



Aoife Brennan

Newly Qualified English Teacher (Secondary)

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Qualified secondary English teacher with a Professional Master of Education from NUI Galway and placement experience across two post-primary schools in the West of Ireland. Taught **over 250 students** in Junior Cycle and Senior Cycle English, achieving a **90% homework completion rate** through structured routines and positive relationships. Passionate about creative writing, drama, and making literature relevant to every learner.

EXPERIENCE

Trainee Teacher (Main Placement), Presentation College Athenry, Athenry

Sep 2025 – Jan 2026

Completed a 14-week placement at a mixed secondary school with 850 students, teaching English across Junior and Senior Cycle.

- Taught **16 lessons per week** across 1st Year to 6th Year, including a Leaving Certificate Higher Level class of **28 students**
 - Designed a **10-lesson unit on Hamlet** incorporating film analysis, group performance, and critical essay writing
- Improved essay writing scores by an average of **12%** across 3rd Year classes through structured paragraph-building scaffolds
 - Organised a **school poetry slam** with participation from **45 students** across all year groups

Trainee Teacher (Second Placement), Colaiste na Coiribe, Galway

Apr 2025 – Jun 2025

Completed a contrasting placement at an Irish-medium school, teaching English through both English and Irish.

- Taught **12 lessons per week** to 1st Year and 2nd Year classes, adapting materials for students with English as an additional language
 - Created **8 differentiated resource packs** for mixed-ability classes incorporating visual and kinaesthetic learning activities
 - Received **Outstanding** grading in 2 of 3 formal lesson observations

Library Assistant (Part-time), Galway City Library, Galway

Sep 2023 – Aug 2025

Worked at the city library part-time during postgraduate studies and the final year of undergraduate.

- Assisted an average of **60 visitors per shift** with enquiries, reservations, and digital services
- Co-ran **12 children's reading events** over 2 years, engaging groups of **15 to 25 children** each session

EDUCATION

Professional Master of Education (PME) in English Education, University of Galway (NUI Galway), Galway

Sep 2024 – May 2026

Teaching Council of Ireland recognised qualification. Completed all placement requirements at Good or Outstanding level.

- Professional studies included inclusive education, digital literacy, wellbeing in schools, and classroom management

BA (Hons) English and History in English & History, University of Galway (NUI Galway), Galway

Sep 2020 – Jun 2024

Graduated with Second Class Honours, Grade I (**2:1, 65% average**).

- Final year dissertation on the portrayal of Irish identity in Seamus Heaney's later poetry, graded **72%**

SKILLS

Junior & Senior Cycle English Teaching • Lesson Planning & Differentiation • Essay Writing & Literacy Development • Drama & Performance in English • Assessment for Learning • Behaviour Management • SEN Support (Dyslexia, EAL) • Creative Writing Workshops • Digital Learning Tools (Padlet, Canva) • Parental Communication • Safeguarding & Child Protection • VSWare & School Admin Systems

CERTIFICATIONS

Teaching Council of Ireland Registration, Teaching Council of Ireland

May 2026 – May 2026

Garda Vetting (Enhanced), National Vetting Bureau

Aug 2024 – Aug 2024

LANGUAGES

English – Native • Irish – Proficient (B2)

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

Editor – NUI Galway Literary Journal (An Focal)

Sep 2023 – Jun 2024

Edited and published **2 editions** of the student literary journal featuring poetry, fiction, and essays from **35 contributors**.