

CEIST

CONFERENCE 2026

IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS - LEADING WITH FAITH

THURSDAY 1 OCTOBER

08:00	Golf Tee times available 08:00-10:00 Athlone Golf Club
10:30-12:00	Viking Tours Boat tour on Lough Ree
11:00-12:30	Registration
12:15-13:00	Lunch
13:00-13:30	Tea / Coffee / Exhibitors
13:30-14:45	Celebration of Mass Celebrant: Most Rev Michael Duignan, Bishop of Clonfert, Bishop of Galway and Kilmacduagh, and Apostolic Administrator of Kilfenora Choir: Presentation College, Headford Director: Ita Cunningham
14:45-15:15	Tea / Coffee / Exhibitors
15:15-15:30	Welcome Address Maeve Mahon, CEO Introduction of New CEIST Team
15:30-17:00	Cothú: Voices Around the Table A shared conversation about nurturing faith, leadership and community in our schools Roche Centre for Catholic Education Team, Boston College
19:00-19:30	Drinks Reception
19:30-22:00	Gala Dinner

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FRIDAY 2 OCTOBER

09:30-10:45 WORKSHOPS

Every Learner, Unlimited Potential

Nurturing Inclusive Special Classes in CEIST Schools

Gareth Donnelly, Deputy Principal, St Joseph's Secondary School, Kilbeggan

Practical insight into specialist learning spaces, flexible curriculum pathways, staffing and whole-school collaboration - creating inclusive provision in which every learner can thrive.

Balancing Priorities at Senior Cycle

Curriculum planning around Religious Education and SPHE from 2027

David McCormack, Principal, Scoil Mhuire, Trim & John O'Roarke, FLG, CEIST

Exploring curriculum planning in the context of Catholic school ethos and the introduction of 60 hours of SPHE from 2027.

Safe Schools, Protected Communities

Working with Allianz to Manage Risk in CEIST Schools

Emma Coughlan, Head of Education Claims & Alan Black, Education Manager, Allianz

Tailored insights from CEIST school surveys and claims, practical ways to strengthen school safety culture, and case studies highlighting lessons from legal actions.

10:45-11:15 Tea / Coffee / Exhibitors

11:15-11:45 **The Student Voice**
Ember Team, St Joseph's Secondary School, Rush

11:45-12:30 **Keynote**
Hildegard Naughton, Minister for Education & Youth

12:30-12:45 **Scattering Prayer**
Choir: Our Lady's College, Greenhills, Drogheda | Director: Gráinne Diskin

13:00 Lunch

SAVE THE DATE | CEIST 20th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE
30 SEPTEMBER-1 OCTOBER 2027