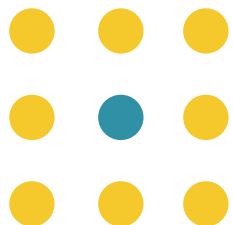




SOCIAL INNOVATION ACTION PROGRAMME



JUNIOR CYCLE

www.youngsocialinnovators.ie

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES THROUGH YOUTH-LED SOCIAL INNOVATION

Young Social Innovators has been promoting social innovation education in Ireland since 2001. Our purpose is to fire young people's passion to change the world for good and to empower them to take creative and collaborative action on issues facing them, their communities and wider society.

We believe that young people can be a powerful force for good and that their participation is vital to the creation of healthy, resilient and creative communities that have the capacity to respond to existing and emerging challenges.

This programme seeks to strengthen youth participation and youth voice within communities and to enable schools and teachers to collaborate to support youth-led social innovation.

Schools in targeted regions can now benefit from increased opportunities, engagement and support from Young Social Innovators as they come together as part of Local Community Networks, sharing ideas, resources, learning and experience.

Each year, new regions will be supported by YSI Local Leaders who will enable school and inter-school collaboration by facilitating Teach Meets, student workshops, network events and local recognition for young people.

Will you support your students to be a force for good in your community?



Every community can be strengthened by providing young people with real and authentic opportunities to engage, volunteer and be heard.

- Rachel Collier, Co-founder and CEO, Young Social Innovators

Talk to us about Local Community Network availability in your region

SOCIAL INNOVATION ACTION PROGRAMME: JUNIOR CYCLE

The Four Part Social Innovation Action programme enables students (aged 12-15) to explore social issues and to understand social innovation as a way of addressing challenges we face today.

The Programme promotes youth voice, participation and fosters holistic development through the design and implementation of an action-based project on an issue that students choose and feel passionate about.

Issues affecting communities across Ireland are addressed creatively and collaboratively – tackling themes such as the environment, mental and physical wellbeing, climate change, diversity and inclusion, equality, and access to services and facilities.

Aligned with the curriculum and statements of learning, the Programme is suitable for different year groups in Junior Cycle and across a range of subjects. The programme also supports Global Citizenship Learning and covers themes across all of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- PART 1** • • **INTRODUCING SOCIAL INNOVATION**
Students encounter the social innovators taking on the challenges facing our world today in creative ways.
- PART 2** • • **DESIGNING FOR CHANGE**
Students think about human-centred design and explore values such as equality, sustainability and human rights.
- PART 3** • • **EXPLORING OUR COMMUNITY**
Students examine social issues which affect their own community through the process of mapping.
- PART 4** • • **READY, STEADY, INNOVATE!**
Using what they've learned, teams carry out an Action Project and reflect on the positive impact they've made.

HOW IT WORKS

- Schools sign up to the YSI Social Innovation Action Programme: Junior Cycle
- Teachers access training and a full suite of online resources
- Students form a team and select an issue they care about
- Working together, students carry out an action project developing and implementing an innovative idea to address their chosen issue
- Teams take part in an activity to celebrate during #YSIWeek
- Students submit an online team portfolio telling the story of their project
- Students receive certification!

Find out if your school can avail of localised YSI support by taking part in this programme as part of a Local Community Network.

**Available in targeted regions only*

Sample breakdown for a short unit of learning	
TITLE OF UNIT Junior Social Innovation Action Programme	ALIGNMENT Junior Wellbeing, CSPE, SPHE, RE, Career Guidance
SUITABLE FOR 1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd year	DURATION 20 hours (scalable)

** See www.youngsocialinnovators.ie for information on where local supports are currently available
* Download curriculum links and programme alignment with Statements of Learning for Junior Wellbeing at www.youngsocialinnovators.ie*

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF TAKING PART IN THE PROGRAMME?

FOR SCHOOLS

- ✓ Ready-made resources and learning materials
- ✓ Timetable planning and curriculum links for Junior Cycle Wellbeing
- ✓ Tailored support from Young Social Innovators team
- ✓ Opportunity for professional collaboration
- ✓ Facilitate active engagement of young people in the local community

FOR TEACHERS

- ✓ Training and Continuous Professional Development
- ✓ Networking and TeachMeets
- ✓ Student learning across and beyond the curriculum
- ✓ Foster holistic and healthy learning environment
- ✓ Build and maintain relationships with students, other schools and community

FOR STUDENTS

- ✓ Develop key skills and attitudes for lifelong learning
- ✓ Self-directed learning and ownership of project and learning experience
- ✓ Create and implement action-based projects
- ✓ Engage and connect with their wider community
- ✓ Understand the world and their capacity to effect change
- ✓ Certification as young innovators

Download our Social Innovation Action Programme Junior Cycle eBook NOW!
Visit youngsocialinnovators.ie



THE PROGRAMME IN ACTION



PLAYGROUND PLEDGE

Terence MacSwiney Community College
Co. Cork

Concerned at the lack of playground facilities for young people in their community, this team of first year students created a rap video calling for a new play park. Posted online as part of their campaign, the video was a success. Plans are now in place for a new local area playground.



HOMELESSNESS IN IRELAND

St. Tiernan's Community School
Co. Dublin

After seeing conditions of homelessness first hand in Dublin City Centre, the team decided to raise awareness for homelessness in Ireland. By speaking at assemblies, creating posters and booklets, and conducting workshops, the group gained positive feedback from students, staff, and the community.



RECYCLING PLASTIC BOTTLES

St. Vincent's Secondary School
Co. Cork

This team worked to introduce reusable water bottles to the school. They developed a campaign putting up posters in each classroom to remind students to recycle their plastic bottles. Due to these changes, there are hundreds less bottles coming into the school each week.



My YSI Students inspire me to continue believing that young people can catalyse positive change

- Ms Cumiskey, YSI Guide
Largy College, Clones, Co. Monaghan



At the heart of Young Social Innovators is the development of active, creative citizens. And it is active, creative citizens who will lead the transformation of Ireland.

- Michael D. Higgins, YSI Patron
President of Ireland



Make social innovation part of your school's ethos and commitment to wellbeing, Global Citizenship, the Sustainable Development Goals and Social Justice.

OUR PARTNERS



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Tomar Trust
National influence. Local implementation.



Seirbhís Sláinte Níos Fearr & Forbairt
Building a Better Health Service



FIND OUT MORE

Discover what local supports and events are available in your region. Invite us to come and talk to you and your staff about what Young Social Innovators can offer your school community.

youngsocialinnovators.ie/signup
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