

23. What is the name of your current community education group?

Name of group: _____

24. How many community education courses have you already completed?

Tick one box only

- (a) None (if none, please skip ahead to question 26.)
- (b) One
- (c) Two
- (d) Three
- (e) Three or more

If you have completed one or more courses, please fill out the following details about you

Name of course	Start date (month, year)	End date (month, year)	Level of certification (if you did not get a cert, leave blank)

25. How many community education courses are you currently taking part in?

Tick one box only

- (a) One
- (b) Two
- (c) Three or more

Please fill out the following details about any current course(s) you are taking part in.

Name of course	Start date (month, year)	Hours each week	Length of course (in weeks)	Level of certification (if you did not get a cert, leave blank)

26. There are many reasons why people take part in community education.

- Why did you decide to take part in the first place?
- Do you feel that you have met your original goals?

Please tick one box in every row

	Yes, I was interested in this and I have achieved this goal	Yes, I was interested in this but I have <u>not</u> achieved this goal yet	No, this was never a reason why I wanted to take part
(a) To improve my self-confidence			
(b) To make friends and have social contact			
(c) To get more involved in the community			
(d) To improve my employment prospects and help me get a job			
(e) To get a qualification			
(f) To help me move on to further study			
(g) To improve my understanding of another culture			
(h) To understand and examine my experience as a member of a disadvantaged group in Irish society			
(i) To improve my reading and/or writing skills			
(j) To have fun			
(k) Because I was told I had to do it			
(l) To improve my health/fitness levels			
(m) To study a particular topic (such as knitting, cooking, community leadership)			

If there was another reason other than those shown above, please explain here:

27. Before you started your course, what helped you make your decision?

Please tick all relevant answers

- (a) The surroundings were warm and welcoming.
- (b) They included childcare.
- (c) They included hospitality (snacks, teas/coffees).
- (d) They offered a training allowance.
- (e) I heard good things about the course provider.
- (f) They had the course I definitely wanted to do.
- (g) The people were really nice.
- (h) Someone asked me if I wanted to do the course.
- (i) They offered certification.
- (j) The timing of the course fits in with my work/caring duties.
- (k) The course information was interesting.
- (l) Friends and family supported me.
- (m) The course gave me access to computers and the internet.

If there was another reason for your decision, please explain here:



28. It is important to offer support to people taking part in community education.

– What do you think are the most important types of support for people who want to take part in community education?

– What types of support does your community education provider actually give?

Please tick all relevant answers in the table below

	Important types of support	Support actually given
(a) Warm, welcoming surroundings		
(b) Funding for childcare		
(c) Hospitality (snacks, teas/coffees)		
(d) Training allowance		
(e) Flexible working hours		
(f) Certification offered		
(g) Timing of course		
(h) Study programme suits learner's needs		
(i) Choice of learning methods		
(j) Face-to-face outreach worker who gives support to those moving from home to group activity		
(k) Educational and career guidance		
(l) Funding for transport (or other transport support)		
(m) Free fees		
(n) Access to a safe space		
(o) Dignity and respect shown to the learner		
(p) Peer support or mentoring given in the learning setting		
(q) Checking to see how the learner is getting on		
(r)Referral to other types of support in the community (housing, health, counselling)		
(s) Access to computers and the internet		

29. How did you learn about your current community education provider?

Please choose all relevant answers

- (a) I read about it in a poster/leaflet/advertisement.
- (b) A friend told me about it.
- (c) Someone called to my house/came up to me on the street.
- (d) A community service worker referred me to the course.
- (e) Other (please write) _____

30. Have you found it difficult to take part in community education due to any of the following reasons?

Please choose all relevant answers

- (a) Job commitments
- (b) Family commitments or lack of childcare
- (c) Too little time left for leisure activities
- (d) Feeling too old to learn
- (e) Lack of transport
- (f) Not enough places on the course
- (g) Lack of confidence in myself
- (h) Lack of support from family or friends
- (i) Cost of the course
- (j) Worried about losing my benefits
- (k) Other (please write) _____

31. What words would you use to describe your experience of learning in your group?

Please tick all relevant answers

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Fun | <input type="checkbox"/> | Useless | <input type="checkbox"/> | Non formal | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Boring | <input type="checkbox"/> | Useful | <input type="checkbox"/> | Group led | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Exciting | <input type="checkbox"/> | Meaningless | <input type="checkbox"/> | Changes community | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Exhausting | <input type="checkbox"/> | Interesting | <input type="checkbox"/> | Inclusive | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Excellent | <input type="checkbox"/> | Practical | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Waste of time | <input type="checkbox"/> | Too hard | <input type="checkbox"/> | Friendly | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Empowering | <input type="checkbox"/> | Unstructured | <input type="checkbox"/> | Self-developing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Alienating | <input type="checkbox"/> | Inflexible | <input type="checkbox"/> | Personally changing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Disorganised | <input type="checkbox"/> | Extreme | <input type="checkbox"/> | Good for local area | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Flexible | <input type="checkbox"/> | Open | <input type="checkbox"/> | Broad social change | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Vocational | <input type="checkbox"/> | Structured | <input type="checkbox"/> | Personal and political | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Social analysis | <input type="checkbox"/> | Awareness raising | <input type="checkbox"/> | Community action | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Class analysis | <input type="checkbox"/> | Action | <input type="checkbox"/> | Locally accessible | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Creative | <input type="checkbox"/> | Political economy | <input type="checkbox"/> | Welcoming | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Participatory | <input type="checkbox"/> | Women's studies | <input type="checkbox"/> | Supportive | <input type="checkbox"/> |




32. Which of the following statements do you feel best describes community education?




Tick one box only

- (a) It is like a ladder, where at each rung I feel supported and safe enough to move up to the next rung and to get closer to my goals.
- (b) It is like a journey, where sometimes you take breaks or change direction but where each part of the trip teaches you something new, regardless of the final destination.
- (c) It is a space for me to go, where I can connect with others and look after myself.

33. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about the tutors or facilitators in your group?

Tick one box in every row

	 Strongly agree	Agree	 Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	 Strongly disagree
(a) They only stick to the planned content of the course.					
(b) They let the group go off course if we are really interested in something.					
(c) They work with us to plan what we are going to do in the course, including planning for possible certification.					
(d) They help us to plan for and address problems in our community and beyond.					
(e) They encourage lots of discussion					
(f) They use creative methods – such as role play and art.					
(g) They only teach us by reading from written materials or handouts.					
(h) They talk to us about how to make changes in our own lives.					

	 Strongly agree	Agree	 Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	 Strongly disagree
(i) They talk to us about how to make changes in our community and beyond.					
(j) They think feelings are just as important as ideas.					
(k) They help us to understand the effects of society on our personal experiences.					
(l) They are unfriendly.					
(m) They help us to understand about inequality.					
(n) They are understanding.					
(o) They treat us as equals – sometimes we feel like we are tutors too.					
(p) They criticise me or other group members.					
(q) They are friendly.					
(r) They are supportive in the learning and really want us to do well in the course.					
(s) They value our life experience and stories.					
(t) They let us talk about our local area and its problems.					

3 – How community education has helped you

In your community

In this section, we would like you to tell us if community education has helped you to get more involved in your community or has changed the way you feel about things in your community.

34. Which of the following activities may be a result of your time in community education?

Tick one box in every row

	Yes, I did this and I feel it is a result of my community education experience	Yes, I did this, but I do not think it is a result of my community education experience	Yes, I did this, but I have always done this anyway	No, I did not do this
(a) I voted in the last local election.				
(b) I voted in the last national election.				
(c) I voted in the last referendum.				
(d) I voted in the last European Union election.				
(e) I volunteered at my child's school.				
(f) I volunteered in a community group.				
(g) I donated to a charity.				
(h) I took part in a protest march.				
(i) I watched the news more often.				

	Yes, I did this and I feel it is a result of my community education experience	Yes, I did this, but I do not think it is a result of my community education experience	Yes, I did this, but I have always done this anyway	No, I did not do this
(j) I talked to friends or family about politics or social issues.				
(k) I read the newspaper.				
(l) I questioned a politician canvassing for an election.				
(m) I wrote a letter to the newspaper or to a local politician.				
(n) I recycled or re-used an item or household waste.				
(o) I used the internet.				
(p) I helped a neighbour.				
(q) I went to a parent-teacher meeting.				
(r) I started to watch more educational programmes on television.				
(s) I began to read more books.				
(t) I went to a community policing meeting and/or a neighbourhood watch meeting.				
(u) I decided to give something back to the community.				

35. How, if at all, do you feel that taking part in this community education group or another group has changed the following aspects of your life?




Tick one box in every row

	 Large positive change	Some positive change	 No change	Some negative change	 Large negative change
(a) Talking to new people					
(b) More contact with family					
(c) More contact with friends					
(d) Trying out new activities					
(e) Visiting places that I have never visited before, such as museums, fairs, markets and theatres					
(f) More accepting and understanding of other cultures					
(g) More accepting and understanding of beliefs that are different to my own					
(h) More sympathy for people I would have normally judged badly					
(i) Taking part in public speaking					
(j) Greater trust in service providers					
(k) Greater understanding of how the government works					

	 Large positive change	Some positive change	 No change	Some negative change	 Large negative change
(l) Trust in the political system					
(m) Being critical of discrimination against disadvantaged groups					
(n) My ability to be a positive role model for children					
(o) My confidence in taking on a leadership role					
(p) My confidence in speaking to service providers, such as teachers, the gardaí and doctors					
(q) How much quality time I spend with my children					
(r) Trust in people in my neighbourhood					
(s) How well I get along with my neighbours					
(t) How willing I am to help my neighbours					
(u) Understanding that things I do here in Ireland (food I buy, amount of electricity I use) can affect people living in other countries					

36. How, if at all, do you feel that taking part in this community education group or another group has changed your likelihood of doing something about the following situations in your community?

Tick one box in every row

	 Much more likely	More likely	 No change	Less likely	 Much less likely
(a) If I saw children skipping school and hanging out on a street corner					
(b) If I saw children putting graffiti on a local building					
(c) If children were showing disrespect to an adult					
(d) If a fight broke out in front of where I live					
(e) If the fire station closest to my home was in danger of having its budget cut					

37. Thinking back over the types of changes we have just asked you about, what aspect of your time in this community education group or another group has been the most useful in helping you to make positive changes?

Tick one box only



	Aspects of community education group
	(a) The overall atmosphere in the group
	(b) The content of my course
	(c) The way the facilitator/tutor treated the people taking part in the course
	(d) The way the people on my course got on with each other
	(e) The way we went about the learning




Your personal development

In this section, we would like you to think about the different ways in which community education may have helped you to feel better about yourself.

38. How, if at all, do you feel that taking part in this group has changed the following aspects of your life?

Tick one box in every row

	 Large positive change	Some positive change	 No change	Some negative change	 Large negative change
(a) Your self-confidence					
(b) Your sense of purpose or hope					
(c) Your ability to tackle problems in your life rather than just ignore them					
(d) Your ability to do things by yourself					
(e) Your general parenting					
(f) Your ability to communicate with others					
(g) Your happiness					
(h) Your quality of life					
(i) Your trust in others					
(j) Asking for support from others					

	 Large positive change	Some positive change	 No change	Some negative change	 Large negative change
(k) Making decisions					
(l) Your ability to plan for the future					
(m) Understanding your rights under Irish equality law					
(n) Your fear of being a victim of crime					
(o) Your sense of loneliness					
(p) Your ability to help your children with their homework					
(q) How well you get along with your family					
(r) Your confidence in talking to your children about the importance of finishing school and continuing their education					

39. How has taking part in learning in this group changed the way you feel about things?

Please tick all relevant answers

- (a) I feel less anxious.
- (b) I feel happier and less depressed.
- (c) I feel more pushed around in my life
- (d) I feel I will never get a chance to succeed.
- (e) I feel that I have more control over things that happen to me.
- (f) I feel that I cannot change many of the important things in my life.

40. Thinking back over the types of personal changes we have just asked you about, what aspect of your time in this community education group or another group has been most useful in helping you to make positive changes?

Tick one box only

	Aspects of community education group
	(a) The overall atmosphere in the group
	(b) The content of my course
	(c) The way the facilitator/tutor treated the people taking part in the course
	(d) The way the people on my course got on with each other
	(e) The way we went about the learning



Health benefits

In this section, we would like you to think about ways in which community education may have helped you to make positive changes in your health.

41. Thinking back over your time in this group or another group, have you made any of the following changes and, if so, were any of these changes related to your community education experience?

Tick one box in every row. If a statement does not apply to you, tick the box labelled “not relevant”. For example, if you are not a smoker, tick “not relevant” in the first row.

	Yes, I did this and I feel it is a result of my community education experience	Yes, I did this, but I do not think it is a result of my community education experience	No, I did not do this	Not relevant
(a) I stopped smoking.				
(b) I drank less alcohol.				
(c) I now smoke only once in a while instead of everyday.				
(d) I went for a cancer screening (cervical, prostate, breast).				
(e) I offered to drive people home after a night out.				
(f) I talked to my children about alcohol and drug use.				
(g) I asked about treatment to help me deal with an addiction.				
(h) I breast-fed or encouraged a friend to breast-feed.				
(i) I stopped smoking around my kids.				

	Yes, I did this and I feel it is a result of my community education experience	Yes, I did this, but I do not think it is a result of my community education experience	No, I did not do this	Not relevant
(j) I started to eat more fruit and vegetables.				
(k) I started to go to the doctor more often.				
(l) I started to exercise a bit more.				

42. How was your overall health before you started community education? How is it now?

Please tick one box only for each statement

	 Very Good	Good	 Fair	Bad	 Very Bad
(a) How was your health in general <u>before</u> you started community education?					
(b) How is your health in general <u>now</u> ?					

43. Thinking back over the types of personal changes we have just asked you about, what aspect of your time in this community education group or another group has been most useful in helping you to make positive changes to your physical health?

Tick one box only

	Aspects of community education group
	(a) The overall atmosphere in the group
	(b) The content of my course

	Aspects of community education group
	(c) The way the facilitator/tutor treated the people taking part in the course
	(d) The way the people on my course got on with each other
	(e) The way we went about the learning

Further education or training

In this section, we would like you to tell us if community education has helped you to move on to other education or training, or to get a job. We also want to know if you would like community education to help you with these things.

44. Have you heard of FETAC? (Tick one box only.)

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

If yes, do you know what FETAC is? (Tick one box only.)

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

45. Have you heard of the National Qualifications Framework?

(Tick one box only.)

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

If yes, do you know what the National Qualifications Framework is?

(Tick one box only.)

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

46. Do you think that every time you do a community education course, it should result in a certificate from an awarding body (such as FETAC or the National University of Ireland)?

(Tick one box only.)

- (a) Yes
- (b) No

47. People often take part in community education because of personal goals.

Can you tell us which of the following goals are important to you and if your current community education group can help you to reach these goals?

Tick one box in every row.

	Yes, I want to do this and think that this group can help me to do it	Yes, I want to do this, but do not think that this group can help me to do it	I have already done this as a result of coming to this group	No, I have no interest in doing this/ not relevant
(a) I would like to get a certificate (FETAC, diploma, FAS training) with this group / centre				
(b) I would like to get a certificate (FETAC, diploma, FAS training) with another group / centre				
(c) I would like to do a non-certified course with this group / centre.				
(d) I would like to do a non-certified course with a another group / centre.				
(e) I would like to go on to third level education and get a degree.				
(f) I would like to get a job because I am currently unemployed.				
(g) I would like to get a better job than the one I have at the moment.				
(h) I would like to get advice on employment and/or education.				
(i) I would like to learn a new skill.				
(j) I would like to do a Post Leaving Cert (PLC) diploma in my local area				

If there is another reason other than those shown above, please explain here:

48. Thinking back over the types of goals we asked you about in question 47, what aspect of this community education group or another group has been the most useful in helping you reach your goals?

Tick one box only

	Aspects of community education group
	(a) The overall atmosphere in the group
	(b) The content of my course
	(c) The way the facilitator/tutor treated the people taking part in the course
	(d) The way the people on my course got on with each other
	(e) The way we went about the learning

49. Please tell us your total average weekly household disposable income (from all sources) – both before you started the course and at the moment.

Tick one box only in each column

	Income before you started the course	Your current income
(a) Less than €100 a week		
(b) €101–€200 a week		
(c) €201–€300 a week		
(d) €301–€400 a week		
(e) €401–€500 a week		
(f) €501–€600 a week		
(g) €601–€700 a week		
(h) €701–€800 a week		
(i) €801–€900 a week		
(j) €901–€1,000 a week		
(k) Over €1,000 a week		

50. Would you be willing to be contacted about future community education research?

If so, please tell us your name and phone number.

Name: _____ **Phone number:** _____

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.
Your answers are important to us.**

If you have any comments about this survey – or if there is anything else you would like to say about your experience of community education – please share your views with us in the space below.

Your comments



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