



KidWind Ireland for Schools

Introduction

KidWind Ireland is a project that seeks to support teachers all over Ireland to access training programs and equipment in wind energy. KidWind has its origins in the USA where it has been met with great success and will be of assistance to KidWind in Ireland. The primary aim of the KidWind program is to train and equip teachers at primary and second level to teach their own students about wind energy and provide knowledge about the industry and topic. The program is aimed at teachers of science, mathematics and geography although others may attend. Training for teachers is delivered as a five day course covering theory and practical wind energy topics at the appropriate level so that they become confident in delivering courses in wind energy to primary and second level students.

Benefits for Ireland

- A mechanism that allows both teachers and students to become familiar with wind energy, thereby allowing such knowledge to be taught to the younger population throughout Ireland
- Wind energy will start to become a common energy source in the minds of primary and secondary level students which will enhance their and Ireland's prospects of building a wind economy in Ireland
- Transfer of wind knowledge from children back to parents in the home and from teachers to parents, particularly in rural areas where wind turbines and wind farms are presently and will be located in the future
- Inspire the younger population to continue studies in wind energy to be gainfully employed and grow the wind industry in the medium to long term

Outline of training for teachers

KidWind workshops introduce teachers to the science behind wind energy while giving them the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to bring wind energy into their classrooms using standards-based activities in an engaging, hands-on manner.

Workshops are aimed at primary and secondary school teachers interested in renewable energy, physics, general science, technical education, engineering, environmental science, and mathematics.

Workshops focus in on specific lessons from blade design, basic turbine system concepts to wildlife impacts, economics, and more including

- Energy concepts
- Renewable energy
- Wind energy history
- Wind turbine technology
- Wind farms in Ireland
- Power and energy in the wind
- Wind energy environmental and economics impacts
- Blade and turbine design
- Power output
- Generators & motors
- Experiment - Classroom Projects (build a model turbine using classroom kit)

Learning outcomes:

Participant teachers will be prepared to teach students the following

Primary school

Elementary Wind Energy
Wind Chimes
Wind Art
Building simple blades

Secondary School

Testing Blade Parameters
Assessing Wind Resource
Blade Design
School Wind Turbine Siting Projects
Data Analysis
Build Model wind turbines with classroom kit

Course duration – 5 days

Maximum No participants -15