



***'Let's buck the trend and make screen time educational, stimulating and progressive for our young people .....Let's establish CoderDojo Clubs throughout Carlow' said Mary Walsh, CEO of Carlow County Development Partnership CLG.***

### **What is CoderDojo?**

*The CoderDojo Vision ..... where every child has the opportunity to learn how to [computer] code and to be creative in a free, fun, safe and social environment.*

CoderDojo is a worldwide movement of free, volunteer-led, community-based programming clubs for young people. Anyone aged seven to seventeen can visit a Dojo where they can learn to code, build a website, create an app or a game, and explore technology in an informal, creative, and social environment. The CoderDojo movement believes that an understanding of programming languages is increasingly important in the modern world, that it's both better and easier to learn these skills early, and that nobody should be denied the opportunity to do so. CoderDojo Ireland is the regional body to which Dojos in Ireland are affiliated.

### **CoderDojo and Formal Education?**

It is also worthwhile noting that on the 04 January, 2018 - Minister Bruton announced a new Leaving Certificate Computer Science subject.

### **Where can I learn about CoderDojo?**

A Coderdojo Club in Kilkenny is hosting a national conference in Kilkenny on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of October. The line-up is as follows;

#### **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 - For adults + children aged 12 – 17 (Newpark Hotel)**

This day will be filled with workshops and speakers suitable for secondary school students and teachers. Teachers will be given tools to go back to their classes and teach websites design, robotics, animation, digital art, digital music right through to subjects on tech for people with disabilities or learning challenges. The full program can be found here - <http://dojocon.coderdojo.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/DojoCon-2018-Saturday-Program.pdf>. The event will be held in the Newpark Hotel, tickets are required and will include a hot lunch and teas/coffees during the day.

#### **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2018 – For adults + children aged 7 – 17 (Newpark Hotel)**

This day is a hackathon for those aged 7-17, and is sponsored by Taxback. This is a free event, again including some food and we will have challenges for teams to solve using coding and technology. It's suitable for children/teens who have basic coding experience, right through to advanced. Tickets are free but you will have to register at <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/dojocon-2018-registration-kilkenny-19th-to-21st-october-2018-tickets-43534757632?aff=eios&ref=eios>

**For more information please contact Margaret Ahearne, DojoCon Coordinator on  
083-8072336**