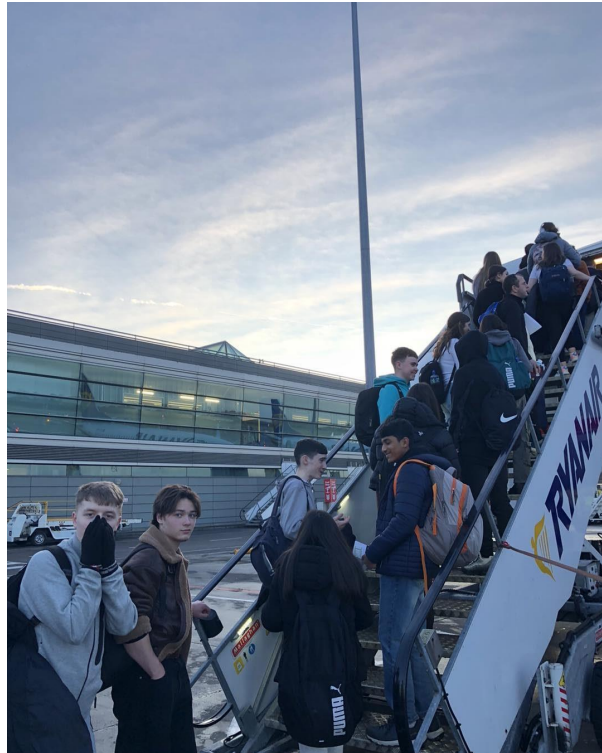




Erasmus+ 2025

In 2022, a group of students from Eurogymnasium, Leoben spent a week in CTI Clonmel. We really enjoyed hosting the Austria students and were eager to pay them a visit in Austria. We received Erasmus+ Accreditation in 2024 and we then were able to finally plan our Erasmus+ mobility to Leoben. A group of 29 students, 5 staff spend one week in Austria. Our objectives for this visit was to create a positive multicultural and multilingual environment for staff and students. We also want to give students in CTI Clonmel an opportunity to experience other cultures & meet peers their own age. We want students to return from mobility projects and help students from diverse backgrounds to integrate in our school. We also hope that students will gain an understanding in to the importance of learning a second language!



On the 2nd of February 2025, we departed from Dublin Airport to Vienna. We then undertook a 2 hour bus journey to Leoben which is located in Styria, Austria.

Day 1: After arriving late Sunday night we walked to school for 9.30am. School usually starts at 7.45am in Austria. We were welcomed by the Principal and teachers of [europagym.leoben](https://europagym.leoben.at). There was a presentation about the school and the Austrian education system. We then split into 3 groups and worked along side Austrian students in workshops throughout the day. Students cooked Kaiserschmarrn (similar to a pancake) a traditional sharing dessert. They were delicious! As it is currently ball season in Austria, students learned about some famous Austrian composers and traditional dances. We then attempted to waltz to the Blue Danube. Austrian students receive dance lessons as they are required to waltz at their Debutante ball! The school day finished with students learning basic German phrases and talking to other Austrian counterparts





Day 2: We spent the day collaborating on 'See the Big Picture Project'. This aims to bring people together through art and share their views on the world. The students were paired in groups with Austria students to create a mural. Students had great fun discussing different ideas. The murals will be finished in school tomorrow. We finished off the day at an activity centre





Day 3: Today we finished off our See the Big Picture murals in school. We are so delighted about the final results! After school we then headed to the slopes! We first stopped at a Holocaust memorial. We then went for a walk and sledged down the mountain! It was interesting for the students to experience a typical Austrian pastime. Students also noticed the impact of climate change on the environment as there was a lot less snow than usual at this time of year.





Day 4: We began our day with a guided historical tour of the city of Leoben. Austrian students had prepared a map and brought the students around Leoben. At 10am the Mayor of Leoben held a reception for us in the Town Hall. This gave a great understanding of citizenship and European identity. We then ended the day in Graz Opera House. Students went to see 'Les Troyens' Opera by Berlioz performed in French. Berlioz is a famous music composer and is also featured on the Leaving Certificate music course.









Day 5: This was our last day in school so we said goodbye to our new Austrian friends. We ended our week in school with a closing ceremony. Students received their Erasmus+ certificates. Some students also performed a song at the ceremony. We look forward to welcoming their students in the future for another exchange. In the afternoon, we went to a traditional Austrian Dance club to really experience the Austrian culture. We even performed a céilí to compare our dance traditions!





The final day was spent exploring Graz. Students climbed 260 steps to the Schlossberg and enjoyed an exhilarating ride down the world's tallest indoor slide. The trip concluded with some free time for shopping before flying home on February 9.

A special thank you to Desmond and Maeve Doyle for their invaluable support in making this Erasmus+ mobility a reality. This exchange has strengthened cultural ties, expanded students' perspectives, and laid the foundation for future international collaborations. We look forward to welcoming our Austrian friends to Ireland in the near future!








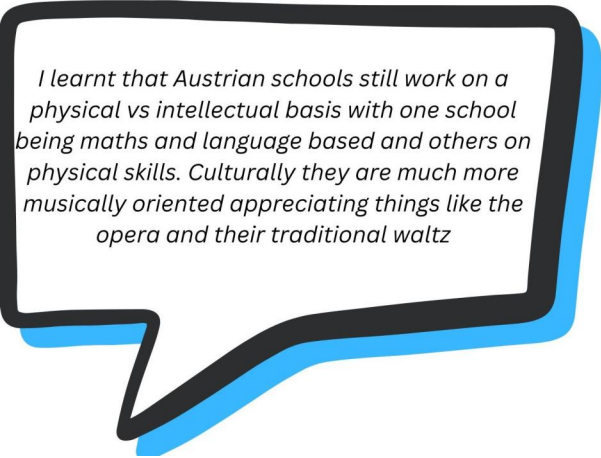
Student Feedback

'I am more open to learning new languages and other cultures because I realised how useful it is to know about and learn from other cultures'.

'I mostly enjoyed meeting and chatting to some of the Austrian students who came to our school in 2022 because I had kept in contact with and it was so nice to see them face to face'.

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'I also discovered how Austria played a significant role in European politics and how its traditions have shaped its identity'.

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I learnt that Austrian schools still work on a physical vs intellectual basis with one school being maths and language based and others on physical skills. Culturally they are much more musically oriented appreciating things like the opera and their traditional waltz

Leoben Newspaper Write up

[Europagymnasium Leoben: Irische Gastschüler verliebten sich in die Region - Leoben](#)