

Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative (DEYLI) - FAQ

What do young people learn from the programme?

Participants learn the core concepts of leadership and gain skills such as communication, teamwork, problem solving, critical thinking and self-awareness. These qualities are developed in a fun, interactive and encouraging environment.

The program enables young people to;

- Identify their strengths
- Develop a leadership vision
- Understand their leadership style
- Explore the challenges and difficulties of leadership
- Develop clear communication skills
- Work as part of a team
- Explore local, national and global issues
- Apply methods of conflict resolution
- Practice problem solving and critical thinking skills as part of a group
- Identify goals and a vision for their future and develop action plans
- Develop research techniques
- Develop presentation skills
- Complete a project
- Identify their values

Who is the programme for?

The Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative is aimed at young people in transition year. To participate, the applicant must be a member of St Joseph's Doora Barefield GAA/LGFA/Camogie Club. Due to the level of work involved and the 80% attendance requirement, Foroige suggests that club members with county commitments do not apply. They are welcome to participate in the programme once they can commit to the 80% attendance required to pass modules 1 & 2. We ask that serious thought be given to the 80% attendance requirement as exceptions cannot be made.

How many places are available?

The club is delighted to see the exceptional level of interest in the Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative over the last 2 years. The enthusiasm shown by our young members and families has been fantastic. On recommendation from Foroige, we are limiting the number of places to 16 participants. While we appreciate this may mean that not everyone who applies can be offered a place, this decision has been made to protect the integrity and quality of the programme rather than simply increase numbers.

How are the places allocated?

The Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative places are allocated by *random selection. Application opening date, time and link will be advertised via club social media. Once 16 places are filled, additional applicants will be added to a cancellation list.

*Note, mentors/facilitators of the programme undergo onerous training and invest a huge voluntary effort in the club, the programme and the participants. Therefore children of mentors/facilitators who have completed the Foroige training and delivered the programme are prioritised should they apply.

When did the programme start?

The Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative started in St Joseph's Doora Barefield GAA Club in 2024. To date 49 leaders have graduated from NUIG with a level 6 Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action

Is there a cost to completing the programme?

Yes, there is a charge for participants to get involved in the programme. This covers the cost of the participant workbooks for module 1 and 2, which is a requirement of completing the programme, and course materials. Please see the information Presentation or contact deyli.stjosephsdbgaa@gmail.com for more information. Please see below details on the cost to register with NUIG for a Level 6 Certification qualification.

What does the programme consist of?

The DEYLI programme has three modules – Module 1, Module 2 and Module 3. Module 1 contains 15 hours of workshops run over a three month period including an individual SMART goal presentation. Module 2 also contains 15 hours of workshops run over a three month period including a group research presentation. There is an additional 15 hours of self-directed individual work with each module, where participants are encouraged after each group session to spend one hour reflecting on what they have learned. Module 3 is a self-directed 20 hour community action project, learning journal and project portfolio.

How long does it take to complete each module of the leadership programme?

The St Joseph's Doora Barefield GAA DEYLI program is run on Saturday evenings from 5 - 6.30pm for single sessions or 5 - 7.30pm for double sessions, and yes, there is a break between sessions for light refreshments. Most Saturday's cover 2 sessions.

Module 3 is self-directed and consists of the participants completing a 20 hour community action project, a learning journal and a project portfolio. The 20 hours are completed over several weeks depending on the project.

What if I can't make a session/sessions clash with training or other commitments?

The timetable will be published at the time of application on the St. Joseph's Doora Barefield Web Page. In order to pass the course and be eligible for NUIG graduation, participants must meet the 80% attendance requirement over 15 sessions. Most evenings cover 2 sessions i.e.

Miss one evening covering 2 sessions = 15 - 2 sessions : $13/15 \times 100 = 86.6\%$ - PASS

Miss two evenings covering 2 sessions = 15 - 4 sessions : $11/15 \times 100 = 73.3\%$ - FAIL

How long does it take to complete all three modules?

Module 1 runs from September to December and is usually comprised of 9 evenings. Module 2 runs from January to March and Module 3 runs from April to the end of May. The schedule takes school timetable, breaks and public holidays into consideration. It is important for participants to reflect and process what they have learned before they move onto the next module.

Where is the programme run?

The Dermot Early Youth Leadership Initiative is run in St Joseph Doora Barefield club house, Gurteen on Saturday evening for Module 1 & 2. Module 3, which is self directed, requires a minimum of 20 hours for the community action project and 4 1-to-1 mentor meetings throughout the Project, where the assigned mentor will support the participant to achieve their community action project goal.

Are there age requirements?

The Dermot Early Youth Leadership Initiative is designed for 15 to 18 year olds. The minimum age for completion of the Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action is 16 years of age by the 1st of January the year they are graduating. There is no upper age limit for participants to graduate from the programme, but aimed at Transition Year students due to the time commitment.

The St Joseph's Doora Barefield Dermot Early Youth Leadership Initiative team would encourage all participants to apply for garda vetting and complete a Safeguarding course on turning 16. This will allow them to participate in coaching projects - a popular choice for Community Action Projects - and other club opportunities.

When participants complete all 3 modules, what do they get?

Young people have the unique opportunity to gain accreditation from the University of Galway. This means that on successful completion of all three modules they will graduate from the University of Galway with a Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action.

This is a stand alone qualification. Young people who graduate from the University of Galway receive the equivalent of 15 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits at Level 6 on the Irish National Framework of Qualifications. This means that other institutions will be able to understand the work required to complete the certificate.

If a young person has registered for the Foundation Certificate in Youth Leadership and Community Action but doesn't submit the work on time, can they graduate the following year?

Yes, provided all the work is completed and submitted by the deadline for the following year. In this case, a supplementary registration fee of €20 is required by the University of Galway.

Why does the qualification cost €300?

The programme is run on a not-for-profit basis. The fee of €300 covers administration costs and academic oversight from the University of Galway. It also includes formal accreditation from the University of Galway or Queen's University, Belfast and the graduation event. The fee outlined is based on previous years. Foroige/NUIG will confirm the registration cost in November of the intake year. An email will be sent directly to the participants' parents with a link for registration.

Can you complete the 3 modules and not pay for accreditation?

Yes, however we believe it is worthwhile and important to celebrate your achievements. The graduation event in the University of Galway is a wonderful opportunity for the young people to gather with family and friends and celebrate all their hard work. This is a day out that everyone enjoys.

Also, the programme offers young people a chance to gain a university qualification before they have received their Leaving Certificate qualification. This is great to have on a CV and will be a valuable talking point in future job interviews. Gaining the qualification may also encourage the participants to continue with their further education and training and volunteering within their club and community

For more information please contact deyli.stjosephsdbgaa@gmail.com or www.Foroige.ie