

Pre-Arrival Information

Bridge Mills

Galway Language Centre

www.galwaylanguage.com

Tel: 00353 91 566468

Email: info@galwaylanguage.com



Galway Language Centre

Contents

Welcome to Bridge Mills Galway Language Centre	2
Main Contact Details	3
About Bridge Mills Galway Language Centre.....	4
School Facilities.....	5
How to get to Galway?	8
1. From Dublin Airport.....	8
2. From Shannon Airport	9
3. From Cork Airport	9
4. From Knock Airport.....	10
Once you are in Galway City	11
Where are we?	11
Bus Services in the city.....	13
What to expect on your first day?	15
Administration Services	17
PUBLIC AND SCHOOL HOLIDAYS	18
Life in Ireland	19
Host Family Guidelines	24
Academic Services	26
Writing Correction Code	28
CEFR Levels & Progression in English	30

Welcome to Bridge Mills Galway Language Centre

Welcome to Galway City – The City of Tribes

We are delighted to welcome you to ***Bridge Mills Galway Language Centre*** and would like to thank you for choosing to study with us.

We hope that during your stay with us you feel right at home, and be assured we will do everything we can to ensure you improve your English skills as much as possible while you enjoy an experience that will leave you with lasting memories.

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.”

Frank Smith

Learning a language can be a daunting prospect but a very exciting one. Choosing to leave all you know to go and live in a different country is a brave decision, one which many of our teachers and staff have already had experience of, and we are here to help.

We look forward to being part of this journey with you, and do not hesitate to let us know if there is anything else we can do to make you feel more at home.

Patrick Creed

School Director

Main Contact Details

- Operations Manager: operations@galwaylanguage.com
- Student Support Officer: support@galwaylanguage.com
- Admissions and General Queries: info@galwaylanguage.com
- School Director (Patrick Creed): director@galwaylanguage.com
- Office Contact Number: 00-353-(0)-91-566-468
 - Office hours: 8.30am to 5.15pm Monday to Friday

About Bridge Mills Galway Language Centre

The school began in 1987 as a small group of teachers wishing to bring academic excellence and a high standard of personal attention to students visiting from overseas to study English in Galway. Over the past 35+ years we have expanded to our present year-round, adult school of 20+ teachers and on average 250 students per week (full and part-time), but we have never forgotten the principles of the early school.

We are especially proud of our teachers who are chosen for their experience in English language teaching and their knowledge of other cultures and languages. All hold university degrees and have post-graduate qualifications.

In our classes there is a warm and relaxed atmosphere that is both convivial and professional. Most importantly, our teachers genuinely enjoy their lessons and are committed to helping our students fulfil their academic goals, while introducing them to the distinctive charm of the culture on the west coast of Ireland.

One of the most special features of Galway Language Centre is its location in The Bridge Mills, an 18th century mill situated on the River Corrib in the centre of Galway. From the school windows there is a superb view of the river below with its colonies of swans and wild birds, and in the distance, Galway Bay and the hills of Co. Clare.

School Facilities

Library

A library with books catering to all levels is available in the Student Zone. To borrow books there is a 7-day take and return system and a €10 deposit that will be returned to you once you give back the book. To avail of the books please come to our office and we will be more than happy to help you.

The value of reading in English and of graded readers is immense – we strongly encourage our students to make use of this facility.

Student Zone

Whether you want to meet new friends, play chess, compete at the Foozball table or simply find a quiet corner to have your lunch, the Student Zone is the social centre of our school. Located opposite the main office, the Student Zone is open during school hours and all students are welcome.

Printing & Copying

If you want to print or copy legal documents, your CV, etc, just ask our Student Support Officer who will be happy to help you.

Social Programme & School Activities

Free classes and excursions are arranged on a weekly basis including a free city tour offered on the first day of class. The monthly social programme can be found on the designated notice boards in the school corridors. Many of the activities on offer are free and all are designed to give you a chance to practice your English skills while learning about Irish culture. Suggestions are always welcome if you would like to do something not included in the social programme. You can send your suggestions to our Student Support Officer at: support@galwaylanguage.com

Recreation in Galway City

Galway, the commercial and cultural capital of the West Coast of Ireland, is a charming university town with a population of 80,000. It is located on Galway Bay and surrounded by the beautiful, unspoilt countryside of Connemara to the West and the fascinating archaeological region of The Burren, Co. Clare, to the South. Galway's history dates from the granting of its charter in 1484 by King Richard III of England.

The old town, nestled around the Spanish Arch and the remains of the medieval city walls, has always been a favourite with visitors, The Latin Quarter is particularly popular. Its narrow streets are filled with shops, pubs, restaurants, and bookshops.

Galway's friendly, informal atmosphere with its traditional live Irish music scene attracts visitors from all parts of the world, and its many festivals all enjoy an international reputation.

For more information go to: [Experience Galway by Night - This is Galway](#)

<http://www.wildatlanticway.com/home/>

Sports and Healthy Living

The Irish are known for their keen interest in sports and healthy living. You can find plenty of walking trails (*Salthill Promenade, Barna Woods, Merlin Park Woods*) around the city.

The Kingfisher NUI Galway is situated in the heart of NUI Galway University, just beneath the Quincentennial Bridge towards the East side of the City. With a state-of-the-art 25m pool, designed with both the swimmer and learner in mind, heated to 28 degrees with the innovative ultra-violet pool system, reducing the amount of chlorine needed in the water. The pool is split into sections – 3 lanes of differing speed for the regular swimmer and a separate section for those looking to practice their swimming stroke. The bright, vibrant gym offers over 100 pieces of cardio and a superb weights section, with a

separate core studio, ideal for pre-exercise warmups, post-exercise warm downs and more importantly working on your six pack!

Wi-Fi

Details of wireless internet access can be found around the school and on every classroom noticeboard.

For more information in regard to sport events and other sport-related activities please get in touch with our Student Support Officer in our office or by email.

How to get to Galway?

It's easy to travel to Galway from all airports in Ireland. There are four main airports: Dublin, Shannon, Knock & Cork Airports. You can reach Galway by bus or train.

1. From Dublin Airport

By Bus

You can travel by bus directly from Dublin Airport to Galway City Centre. Buses are quick and reasonably priced and are, in our opinion, the easiest option. Use **Citylink**. You can buy the bus fare online or on the bus.

[Citylink](#)

By train

You can also travel by train from Dublin to Galway. You will first need to get from the Airport to Heuston Station as the train leaves from the other side of the city.

<http://www.irishrail.ie/>

There are regular bus transfers from Dublin Airport to Dublin City Centre with:

Aircoach

<http://www.aircoach.ie/>

2. From Shannon Airport

If you are travelling from Shannon Airport [Journey Search | Expressway](#)

3. From Cork City

If you are travelling from Cork city [Journey Search | Expressway](#)

4. From Knock Airport

If you are travelling from Knock airport the options are limited [Journey Search | Expressway](#)

5. Transport in Galway

For more information on transport to Galway City or around Galway city we recommend you visit the following link:

<https://www.transportforireland.ie/plan-a-journey/network-maps/galway-city-bus-services/>

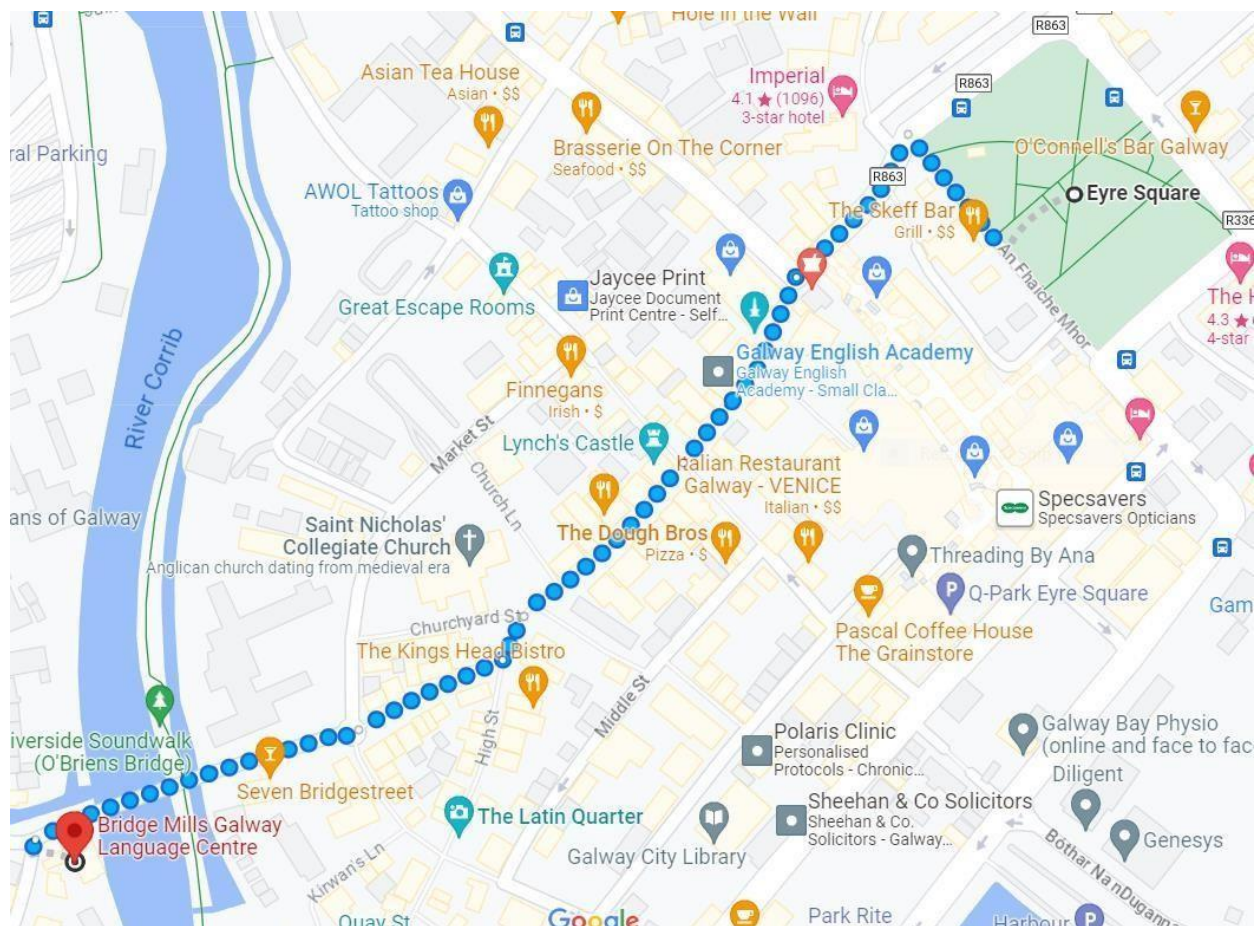
Once you are in Galway City

To get to your destination in Galway if you are arriving at the Coach Station, you can avail of the Taxis located at the exit of the station. In case you do not spot any, here are the numbers for a few of the most reliable and accessible companies in Galway:

- **Galway Taxis (They have their own app!)**
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.taxicaller.galway.app&hl=en>
T: 00-353-(0)-91-561-11
- **Big O Taxis**
[Home Page - Big O Taxis](#)
17 Eyre Square, Galway City Centre, Co. Galway
T: 00-353-(0)91-58-58-58
- **Free Now (Very popular, you need to download the app)**
<https://apps.apple.com/ie/app/freenow/id357852748>
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.taxi.android.client&hl=en&gl=US>

Where are we?

If you are having problems finding us, please see the map on the next page that shows the route from Eyre Square to our school:



Find below the link to Google Maps:

<https://goo.gl/maps/Quq5oRcCkGS2>

Galway City Centre is not that big and most places can be reached by foot in 30 minutes or less. Buses and bikes are also very practical to use to get around the city.

Bus Services in the city

There are two main bus services running in Galway City:

City Direct *(Private Company - Mainly serves the west of the city)*

Routes 410 to 414

Bus Eireann *(Public Company – Serves the whole city)*

Routes 401 to 409

Both bus companies offer reduced rates for students. You can pay on the bus in cash only for single journeys. If your stay in Galway is for more than a few weeks, you can buy weekly Leap or monthly Leap tickets with discounts for students. (Make sure to have your student card at hand when purchasing any student ticket).

If you are planning to stay in Ireland for 8 months or longer it might be best for you to purchase a student [Leap Card](#). The Leap Card offers great discounts on your daily commute.

Thinking of renting a bike or a car?

The size of Galway city makes it practical to get around by bike, especially during the long summer days. It is a great way to explore the city and its vicinities on a tight budget.

Bicycles can be rented starting from €50-90 (per week) or bought for as little as €70 second hand.

Close to the school there is a Bicycle shop that specializes in rentals and offers discounts to our students. Find more details about them below:

West Ireland Cycling

Address: *West Ireland Cycling, Unit 1, Bridgewater Court, (Besides Monroe's pub), Fairhill Rd Lower. The Claddagh, Galway City.*

Website: www.westirelandcycling.com/

If you are planning to visit beyond cycling distance and would like to rent a car we recommend you get in touch with Enterprise Car Rental:

Enterprise Car Rental

Address: *Oldenway Business Park, Ballybrit, Galway*

Website: <https://www.enterprise.ie/en/home.html>

What to expect on your first day?

For morning class students: Monday to Friday, 9.00 to 12.15

- Please come to the office at **8.30am** on Monday, where we will welcome you and issue you with a welcome pack and a student card. We'll also provide you with your book and timetable. We will direct you to your class.
- **At 12.30pm, Mondays, in Room 1**, we have a meeting for new students, providing some advice about your stay and information about the school. For long term students, there is also guidance on applying for your IRP card, opening a bank account etc.
- **At 1:30pm, Mondays**, we take all new students for a walking tour of Galway City Centre. The meeting point is directly in front of the school.

For EG20PM afternoon students: Monday to Thursday 13.00 to 17.00

- Please come to the office on Monday at **12.00pm**, where we will welcome you and issue you with a welcome pack and a student card. We'll also provide you with your book and timetable.
- **At 12.30pm, Mondays, in Room 1**, we have a meeting for new students, providing some advice about your stay and information about the school.
- **At 1:30pm, Mondays**, we take all new students for a walking tour of Galway City Centre. The meeting point is directly in front of the school.
- You will start class on **Monday afternoon** at 3:15pm.

Your first week

During your first week you should also think about how you feel in your English class. Is the class too easy or too difficult for you? If you feel the class is not right for you, talk to your teacher or the Academic Manager. Your teacher and the Academic Manager will decide on the best action for you to get the most from your studies.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

If you are having any issues during your stay in Ireland and you need additional support, please check the links below for more information about the different services available to you.

Service Provider	Contact Details
HSE NATIONAL INFORMATION LINE	Monday to Saturday, 8.00am to 8.00pm Tel: 1850-24-1850 Email: info@hse.ie
MENTAL HEALTH IRELAND	Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm Tel 01-284-1166 or 086-835-3387 Email: information@mentalhealthireland.ie Website: www.mentalhealthireland.ie
AWARE	Monday to Sunday 10am–10pm Helpline: 1890-303-302 Email: info@aware.ie Website: www.aware.ie
JIGSAW NATIONAL CENTRE (GALWAY)	Monday to Friday: 9.00pm to 1.00pm & 2.00pm to 5.30pm Information line: +353-1-472-7010 Email: info@jigsaw.ie Website: https://www.jigsaw.ie/

Administration Services

The Galway Language Centre office is located at the main entrance to the Bridge Mills. We can provide you with a range of documents which you may need while you are studying with us, such as:

1. Acceptance letter (IRP Letter).
2. Attendance letter.
3. Confirmation of Booking.
4. Bank account information (You need this if you are planning to open a bank account in Ireland). For more information in this regard please contact our student support officer at: support@galwaylanguage.com
5. Final attendance letter. (only required by students renewing their visa)

From time to time (especially during break times) the office can be very busy so we kindly ask you to understand that in some instances letters cannot be issued right away but we will do our best to issue any letter requested in less than 48 hours. We strongly advise you to contact us at info@galwaylanguage.com with the letter you require before coming to the office so that our team has time to produce it.

Certificates and Reports

At the end of your course, you will receive an E-certificate of completion that will state the dates that you have studied with us and the level at which you are exiting your course. The certificate will be forwarded to you by email. A student report can be requested from the Student Support Officer or the Academic Manager throughout the duration of your course.

End of Course Examinations

All stamp 2 holders are obliged to take an external examination at the end of their 25-weeks course. The fee for this exam is included in the cost of your English course and it is a good way to confirm your English progress.

Please note that we are a TIE, IELTS and Cambridge Exam Centre (Cambridge examinations are held 5 times per year in our school). We can help you register for these exams as well. Advice on which is the most suitable exam based on your circumstances can be given by the Student Support Officer and the Academic Manager.

Sick Leave, Absenteeism, Breaks and Holidays

For more information in this regard please read the *Student Code of Conduct* and our *General Conditions* on our website. You can also request a copy in our office or by email.

PUBLIC AND SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

The school will be closed for all public holidays, as well as for a three-week period at Christmas. [Please find attached an up-to-date list of Irish public holidays.](#)

ETM lessons, afternoon group lessons and private tuition falling on public holidays will not be re-timetabled.

Life in Ireland

Weather

Temperatures in the west of Ireland can fluctuate between -5 degrees Celsius and 10 degrees Celsius during winter, and 15 degrees to 30 degrees in summer.

It can often be wet and windy, and we always encourage students to be prepared for rain and sun on the same day. If you are coming in winter, it's advisable to invest in waterproof boots and coats, as you may need them.

For spring, summer and autumn, light clothing with warm jackets would be ideal.

Galway has several shops that offer quite affordable clothing of good quality. We especially recommend the charity shops as they sell great quality secondhand clothing.

Money

Ireland is part of the Eurozone and uses the euro (€). Credit and debit cards are widely used, and contactless payment is limited to €50 for cards issued by Irish banks. Upon arrival, we strongly advise all visa requiring students to open a bank account as soon as possible with the help of the Student Support Officer.

Banks open later and close earlier than other businesses. We work with AIB which allows most transactions to be done online.

Personal Safety

Galway is one of the safest cities in Ireland. But we still advise students to take some general precautions, much like they would back home. It is important not to go alone to parts of the city that are unfamiliar and if you intend to stay out very late, to have a plan for how to get home.

Medical Situations

Doctor

Doctor 365

3 University Halls, Newcastle Road, Galway (opposite the hospital)

Ph. 0818-000-365

Google Link: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/E65x2eRtZbXaGQzn8>

Dentist:

Niall Cronin

Galway Dental Clinic

11a, St. Bridge St, Galway

Ph. 00-353-(0)-91-531-531

Google Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/KkHCbkbui3SSpei56>

Pharmacy/Chemist

Boots

35 Shop St, Galway, H91 V025

Ph. 00-353-(0)-91-561-022

Google Link: <https://goo.gl/maps/Be9LzJg2EH7SN5TMA>

Food and Drinks

Tap water from cold taps is drinkable, but only in the kitchen areas. You may take a bottle of water into the classrooms and a water fountain is available for students in our students' room.

Hot drinks are only permitted in the classroom if they are in a covered cup or flask.

Alcohol is not permitted in the classroom.

Food may only be eaten in the students' room and not in the classroom. This rule may be relaxed for special occasions.

Health and Safety

Fire:

If a fire is noticed in the building, the person discovering it should set off the nearest fire alarm. (Our school is fitted with automatic fire detectors). Leave the building as quickly as possible via the nearest fire exit route and go to your assembly point.

Fire drills are performed regularly, this is mandatory, and all students will be notified in advance of the fire drill.

What should you do if the fire alarm goes off?

1. Do not spend time gathering your belongings and follow the instructions from your teacher. Go straight to the fire exit and from there to the assembly point outside the school premises. If you are the only one in the room, make sure to close all windows and the door after you.
2. Do not return to the building until you are authorized to do so. Keep calm. Act quickly, but quietly, so that you can hear instructions. Obey your teachers, supervisor, and Fire Marshals without question. Do not run or make others panic.

-
3. Do not leave your assembly point unless instructed to do so. The Fire Brigade will need to know that all persons who had been in the building have safely left it. Leaving the assembly point (before being instructed to do so) might prevent them from confirming if everyone has left the school premises safely. This could result in members of the Fire Brigade unnecessarily risking their lives to try to find you.

Important precautions against fire and related accidents:

1. Make yourself familiar with the fire emergency exits.
2. Only use a fire extinguisher if you have been trained to do so and your life is not endangered by doing so.
3. Read the fire related instructions posted on the main notice boards of the school.
4. Do not interfere with electrical or fire appliances.
5. Do not remove fire signs from doors, walls, etc.
6. Do not smoke inside the school premises.

First Aid

If you have a small accident, there are First Aid boxes available throughout the school. Our office staff have been trained in First Aid and they would be more than happy to help you. If you have any medical condition, make sure that the school staff has been notified. (*Diabetes, Seizures, Epilepsy, etc. ..*)

Electricity

Electricity in Ireland is 230v at a frequency of 50Hz. All plugs have three pins. If your electronic devices operate on a different current, you will need a plug adapter and power converter. Make sure you have the correct adapter and/or power converter. Using the wrong ones can be dangerous.

Traffic & Road Safety

Exercise special caution when crossing the street as a pedestrian. We drive on the left and sometimes drivers do not indicate when turning. When riding a bicycle, it is necessary to wear a helmet and a hi-vis vest during winter to be easily noticed.

There is a bike parking area in front of the school that can be used for free. Remember to have a chain and lock to securely park your bike.

Time Zone

Ireland is allocated in the Western European time zone and follows the same time as the UK, either IST or GMT. IST stands for “Irish Summer Time”. It starts on the last Sunday in March and ends on the last Sunday in October. GMT stands for “Greenwich Mean Time”. In March, the clocks go forward losing one hour. In October, the clocks go back, gaining an hour.

Host Family Guidelines

Staying with a host family is a wonderful way to experience the food, culture and craic (Irish slang: fun) found in the west of Ireland! It is also an excellent way of taking some of the stress out of moving country, as it gives you an opportunity to get settled and find your feet in the city.

All students who book host family accommodation must comply with the host family's rules. Each host family is asked by the school to provide an excellent standard of service and are given a set of rules to be imparted to the students staying with them, but the host families might have additional ones. It is important this is discussed shortly after arrival to avoid any misunderstandings. Below the rules set out by the school:

- **FOOD**: The host family will cater for vegetarians, but this **MUST** be specified at the time of booking. The host family is not required to cater to the student's food preferences or to make specific dishes. Access to the kitchen outside mealtimes must be discussed with the family at the beginning of the student's stay and is not guaranteed – each family is different.
Breakfast may be light and “self-service”.
If the student wants a packed lunch for a weekend excursion, they must request it from the family the day before.
The evening meal must be with the host family. The student must inform the family if they are going to be late or miss dinner.
The student must inform the host family and the school if they are going to plan a night away or stay the night elsewhere.
- **BEDROOM**: There will be a change of bed linen and towels once a week.
There should be a study space in the student's room. If not, there should be access to another room in the house where the student can study undisturbed. The student's room must be comfortably warm in the late afternoon and evening, especially if the student wishes to study in the room.

-
- LAUNDRY: The host family will wash the student's laundry (ordinary, machine-washable clothing of normal weight) once a week. Or, if the host family agrees, the student can have access to the washing machine once a week. If you have excess laundry, particularly heavy clothing or dry cleaning you need to take it to a launderette at your own expense. The host family is not required to iron for the student.
 - BATHROOM: There should be free access to the bathroom and hot water and to a bath or shower once a day.
 - ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE: The family is not required to collect or drop off the students at the airport or bus station. Students cannot arrive earlier than 11.00am or depart later than 1.00pm unless previously agreed with the host family. The student must inform the school AND host family in advance of their estimated time of arrival in Galway. Students usually take a taxi to the host family on arrival.
 - GENERAL CONDITIONS: Students book accommodation in multiples of 7 nights, beginning on a Saturday or Sunday. There is no reduction in fees if a student stays for only part of a week. If you want to book an extra night after you arrive, please ask in the office as soon as possible so we can confirm availability with the host family.

If you need to leave early, you must give us at least one week's notice. For information about refunds, please consult the school's general conditions on the Downloads section of our website www.galwaylanguage.com.

Academic Services

Your Teachers

All teachers at Bridge Mills Galway Language Centre are highly motivated. They are all qualified in accordance with Quality & Qualifications Ireland (QQI).

They receive continual training and support from the Academic Manager and must attend an in-house monthly workshop to learn new teaching methods, techniques and garner new knowledge that can improve their classroom delivery.

Each class has two teachers. For the morning programmes, one teacher will be teaching Monday and Tuesday. A separate teacher is allocated for Wednesday to Friday. This system allows learners to experience a range of teaching styles, methodologies, and accents.

Methodology and Pedagogic Approach

Our approach is broadly Principled Eclecticism. We use a variety of methodologies and approaches, choosing from a range of techniques that we consider effective and applying them according to the learning context and objectives. We aim to facilitate the understanding of the new language being taught and do not rely on one specific 'best method'.

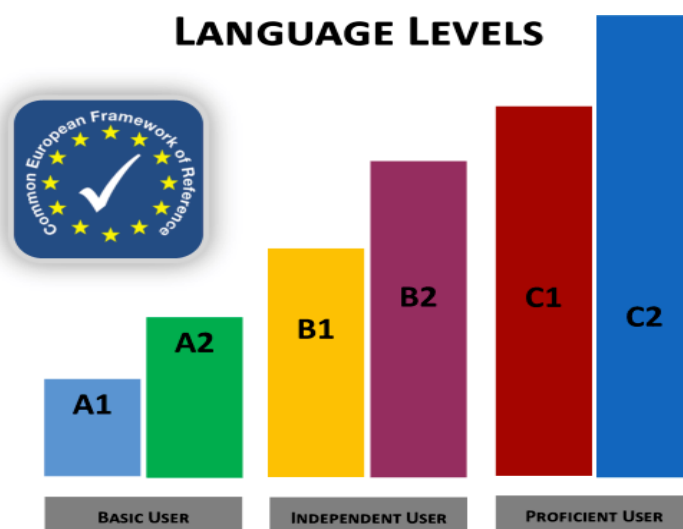
Our approach views communication as both a goal of and means to language acquisition. Our approach is centered on helping the student develop certain skills and abilities: spoken interaction and expression, listening, reading comprehension, and writing expression. In each class students will be afforded opportunities to practice language in contextualized, practical, and everyday situations through activities, games etc. with predefined goals.

- The teacher proposes a variety of exercises, both written and oral, to improve the learner's accuracy, fluency, and communicative ability.

- The teacher generally corrects errors immediately if the scope of the classroom activity is accuracy, or if the scope of the activity is fluency these errors may be corrected later on.
- The teacher develops all four linguistic capabilities - reading, writing, listening and speaking - over the period of one unit in the course book.
- To improve pronunciation the teacher may use drills, where students repeat automatically the phrases spoken by the teacher.
- The teacher helps the student personalize the use of grammatical and lexical elements used in class.
- The teacher understands that a didactic program has to include not only grammar and lexis, but also linguistic functions, colloquialisms, idioms, etc.
- The teacher introduces exercises of guided discovery wherever possible for new grammar rules.
- The teacher is committed to developing a wide range of resources to give relevant, stimulating, and productive lessons.

Levels

Each course in our school has a name based on the level of knowledge of the student. Our school is able to provide lessons from the lowest level of learners (A1) – complete beginners – to the highest level (C2). The level division is based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).



Writing Correction Code

To allow for a standardised method of correction, at the school, we use a correction code. You will find these codes in the correction of written assignments, weekly level test, etc. Find the writing correction code below:

Code	Use	Example
WW	Wrong word	<i>As our plane <u>drives</u> over the mountains, we see snow.</i>
WT	Wrong tense	<i>As our plane flies over the mountains, we <u>saw</u> snow.</i>
WF	Wrong form	<i>As our plane flies over the mountains, we <u>is seeing</u> snow.</i>
WO	Wrong order	<i>As our plane <u>over the mountain flies</u>, we see snow.</i>
SV	Subject-verb agreement	<i>As our <u>plane fly</u> over the mountain, we see snow.</i>
SP	Spelling	<i>As our plane <u>flyes</u> over the mountains, we see snow.</i>
Ø	Unnecessary word	<i>As our plane flies over <u>to</u> the mountains, we see snow.</i>
^	Missing word	<i>As our plane flies over the mountains, <u>_</u> see snow.</i>
Prep.	Preposition	<i>As our plane flies <u>on</u> the mountains, we see snow.</i>
Art.	Article	<i>As our plane flies over <u>_</u> mountains, we see snow.</i>
R	Register	<i>As our plane flies over the mountains, we <u>observe</u> snow.</i>
?	Not clear	<i><u>Our fly mountains plane over snow see.</u></i>
!	Simple mistake	<i>As our plane flies over the mountains, we <u>sees</u> snow.</i>

RW	Try re-writing	<i><u>Our plane flies, we find snow, over mountains we see it.</u></i>
P	Punctuation	<i>As our plane flies over the mountains; we see snow.</i>
/	Start new sentence	<i>As our plane flies over the mountains, we see snow and when I see snow I always feel excited to see the</i>
//	Start new paragraph	<i>As our plane flies over the mountains, we see snow. We can also see huge mountains, lakes, and rivers. ____ This</i>
#	Space needed	<i>As our plane <u>fliesover</u> the mountains, we see snow.</i>
	Unnecessary space	<i>As our plane flies over the mountains, every_one sees snow.</i>

CEFR Levels & Progression in English

Proficient User	C2	• Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. • Can summarise information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments, and accounts in a coherent presentation. • Can express him/herself spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, different finer shades of meaning even in more complex situations.
	C1	• Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognize implicit meaning. • Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. • Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic, and professional purposes.
Independent User	B2	• Can understand the main ideas of complex texts on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussion in his/her field of specialization. • Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party.
	B1	• Can produce simple connected text on topics that are familiar or of personal interest. • Can describe experiences and events and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. • Can understand main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in school, leisure, etc.
Basic User	A2	• Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g very basic personal and family information, employment etc.) • Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters • Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background.
	A1	• Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. • Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/ she has. • Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

Process	Documents Required	Location
Opening a Bank Account	- The medical insurance policy with their Irish address. - Passport. - Bank Letter (provided by the school) - Irish Phone Number - AIB App	AIB Shop Street (by appointment only – organized by Student Support Officer)
Irish Residence Permit (IRP Card)	- A <u>bank statement</u> showing a balance of at least €6,665 on the day you entered the country AND 6 months of records prior to entering the country. - Valid medical insurance in English that covers the student for the length of the whole course including holidays. - An updated <u>acceptance letter</u> with the corresponding course code and stating 33 weeks of study. - A proof of address from landlord or host family. - Passport valid for more than 6 months.	ISD Office Burgh Quay Dublin (must be booked online through the ISD Customer Service Portal)
PPS Number (Tax number)	- Acceptance letter from school. Letter from Workplace. - Passport. - Application form (to be completed at the PPS office). - Official Proof of Address.	Intreo Centre Galway Sean Duggan Centre, Fairgreen Rd, Galway
Leap Card	- Acceptance Letter - Proof of ID (Passport) - Apply for your new Student Leap Card using your Mobile at the following link: Student Leap Card Application Note: you will still have to attend an official Student Leap Card Agent, but by applying online the process is quicker and easier, and you can take your own photo in advance.	Students' Union, Áras na Mac Léinn, NUI Galway, Galway, Ireland.

Thank you for choosing



Galway Language Centre

See you soon!