

New Directions Good News Newsletter February 2024



**Sharing Liffey
Services Good News!**

Welcome to the February 2024 edition of the New Directions Good News newsletter. This month we explore the topic 'Support for Making Transitions and Progression'. Some may find these terms a little confusing (I know I did when I first heard them) so please let me break it down for you...

A 'transition' is a change from one thing to the next, either in action or state of being, as in a job transition or as in the much more dramatic example of a caterpillar making a transition into a butterfly.

Progression means moving onwards or advancing forward, moving from one thing to the next. So I might say that when I moved into this new role with SJOG in 2022, I progressed to a new area in my career.



Choices Day Service



The Men who attend Choices in Celbridge worked very hard learning about St Brigid in the run up to St Brigid's Day earlier this month. The group explored the story of how St Brigid spread her cloak on the ground and claimed the land beneath from the King of Leinster. They decided to paint a mural depicting this and it looks absolutely wonderful. A huge well done to all involved.

Uaisle Day Service

The guys in Uaisle were showing their green finger talents at the end of January. The group bought seeds for watercress , watered them daily to help with germination. All were truly fascinated with the extremely fast growth. Once grown, the group enjoyed them during their cooking class and later put them on the compost .



Watch this space as Uaisle are are also growing tomato plants. This ties in so well with our topic this month, watching the watercress transition from seed to plant and then progressing onto a dinner plate... I could not have come up with a better example myself. Good job!

Speaking of Uaisle, I believe a big Happy Birthday is in order for David.



It looks like you had an amazing time celebrating your 60th Birthday David. A huge Congrats from us all.





Liffey Voices Meeting

Thursday 29th February 2024
11am – 12:00pm



GreenRoom, St Raphaels, Celbridge
or Boardroom Cookstown, Tallaght

Please email: liffeyvoices@sjog.ie if you can come

We will also be hosting this meeting on zoom if you
can't make it to Celbridge /Tallaght



Meeting ID 474389762
Password 054429



Scan Here to join Zoom



Liffey Voices Update

During the meeting in February

We will talk about:



1. Update from the last meeting



2. Transfer of Service Update



3. Referendum 8th March

Get all the information on the LiffeyVoices Webpage
<https://express.adobe.com/page/1GZh3bQ3BJD9v>



Ice Day Service

With this month's newsletter looking at the support around transitions, meet some of the new individual's who transitioned into Ice Day Service recently!

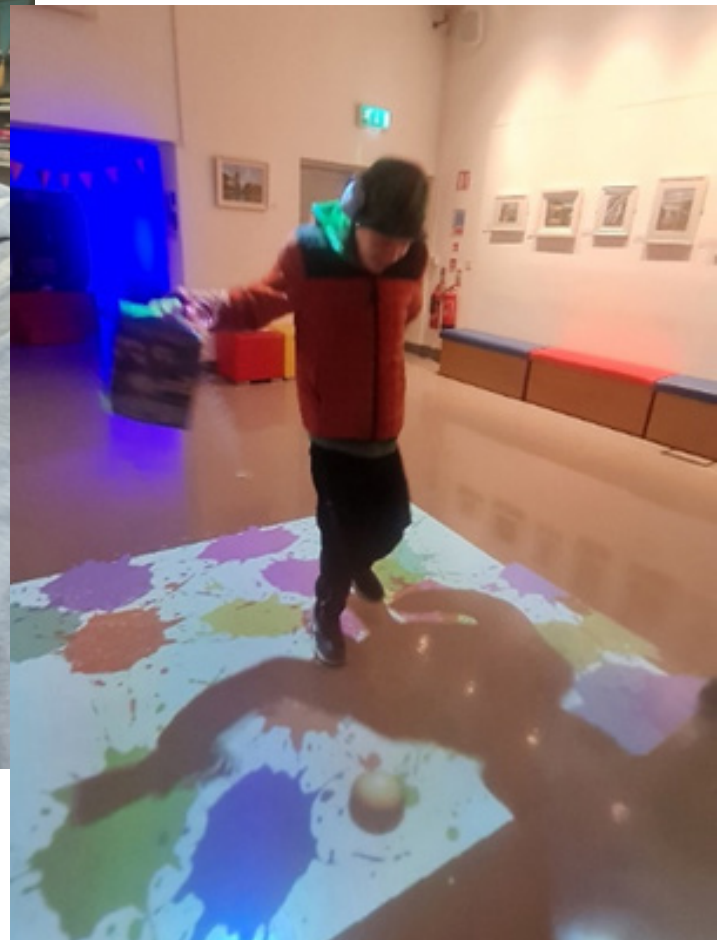
Hi my name is Sean Thorpe. I started in Ice Day Service last September. I am settling into Ice really well and enjoy coming here to see my friends everyday. Some of my favourite things to do in Ice include art, Sensory play, going for walks in the community (especially in Donadea Forest) and going swimming in the Glenroyal. Finally as you can see, I have a keen interest in balloons and do not mind when they burst.



Hi my name is Max Stephans. I really enjoy coming to Ice every day and am settling in well. Some of my favourite things to do in Ice include baking, waterplay, going swimming and going for drives in the community with my friends. I absolutely love sensory play and have filled my room in Ice with all of my favourite sensory items.



Hi My name is Jack Dixon. Here I am enjoying some of my favourite activities. I transitioned from Genil to ICE in August of 2023. I enjoy interactive sensory games in Leixlip library, Art in Edenderry, Cookery Class in Clane School. I also love taking part in community activities and always enjoy my cup of tea afterwards.



Hi my name is Brian Flynn. Here I am doing my work experience in Phugin Hall. I love going to work experience every Tuesday. When I am in Ice Day Service, I love to make my own videos of trains, boats and buses. I transitioned from Genil to ICE in August.



Thank you to the 4 gentlemen for their transition stories and welcome to Ice.

Elvira Day Service

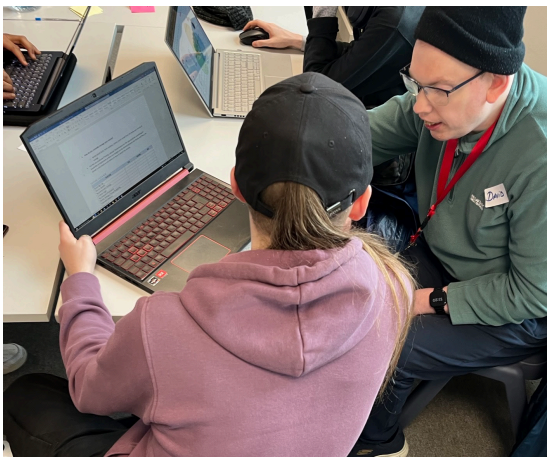


I had the pleasure of meeting some of the men and women who attend Elvira Day Service in Bluebell this month. I delivered a training workshop on 'What is New Directions?' and got to hear all the amazing examples of the supports happening in Elvira. Thank you for having me!





- For the 8th year we are back in TUDublin Grangegorman with a new group of co-designers from Elvira, Maplewalk and Ashtree co-designing with 3rd year computer science students. We are building 6 co-design Apps to support daily living. This year our co-designers have decided to build app for
1. Talking Clock App
 2. My Day App - Schedule support
 3. Employment App - support with paid employment
 4. Friendship App - Support make new relationships
 5. Money App - Support with budgeting
 6. My Choice App - Support with decision making



Leap Day Service

I remember meeting Madeus Zorila on one of my first Day Service visits when I began my role with Liffey Region in 2022. The first thing Madeus spoke to me about was his passion for cars and his desire to work in a garage. Receiving the pictures below gave me such joy as Madeus has started his work experience this month with Maxol Garage in Celbridge. He works there every Friday and is really enjoying his new role. I am so happy for you, congrats!



Pathways Day Service

Brian from Pathways won the Callan Art Competition last year and has been invited to be a Judge this year. Brian was delighted to accept the invitation and will judge the art competition in Deansgrange Library on thursday 7th of March at 11am followed by lunch in the local pub. Brian has invited his keyworker to go along with him. Have the best time Brian and best of luck judging all the amazing art.



The co-designers on the Right To Connect project have gained a lot of competencies during the project.

They talk about these Competencies as:

- **Skills** - What they can do!
- **Knowledge** - What they know!
- **Proficiency** - How well they can do something
- **Attitude** - What they need to do to use the skill

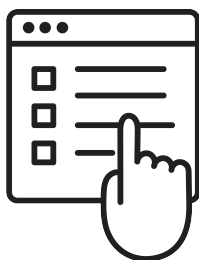
Their work in the project has changed. Their role has transitioned. First they were co-designers of the course and now they are teaching others with the courses they have built.



The co-designers from Ashtree have helped to build a Competency Self Assessment tool that generates 9 certificates for the co-designers based on the things they have learned and can now do. They also co-designed 9 animated videos to share these new skills.

You can see these videos and more on the website

<https://righttoconnect.entelis.net/competency-self-assessment-tool/>



Windmill Day Service

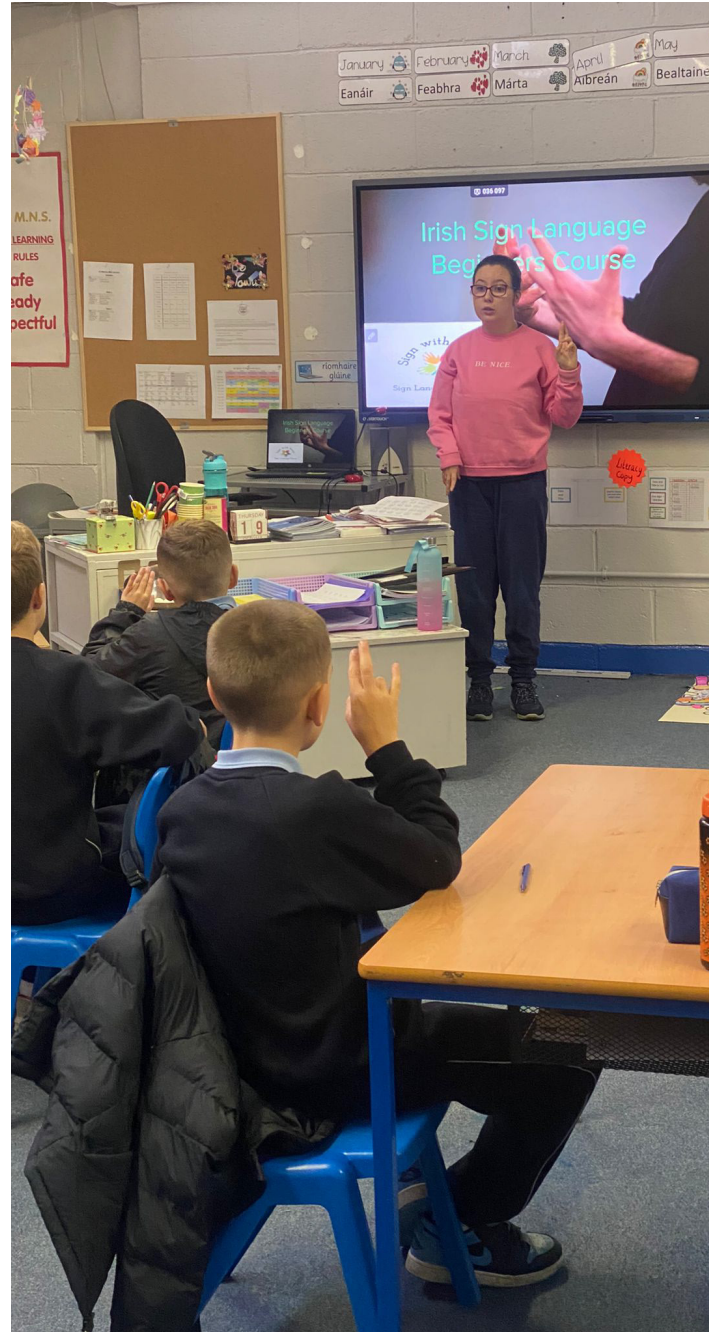


Earlier this month, Patricia, Kenneth, Eoin and Morgan from Windmill Day Service in Crumlin visited the National Archaeology Museum. The group had a fantastic time looking around the museum at the various exhibitions, such as the one dedicated to Vikings. They were particularly impressed by the gold jewellery displayed in the Viking exhibition. After leaving the museum the guys finished the outing by having lunch at KC Peaches. Sounds like my kind of day!



Reach Day Service

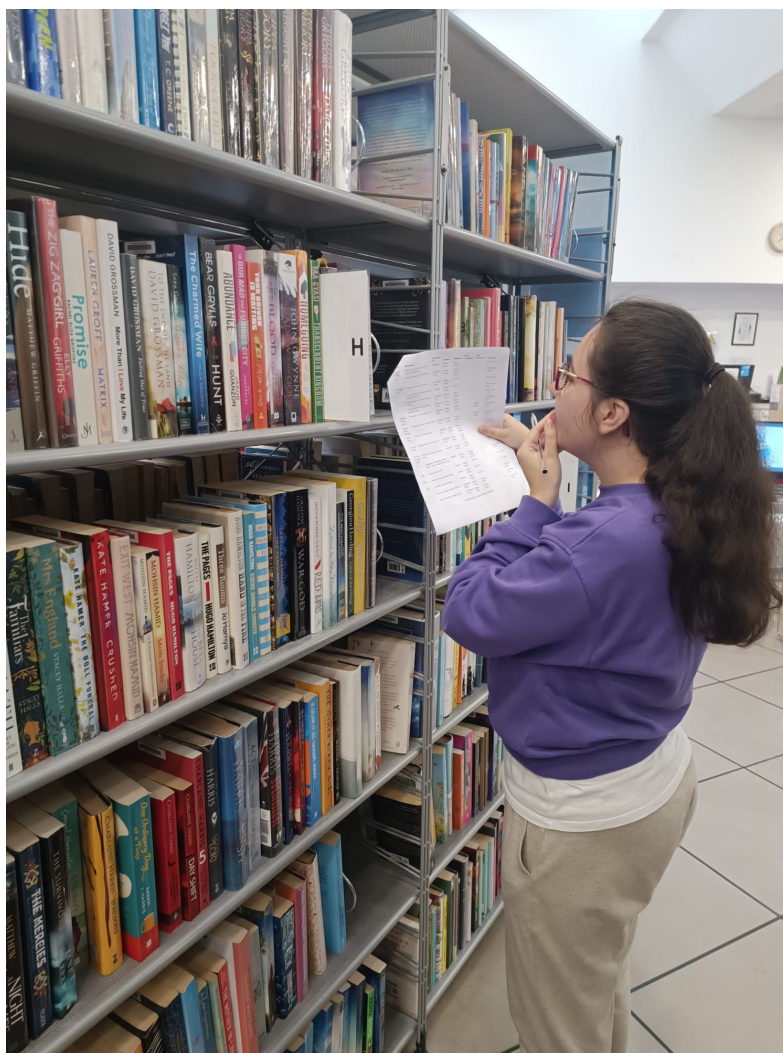
Meet Diana from Reach Day Service in Celbridge. Diana has a goal to work as an Irish Sign Language tutor. This is a photo of Diana delivering story time in Leixlip library during her work experience there as part of the new Reach training service. Diana partook in a work experience programme of 10 weeks and each Friday morning was an ISL interpreter for small children during their story time at the library. This picture warms my heart as I know how much story time means to my own children. Diana you are a credit to the local community and the children who attend the library on Friday mornings. Well done on achieving your goal.



Diana also recently took part in an Irish Sign Language schools initiative. She delivered ISL classes with aid of a support worker to Primary School students in not one, but three locations across Dublin.

In total one class per week in each school was delivered for a duration of 8 weeks.

Diana's wages were funded by the Department of Education.



Re Nua Day Service



Tommy and Garret celebrated their birthdays this month, Tommy celebrated his 60th birthday with a party in McMahons pub in Celbridge with his family and friends. Garret celebrated with his friends in Re Nua and also went out with his family. Happy Birthday to both.

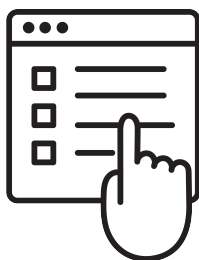


The Digi Coaches in the SAID - School Assistance Inclusive and Digital project have been busy over the last month going through the Digi Coach training with Klara from the Digital Accessibility Team. They have been working on Basic Digital Skills, Media skills, Social Skills and learning some new digital education tools that they will use in the school they go to work in.



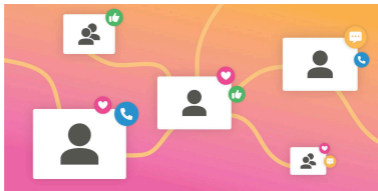
To get some practice in coaching others to use digital skills they asked some people from Avila day service if they could teach them first. They started with basic digital skills in using an iPad and book creator. This is a great app to use to support social stories and to help people to plan and transition into different things in their life.

For more information please go to the website [**https://saidproject.eu/**](https://saidproject.eu/)





**As always, thank you so much for reading my New Directions newsletter and please continue to send all your good news stories to me at;
Donna.hughes@sjog.ie**



I hope to catch up with some of you during my Online Engage session next week, Thurs 7th March at 10am and again at 1.30pm. We will discuss support around transitions and progression further on this zoom session. See you then!