

International Civic and Citizenship Education Study

Information to Students Selected to Participate

What is ICCS?

ICCS is an international study of civic and citizenship education in post-primary schools in 38 countries. If you take part, you will be one of about 130,000 students around the world in this study.

How was I picked?

Your class was picked at random! First we picked 160 schools at random. Then each school gave us a list of all the 2nd year classes. Your class was picked at random from the list.

What will I have to do?

You will be asked to complete 3 booklets on one day in February:

- A 45 minute booklet on topics like those you study in CSPE;
- A 40 minute questionnaire asking for your views about a number of issues, for example, what you think about democracy, violence, and immigration;
- A 20 minute questionnaire on topics relating to the EU, such as the euro currency and your views about learning a foreign language.

Most of the questions are multiple choice, and a few ask you to write a line or two for your answer.



Where did the tests and questionnaires come from?

They were developed by experts across all the ICCS countries. They may include more topics than you have covered in CSPE but we hope that you find them interesting.

Will anyone see my results?

No. All the tests and questionnaires are totally confidential: not even your teachers get to see them. When you are finished answering the booklets, they will be sent to the Educational Research Centre in Dublin. We will enter your answers into a database, where you are identified only by a number, not by your name. We will never give out information on individuals. Your results will be used to compare students in Ireland as a group with students from other countries.

Don't worry...you don't need to prepare in advance for ICCS!

Why take part?

ICCS gives you a chance to represent Ireland. The results will tell us what Irish students think about important issues such as immigration and racial equality, and provide a picture of what is happening in Irish schools compared with 37 other countries.

There will be a prize draw for each school and every student that takes part has a chance of winning a gift voucher.

For further information:

Visit the ICCS website for Ireland at: <http://www.erc.ie/iccs>

Visit the international ICCS website at: <http://iccs.acer.edu.au>

Contact Jude Cosgrove or Lorraine Gilleece: email iccs@erc.ie or phone 01 8065217 / 01 8065201

More copies of this information sheet (in PDF format) can be downloaded from <http://www.erc.ie/iccs>