

## **Leabhrán Eolais agus Réamhchúrsa don Agallamh**

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### *Introduction*

*Coláiste Lurgan* is an independent *Coláiste Gaeilge* which has an excellent reputation for high quality courses in spoken *Gaeilge*, suitable for students who have an elementary ability to communicate as *Gaeilge*.

Courses in *Coláiste Lurgan* are fully approved and supported by the Departments of Education and Arts, Culture and the *Gaeltacht*. *Coláiste Lurgan* provides a facility for students who wish to substantially improve their fluency levels in spoken *Gaeilge*. This is achieved through an exciting and varied programme which combines formal and informal instruction in a wide range of activities.

The most effective way of learning any spoken language is to enter an environment where that language has pride of place. In *Coláiste Lurgan* we have established an environment where *an Ghaeilge* is the only spoken language. *Coláiste Lurgan* takes its role in organising *cúrsaí Gaeilge* very seriously. Students attending *Coláiste Lurgan* greatly enjoy their stay in the *Gaeltacht* while substantially improving their fluency in *Gaeilge*.

There is no conflict between speaking and learning *Gaeilge* and obtaining a great deal of enjoyment and satisfaction from a stay in the *Gaeltacht*.

In fact, the *Gaeilge* speaking aspect of the course greatly complements the level of enjoyment obtained from the course.

The experience of living with a *Gaeltacht* family and staying in an all-*Gaeilge* environment ensures that the student's confidence in speaking *Gaeilge* is improved. Through the *cúrsa*, students realise that communicating through *Gaeilge* is easy, quite natural, and most importantly, enjoyable. As a result, our students develop a more positive attitude to speaking *Gaeilge*, and the language becomes more relevant and interesting to them in their continued studies.