

Erasmus Trip to Dublin's Rediscovery Centre in Ballymun

On Thursday 23/9/21, our second Erasmus group ventured out on public transport to **Dublin's Rediscovery Centre** in Ballymun. Visiting the centre and attending the workshops fitted perfectly with our current topic "Our environment is our future". Here is what some students had to say about the day:

"For me, the best thing about the Rediscovery centre were the workshops where people found creative ways to remake or upcycle old furniture, bikes, clothes, fabrics and paint, which was very intelligent and environmentally friendly.

A fact I learned at the centre was that phone companies purposefully slow down their phones after 2-3 years so that people can buy more phones. This is highly unsustainable, it scams people and is bad for the planet. I would return to the RDC to see how it has expanded and developed, but also to check out the shop to see what new items the workshops have made." (Remy Leger)

"The best thing for me were the workshops where they up cycled items. I learned that agriculture is the largest producer of greenhouse gases in Ireland. I would return to do more sustainability workshops." (Matthew Quinn)

"Visiting the RDC allowed me to see how things can be recycled to create something brand new, rather than going out and buying a new piece of clothing, etc, which is not great for the environment. I learned that when you want to recycle tin foil, you must combine it with more tin foil into a ball so that it can be detected better on the conveyer belt when it gets sorted for recycling. I would like to go back in order to buy sustainably (skincare, decorations, bikes, etc) - and for the amazing croissants as well. 😊" (Alexia Angelova)

"My favourite part of the Rediscovery Centre was most definitely seeing all the clothes and fabrics being upcycled. I learned about earth overshoot day. I would go back to the RDC for the shop they have there" (Katrina)

"In my opinion the best thing about the Rediscovery Centre is the fact that they teach and show new generations the issues related to climate change, not only through a presentation, but also through activities and tours which show people that they can do better. A fact I learned from the Rediscovery Centre are that us greedy humans use a year of resources in approximately 6 months. I would definitely go back and bring friends and family as well. I believe that it could be a motivation for others to start a more sustainable life, a motivation to start working on some climate issues and maybe together we can make a change." (Nicoleta Zmeu)

"When we arrived at the RDC, we were taken on a tour of the entire building. We were told the history behind the building, and what its previous use was (supplying water to the Ballymun Flats in the '60s-'70s). We then visited the rooms where they upcycle all of the things that are donated, such as furniture, clothes and even bikes! They sell the things that they upcycle on site and they even support Irish businesses by giving them a place to sell their own sustainable products. They have an amazing garden outside, that they use to collect rainwater and their own compost to uphold. After an exciting morning of learning about the facility, we had a snack and took part in 2 workshops all about sustainable living. We learnt a lot about the way we live and how we can change for the better. All in all, it was a brilliant experience for the Erasmus students in LCC, and I hope, with the information we learnt, we can make a difference in our school community." (Sophie Curtis)