

Expression of Interest to Become a Member of a Panel of Primary School Digital Technology Content Developers

Enabling Digital Technology in Primary Schools

CSinc Research Group – TU Dublin

The [CSinc research group](#) at Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin) are writing to express our interest in establishing a Panel of Primary Digital Technology Content Developers. This panel will be comprised of anyone interested in Digital Technology teaching content. Our commitment to excellence in Digital Technology education aligns seamlessly with the upcoming introduction of a new Primary STEM curriculum by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA). We believe that collaboration between TU Dublin and primary teaching experts will significantly contribute to the enhancement of digital technology educational practices across Ireland.

Project Description

Running across two years, [EDTips](#), an SFI Discover-funded programme, will train primary school teachers in a suite of age-appropriate and interactive digital technology educational tools, catering to the abilities of all pupils and encouraging them to become confident, creative, and critical users of digital technology. TU Dublin academics with research expertise in Computer Science education will facilitate the development of comprehensive teaching materials and activities modelled on the [Primary Curriculum Framework](#). AWS In Communities will supply 3,000 free Digital Technology kits, enabling all schools, irrespective of technical infrastructure, geographical location or socio-economics, to fully engage pupils in the curriculum. Workday, Inc. has also joined the initiative and will support the national rollout of EDTips with the provision of project management and technical expertise.

Job Description

As part of the EDTips project, a Panel of Primary School Digital Technology Teaching Content Developers will be formed. Through this panel, we intend to co-create a large range of Digital Technology activities for the Primary classroom (lesson plans, lesson resources and video content), in support of the upcoming Primary STEM curriculum. Furthermore, these resources will cover both plugged and unplugged methodologies utilising a play-based pedagogy, in order to ensure accessible and inclusive curriculum engagement for all schools.

Panel members will be charged with developing Digital Technology classroom content packages (with the support from the project team), spanning four Primary curriculum stages: Junior and Senior Infants, 1st and 2nd Class, 3rd and 4th Class, and 5th and 6th Class. These packages will align with the upcoming Primary STEM curriculum, following a specified format and covering plugged and unplugged approaches, to enable ease of use in the classroom.



The EDTips team will guide and oversee the creation of this content by panel members at set stages throughout the development process.

Principal Accountabilities

As part of this panel there are 3 different possible roles:

Content Creator

Panel applicants interested in Content Creator will be tasked with developing the following, but not limited to, educational resources:

- Lesson plans
- In-class resources
 - Student materials
 - Teacher presentation materials
- Train-the-teacher videos - How to teach it in the classroom
- Supporting pedagogical documentation

Irish Language Translator

- Translate all written content into Irish
- Voice over any video content in Irish

Digital Media Editor

- Edit, splice and standardise all digital content to match branding guidelines

Overall responsibilities

- Report to Principal Investigator, PhD researcher and research team supervisors.
- Contribute to the overall design of the content packages in the project.
- Ensure quality of content packages by reviewing other content packages.
- Actively comply with all TU Dublin policies and regulations, including those in relation to Research Ethics, Health and Safety and GDPR.

Person Specification

The ideal candidate will demonstrate the appropriate mix of knowledge, experience, skills, talent and abilities as outlined below:

Knowledge

If applying for a role within the EDTips Panel of Primary School Digital Technology Content Developers, we would expect candidates to have the following attributes:

- Interest in teaching STEM/Digital Technology in the classroom
- Ability to design STEM/Digital Technology lessons for various stages of the Primary curriculum. The use of play-based pedagogies would be desirable but not essential.
- A knowledge of existing educational technology, both plugged and unplugged, suited to Primary Level i.e. Micro:bit, Bee-Bot's, Scratch Jnr as examples.
- The ability to be resourceful in teaching digital technology, with minimal reliance on devices
- Ability to use software such as Microsoft Office and screen recording software (Recommendations will be provided by the EDTips team)



Experience

The project is based around primary school education;

- Minimum Level 8 Hons degree (essential for Content Creators and Translators)
- 3 years teaching at any educational level, preferably Primary Level (Applies only to Content Creators)
- A strong and working knowledge of the Irish language, for the translation of content packages into robust Irish content. Some knowledge of STEM vocabulary through Irish would also be beneficial (Applies only to those applying for Irish Language Translator)
- A working knowledge of photo and video editing software (Applies only to those applying for Digital Media Editor)

Skills, Talents & Abilities

The successful candidate will be highly skilled and motivated with the ability to work independently and as part of a team.

- Organisational skills, time management and ability to undertake duties assigned and meet deadlines required.
- The successful candidate should have appropriate report writing skills, basic statistics and possess computer literacy (Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint).
- The successful candidates should be capable of working independently.

Duration and Commitment:

It is expected that each EDTips content package will take no more than 80 hours to develop, including research, training, and the documentation listed above. The active period for this work is May 2024 - August 2025. As the EDTips project is due to run until late 2025, EDTips panel members may be consulted on other optional project tasks, though these will not be mandatory and will not carry financial compensation. Each work packet will be to the value of €2,000 and will be payable on the successful completion of the work.

How to apply:

To apply to be a member of the panel please fill out the following Microsoft Form

(<https://forms.office.com/e/nd47dQ7sMr>) . You will be asked to answer several questions and indicate what opportunities you would be interested in. You will also have to send your CV to csinc@tudublin.ie .

Conclusion:

If you have further questions, which have not been addressed in this document, please email csinc@tudublin.ie. We believe that this exciting act of forming the EDTips Content Creator Panel will have a transformative impact on Digital Technology education in primary schools. We look forward to the opportunity to contribute to this cause and work together towards advancing educational excellence in Ireland. We anticipate a positive collaboration which will benefit educators, students, and the Primary Level community as a whole.

Sincerely,

Dr Keith Nolan,

Principal Investigator,

EDTips Project,

Technological University Dublin



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