

Schools of Sanctuary Monitoring Guide



SoS Ambassadors
Monitors
Training Workshop



This presentation will inform you on



- What is a School of Sanctuary
- How you can be involved in monitoring
- School monitoring and ways to do it
- Minimum criteria to be recognized as Schools of Sanctuary
- How the decisions are made to recognize a School as a School of Sanctuary

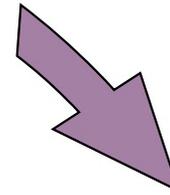
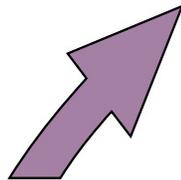
What is a School of Sanctuary?



- A place of welcome, safety, and inclusion, especially for families seeking sanctuary and who faced danger in their own countries.
- A school that helps students, staff and the wider community understand what it means to seek sanctuary or refuge.

The 3 principles

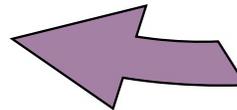
1) Learn



3) Share



2) Action



What is SoS Monitoring?

- Schools like to have their achievements recognised. This means applying to be awarded as a nationally recognised School of Sanctuary
- Monitoring teams are appointed for each school, including teachers from established Schools of Sanctuary, steering group members and people with lived experience of arriving in Ireland and seeking sanctuary.
- The school gathers visual and written evidence in a portfolio. The team members look at the portfolio and discuss it.
- The team then visits the school for a monitoring visit to assure themselves that good sanctuary practice is a sustainable part of school life



Why do refugees and migrants join school monitoring teams?

- You know what makes a newly arrived parent or child feel welcome, safe and included in a school
- You believe that integration in schools will help shape a fairer and more inclusive society
- You will become better acquainted with the education system through your involvement

Criteria to become a Recognised School of Sanctuary

- The leadership, governance and whole community of the school is fully supportive
- Learning about International Protection is included in school life.
- The School has embedded welcome and inclusion for refugee and migrant families in all aspects of school life.
- The whole school is involved in creating a culture of welcome.
- Celebrations and events which highlight the contribution of refugees and migrants.
- The school shares its Sanctuary activities on its website, social media



and with other schools



sustainable plans



for sanctuary to be recognised

recognition

MONITORING PROGRESS

Your job as monitors

- You will be part of a team and you'll receive the portfolio ahead of your visit.
- Regard the whole experience as one of mutual learning.
- Look through the portfolio and note down anything you like or want to ask questions about.
- At the school, look out for indications of a sustainable culture of welcome and inclusion for all.
- After your visit, chat to the team and your team leader will make a recommendation which will be shared with the school and the SoS steering group
- The team leader will give written feedback on behalf of the team to the main contact teacher in the school; this feedback will probably be positive but can also include suggestions.



Checking School Portfolios



- Every portfolio will be different and unique to the school
- Check Learn, Action and Share in the portfolio
- Discuss the portfolio with your fellow team members
- Prepare your questions
- Aim to understand the context of the culture of that school
- Be ready to learn and get new ideas from the portfolio

We Must Remember



- Our main job in the school is to listen, understand and learn together.
- You are a visitor to the school, respect the etiquette.
- Always ask a teacher if you want to speak to anyone.
- School Monitoring is not a box-ticking exercise, but a journey.
- Questions should be inviting, not challenging.
- Enjoy!



Find more support and resources visit

- <https://schools-ireland.cityofsanctuary.org/>
- Thanks