

SCFE and Erasmus+: A Winning Combination for Further Education

FOR Leaving Cert students charting their future, the choice of further education is pivotal. It's not just about acquiring qualifications; it's about gaining real-world experience, broadening horizons, and building a CV that truly stands out.

At the heart of SCFE's appeal lies its Erasmus+ programme, offering students unparalleled opportunities to learn, grow, and experience diverse cultures across Europe.

Fashion Buying, Styling and Visual Merchandising – QQI Levels 5 and 6

Imagine stepping into the vibrant chaos of a designer's studio in Tenerife and contributing to the creation of breathtaking costumes for the world-renowned Carnival. This isn't a

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far-fetched dream; it's the reality for SCFE's QQI Level 5 and 6 Fashion Styling students.

In February, a group of lucky students embarked on an extraordinary journey, immersing themselves in the heart of Tenerife's Carnival preparations. Working alongside renowned designer David Hernandez, they gained invaluable hands-on experience in large-scale project management, teamwork, and the intricate art of costume design.

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They witnessed firsthand the dedication and passion that fuels these

spectacular events.

The experience was transformative, providing a unique perspective on the global significance of cultural events. As SCFE student Laura, a Brazilian native, eloquently put it in a television interview with Canaria Television: "As a Brazilian, it's really interesting to see the differences of the Carnivals, and it's an amazing opportunity to work with incredible designers!"

The impact of this experience extends beyond the immediate thrill of the Carnival. "I think this opportunity has given me great bragging rights for my CV," another student shared.

This testament highlights the practical benefits of the Erasmus+ experience, providing students with a competitive edge in the job market.



Fashion Students with Designer David Hernandez and their Carnival Creation



Excitement and colour at the Gala Queen Competition



Travel & Tourism Students at Joshua Surf School in Tenerife on work placement



SCFE Fashion and Tourism Students arrive in Tenerife

Airline and Travel Industry Studies/Hospitality and Tourism Industry – QQI Level 5

But the Erasmus+ opportunities at SCFE aren't limited to fashion. Six students from the QQI Level 5 Airline and Travel Industry Studies, and Hospitality and Tourism Industry Studies also enjoyed a three-week work placement in Costa Adeje, Tenerife.

They gained invaluable experience in various sectors, from animation and hotel entertainment to surf instruction and hotel reception. Learning the ropes of hotel reception in the bustling tourist hub of La Siesta Hotel, or welcoming tourists to Joshua Surf School - these practical experiences provided a solid foundation for future careers in the tourism industry.

Social Studies including Psychology – QQI Level 5

Furthermore, six students from the Social Studies courses spent two weeks in Porto, Portugal, working with two organisations, Norte Vida

Associação para a Promoção da Saúde and Associação de Solidariedade da Zona das Fontainhas, which provide a range of after-school activities to children and young people.

This exposure to different social and cultural contexts enhances their understanding of community development and social work practices.

Special Needs Assisting and Disability Studies- Levels 5 and 6

Additionally, in a recent placement, six students from our SNA courses traveled to Malaga, Spain. Three students were placed in CEPR San Jose de Calasanz, a mainstream school, where they supported teachers in classes with children with additional needs.

The other three worked in CEIP Manuel Altolaguirre, an Autistic unit within a mainstream school. Their role included supporting teachers, assisting in managing children with intellectual and physical disabilities, and creating inclusive activities.

These Erasmus+ opportunities underscore SCFE's commitment to providing students with a holistic education that goes beyond textbooks and lectures.

Early Learning and Care – QQI Level 5

And looking ahead, four students from our QQI Level 5 Early Learning and Care course are preparing for an exciting journey to Trondheim, Norway.

There, they will collaborate with partner college KVT, exploring best practices in Norwegian childcare settings and visiting various early learning centres.

SCFE also looks forward to welcoming 6 KVT students on 31st March, who will spend two weeks working in local childcare providers in Dublin.

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Through international collaboration and practical work experience, SCFE empowers students to develop essential skills, broaden their perspectives, and build a competitive CV.

Applications for September 2025 are now open

Applications are now open for a wide range of courses starting in September 2025 including Art, Floristry, Fitness and Leisure, Performing Arts, Hair and Beauty, Yoga and Pilates.

These courses provide a direct pathway to employment or offer seamless progression to Higher Education.

Explore our course offerings online at www.scfe.ie or for more information contact Reception at reception@scfe.ie or Tel: 01 285 2997.

We also invite you to come and visit us on our next **Open Day on 21st May 2025**. The college has free car-parking and is served by a number of bus routes from Dun Laoghaire.



SCFE SNA Students enjoyed creating inclusive activities for students in their placement in Malaga

