



**Maynooth
University**

National University
of Ireland Maynooth

Irish Libraries: Innovating for Inclusion

EBLIDA-NAPLE CONFERENCE

Cathal McCauley (@cathalmccauley cathal.mccauley@mu.ie)

Maynooth University Librarian & Vice-President Library Association of
Ireland

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Equality



Equity



Inclusivity

Image Source:
<http://www.theinclusionsolution.me/equity-vs-equality-eliminating-opportunity-gaps-education/>

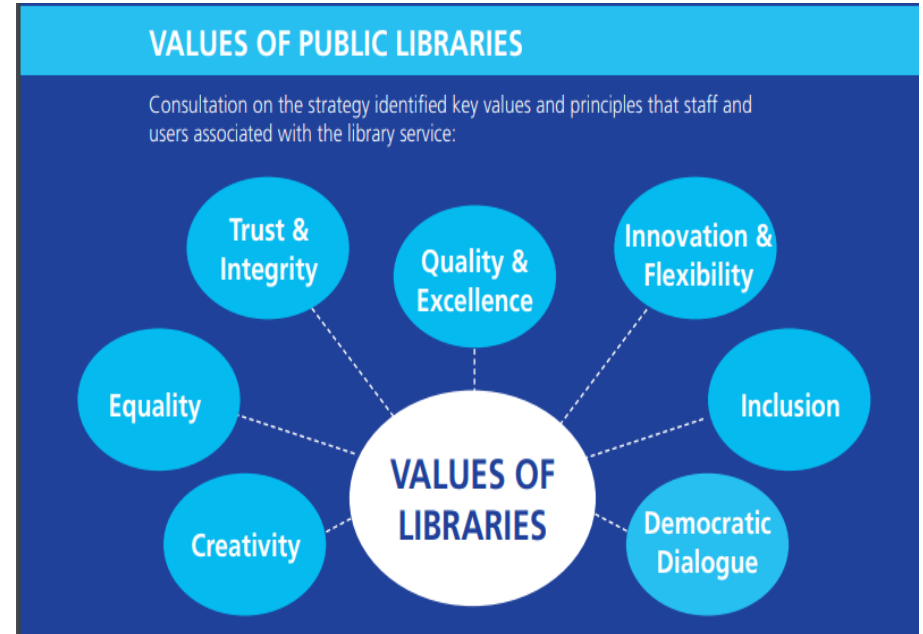
Inclusion and Innovation key values for Irish Libraries

“To promote change and social justice through access to knowledge and information “

Wexford County Libraries

“Continue the Library’s track record of being a pathfinder and/or pilot unit for initiatives that promote equality, diversity and inclusivity “

Maynooth University Library



Our Public Libraries 2022

Accessibility

- Free – no public library fines since 2019, some universities
- Nationwide request and return
- House-bound services
- Mobile services – with ramps!
- Accessible buildings
- Inclusive signage



Image Source: <https://www.independent.ie/regionals/newrossstandard/news/new-chapter-for-library-36697597.html>

Literacy Inclusion

- Fighting Words
- Paired Reading Sessions
- Touch, Type, Read and Spell (TTRS) programmes
- Ready to Read Programmes
- Sensory Books



Technology and Digital Inclusion

- Accessible technology – hearing loops, magnifiers etc
- Free Wifi/Internet access
- Device loans – laptops, tablets, kindles, recorders etc
- Free 3 D printing
- Toys, Technology and Training (TTT) Programme
- Training and Skills Programmes e.g. Monaghan Makers Project

Monaghan Makers Community

Monaghan County Library Services

presents



Monaghan Makers

Social Inclusion

- Services for :
 - new communities
 - ASD inclusion
 - communities that were previously hidden or excluded
- Exhibitions highlighting our links with new communities

A Forgotten Polish Hero of the Great Irish Famine: Paul Strzelecki's Struggle to Save Thousands



WHEN

Thursday, May 9, 2019 - 10:00

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Friday, August 30, 2019 - 17:00

Organisational Inclusion

- Strategies – e.g. NLI's Diversity & Inclusion Policy 2018-2021 <https://www.nli.ie/en/diversity-and-inclusion.aspx>
- Staff training
- User Engagement
- Work Placement/Job Shadowing



Conclusion

- Irish libraries are innovating for inclusion
- Values and actions of Irish libraries well aligned with international goals and objectives eg the SDGs, EBLIDA Strategy and others
- Irish libraries ready to play our part in enabling libraries to support inclusion globally