FIE Dublin
Pre Departure Information
iCharleston Fall 2022

Presented by: Emma Byrne
This Presentation Will Cover

- FIE: Foundation for International Education
- DBS: Dublin Business School
- Pre-departure preparations
- Travel to and arrival in Dublin
- Living in Dublin
- Conduct, health and safety
- First Year Forward
FIE: A Short History

FIE: Foundation for International Education

Founded in 1998

Not-for-profit organisation

Working with around 50 US and international universities to deliver their study abroad programs

London, Dublin, and Amman

24/7 staff coverage

www.fie.org.uk
The FIE Dublin Team

Stephen Stokes
Dublin Resident Director

Fiona Mulrine
Student Life Manager

Eithne Poufong
Experiential Education and Programme Officer

Kori Schagunn (RLS)
Residence Life Supervisor

Emma Byrne (RLS)
Residence Life Supervisor
Here’s our Educational Mission:

- To provide high quality **educational experiences** to the global community

- Committed to the development of **creative learning environments** wherein an understanding of, and appreciation for, the privileges and responsibilities of international citizenship is fostered

- Driven by the belief that interaction between **people of diverse cultures** is the base upon which empathy among nations is built
Our Articulated Values

- Diversity & Inclusivity
- Social Justice
- Sustainability
We Practice What We Preach!
Our Zero Tolerance Policy

• A living and learning environment which is free from harassment, discrimination, victimization and bullying

• An atmosphere in which no member of the FIE community feels under threat or intimidated

• A zero tolerance policy to these types of behaviour
How Do We Work with our University Partners?

- We work with your home institution to deliver your study abroad program
- Every FIE program is different
- Custom designed specifically for each institution
Pre Departure Communication

Keep an eye on emails for important information!
Dublin Business School (DBS)

- FIE and CofC’s Academic Partner
- Central Dublin city campus
- Established in 1975
- QQI designated institution
- Multiple major areas – Arts, Business, Psychology, Law, IT etc.
Welcome to Dublin, Ireland!
Before Student Arrival

Pre Departure Preparations
Prepare NOW!

- Students will be in Dublin sooner than they think!
- Before travelling to Dublin, students should write down what they hope to accomplish and learn during the programme
- Make copies of important documents for students to bring with them—passport photo page, insurance, medical information and DBS Acceptance Letter
Do Some Research
What do the colours in the Irish Flag represent?
Continuing Research
Culture Shock

• Ireland ≠ America!
• Just because students are coming to an English speaking country does not mean they won’t face culture shock
• Expect to be challenged
• Expect to feel uncomfortable

But don’t worry!

✔ Embrace the new changes
✔ Be open minded
✔ Use a sense of humour
✔ Talk to FIE, DBS and iCHS staff
Ease your transition

Goal Setting for Students

• Why are you coming to Dublin?

• What do you want to accomplish?

• Write at least 3 goals for your time in Dublin on a post-it and stick in your suitcase

Helpful thoughts

• Expect differences, embrace them, learn from them

• Utilize your sense of humour!

• Be open-minded

• Have a tolerance for ambiguity
What to Pack

• Don’t over Pack!

• Storage space is limited

• Students will never wear everything you pack!

• Leave space for return packing at the end of the programme

• Remember to pack face-masks, prescriptions, medications, etc.
What to Pack - Electricals

• Travel Adapter
  • Changes shape of plug, not voltage
  • Suitable for majority of electronics – phones, laptops etc.

• Travel Converter/transformer
  • Changes voltage – Ireland twice the voltage of US
  • Leave big electronics at home

• Small appliances can be purchased on arrival
  • Hairdryers and straighteners cheap enough, or we Binary Hub may have some in their donations from previous semesters
What to Pack - Clothing

**Essential Items**

- Waterproof rain jacket and warm clothes
- Comfortable waterproof walking shoes
- Small bath towel and travel size shampoo, conditioner, body wash – for the first day

**Recommended Items**

- Clothes you can layer
  Temperatures are very changeable
  Average Autumn temperatures between 50-57°C
- At least one set of clothes students don’t mind getting dirty (Causey Farm)

*Leave space for your return at the end of the programme*
What to Pack - Medication

- Can bring up to 3 months supply into Ireland

- Must be accompanied by copy of the appropriate prescription
  - Either in hand luggage or with the medication in checked luggage

- Not all US medications readily available in Ireland - check with HPRA

- Contact Heath Products Regulatory Authority for more information – www.hpra.ie
You must email the Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA)

You will need to state:
- Recipient’s name
- The courier company name
- The tracking number
- The type and amount of medication
- Recipient’s address and phone number in Dublin (to contact with any questions)

The package itself must include a photocopy of the prescription and/or letter from prescribing doctor on the outside of the box.
Immigration

- US Passport holders do not require a visa
  - Any non-US passport holders who have not been in touch with FIE - please do so now

- ‘Preparing for Dublin – Immigration’ email for full details of the process

- Documents to present to immigration at the airport:
  - Passport and return flight details
  - Letter of Introduction/Acceptance from DBS
  - Proof of Insurance
  - Proof of Funds
    - Evidence of €500 for each month of your programme. This needs to be shown by a bank statement no older than one month.
  - Medical Prescriptions
  - Covid-19 vaccination documents

- Registration with INIS after arrival - €300 registration fee

- We will advise on making appointments after arrival
• Credit cards: Visa and MasterCard widely accepted – No AmEx!

• Debit cards: Visa, MasterCard, Maestro, Cirrus symbol widely accepted

• Understand transaction fees. Always pay in local currency

• Cash: Don’t travel with large amounts of foreign currency – travel with no more than a couple of hundred Euro

• Opening an account

To Do

✓ Notify your bank of travelling
✓ Ask bank of any Irish affiliations
✓ Start thinking about budgets
✓ Financial evidence for immigration
✓ Budget immigration registration fee €300
Cost of living in Dublin can be higher than the US – depends on how you live and the choices you make

Consider the following when budgeting:

- Personal items on arrival
- Food and drink – groceries (€50-80 p/w) vs takeaway/eating out
- Entertainment – cinema (€7-10), FIE social events (€10-20), nights out
- Travel – weekends away
Insurance

• Everyone should be covered by a travel insurance policy. Your program includes comprehensive travel insurance

• If students have a pre-existing medical condition – make sure to check cover before you arrive

• Keep an eye on emails for more information on insurance documents, including where and what to print for immigration purposes

• Details on claim process given on arrival
Travel To/Arrival in Dublin

When you’re on your way!
Travel to /Arrival in Dublin

- Students to arrive in Dublin before midday
- FIE Staff member will greet students at the airport!
- Transfer to residence via private bus
- There may be a short wait to collect all students
Arrival In Dublin

- Small lunch/snack at Binary Hub
- Tour of Binary Hub Residence and local area
- Walk into city centre for shopping and picking up of essentials
- Get ready for orientation the next day!
Orientation

- FIE Welcome, and walking tour
- FIE Orientation & Health and Safety
- DBS Academic Orientation
- Welcome Reception
- Bus/walking tour of Dublin
- Group Excursions
  - Howth
  - Causey Farm
Cellphones

- Required to have a working phone number (Irish or American) for the duration of program
- Can pick up a phone in Ireland (or use an old one)
- Get your smartphone unlocked before arrival
  - About €20 unlimited data
Living in Dublin

Home Away From Home
Living in Dublin – Binary Hub

• Check the ‘Preparing for Dublin: Your Home Away from Home’ email for full details

• Roommates pre-decided with all info taken into consideration – no notification before arrival

• Small double bedroom (4ft bed), with shower en-suite, desk, and storage

• Shared kitchen/living room area
  • All apartments have basic kitchen supplies
Binary Hub

- Shared apartment, with single en-suite bedrooms
- Bed linens and towels
- Stocked kitchen
- Reception – 24/7
- FIE live-in staff
- Laundry facilities
- Recycling facilities
- Gym
- Common room
- Study Space
Binary Hub & The Liberties

- Located in **The Liberties, Dublin 8.**

- One of the oldest neighbourhoods in Dublin - close to Christchurch, River Liffey and Guinness Storehouse

- Voted ‘**one of the world’s coolest neighbourhoods**’ in 2021 (TimeOut)

- Binary Hub is a 20-minute walk to Dublin Business School (DBS) and the city centre

- Safe to get in & out of city centre- walking, buses, taxis
Safety at Binary Hub and FIE

- A member of FIE staff will be available at all times, in the office on site, via the 24 hour number, and by email.

- FIE office open 9.00am – 5.00pm, Monday - Friday

- **Residence Life Supervisors** (RLSs):
  - FIE staff who live on site at Binary Hub: Kori & Emma
  - 24 hour availability - including weekends and evenings
  - Regular rounds

- Binary Hub also provide **24 hour security** on site

- Contacts:
  - FIE 24 hour number: +353 1 679 8171
  - FIE email: fiedublin@fie.org.uk
  - Binary Hub 24 hour number: +35315310330

- **Kevin Street Garda Station**: 119 / 999 (1km, 10 minute walk)

- **St James Hospital**: Closest A&E (900m, 10 minute walk)
Dinner Time

• No meal plans

• Eat healthy!

• Local butchers, grocers, supermarkets – bring shopping bags

• Learn some recipes now!

• Eating out – Pub dinner (€15), Fast food (€8), Sandwich (€5), early bird / pre-theatre between 5-7pm
Code of Conduct

- Abuse of others (violent, sexual, verbal or electronically)
- Property destruction, vandalism
- Substance abuse/ excessive consumption
- Academic dishonesty
- Theft, disorderly conduct, tampering with fire safety
- Criminality in any form
- Behaviour that puts yourself or others at risk
- No smoking indoors
- No parties

KNOW THE RULES!
• Students are required to adhere to the FIE, CofC and DBS codes of conduct
• One or all codes may apply depending on the incident in question
Pop Quiz

The leading tourist attraction in Europe is in Dublin – what is it?
Getting around Dublin

- Dublin Bus
- Luas
- DART
- Dublin Bikes
- Taxis
- FiE
Health and Safety

• Big city - petty crime happens!
• Register with https://step.state.gov/
• Stay in touch – Online travel forms
  • 2 forms – FIE & CofC
• Reporting incidents to FIE and the Gardaí
• Emergency Incident Response Plan available via FIE Website
Mental Health & Wellbeing

• FIE website: Dublin Counselling & Mental Health
  • Resources, information & support

• All FIE students have access to counselling services, both online and in-person, provided by MyMind Dublin.

• Health & well-being services also provided by DBS student services
Medical Services

• Hospitals: St. James Hospital, Mater Hospital, clinics and GPs

• GPs: Aungier Street Medical Centre, Thomas Street Medical Centre

• Allergies/medical conditions – prepare before you leave!

• Preventative care: maintain good habits and stay healthy!

• Pharmacies – very helpful
Mental Health Services

- My Mind Professional Counselling Services
- Counsellor vs. Psychiatrist
- Pre-existing conditions
  - Talk to your current service provider
- Under-18s
  - Need parental permission
- Talk to FIE staff
Accessibility Services

- All known disabilities must be declared and documented in advance

- All information on disabilities will be kept confidential – shared only on **strong** need to know basis

- DBS have a dedicated Learning Supports Coordinator

- Each accommodation plan will differ according to the declared and documented disability and will be based on a student’s individual needs
Studying in Dublin

- This is a **study** abroad programme
  - Academics take priority over all other activities

- All students take Irish Life & Cultures
  - Co-curricular tours in Dublin, Tour of the West, Tour of the North

- DBS academic schedules may be shared prior to arrival
Dublin Academics

Be aware of cultural differences in academics

• Attendance and participation

• Self directed study

• Different teaching style
  • Cultural - different, not wrong!

• Respect fellow students, faculty and staff

• Ask for help if you need it
FYF: First Year Forward

- Academic enrichment programme
- Harnessing the power of the freshmen abroad experience
  - Social and cultural reflection and action
  - Knowledge and inclusivity
  - Ethics and human rights
  - Commitment to the environment and sustainability
  - Professional development
- Regular engagements
  - Convocation and Graduation
  - Talks and workshops
  - Co-curricular learning experiences – volunteering Events, ‘clean coasts’, tour, guest speakers
Final Points

• Look out for our ‘Preparing for Dublin’ emails, and keep an eye out for regular email communication

• Complete flight information on your MyStudy Abroad application
  • [https://www.mystudyabroadfie.org.uk/](https://www.mystudyabroadfie.org.uk/)
  • Aim to arrive before midday on arrivals day

• Don’t forget any necessary Covid-19 vaccine documentation and face-masks, if required

• All schedules will be confirmed on arrival in Dublin
  Don’t book personal travel until you have all schedules
Questions?

Email us on
fiedublin@fie.org.uk