

The ALFA Project (<https://www.activelink.ie/node/169>)

The ALFA Project aims to support young people in their quest to understand the world and to deepen their experience of their own humanity. It aims to provide a meaningful education for young people within the community in County Clare.

It offers a three-year active learning programme that is experimental, academic, practical and artistic and is designed to cater for the developmental needs and appeal to the interests of the 13-16 year age group.

Teaching is done through projects which provide a multidisciplinary and inter disciplinary approach to learning.

Essentially each project has a practical, artistic and a theoretical part woven together to form a coherent whole. For example the project could be based on an actual need like, building a water pump, which the students built to bring running water from a small river up to the log cabin. The artistic part included observation and study of water in movement and creative writing inspired by water. They studied the importance of oceans as regulators of the climate and as a resource: rivers from springs to deltas as agents of physical and social change. Then they canoed down the River Shannon in full flood.

The ALFA Project is a registered FETAC (Further Education and Training Awards Council) Assessment Centre.

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