

# DCU Autism Friendly University

### Autism Summer Program and transition to DCU

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There are 11 slides and I will present for 10 minutes

### Content

- Autism Summer Program
  - Why?
  - Preparation
  - Program Content
- Transitioning to DCU

## Why a summer program?

Over the past number of years, we have observed an increase of autistic first year students struggling to settle into college due to lack of familiarity with college practices. Some of the challenges include:

- Socialising and learning in an overwhelming sensory environment
- Group Work where communication is not clear
- Using support services
- Navigating campus

## **Preparation for the Program**

Student Handbook sent three weeks in advance of program,

- Timetable
- What to expect and what is expected of you
- Photos and videos of venues
- Key contacts for questions

Training for Student Ambassadors Review of previous years- what worked and did not work Campus Explorer

## Program Content

- Introduction to student service: "My experience at College"/Q&A
- Understanding your own autistic self, sensory profile/diet checklist
- Campus Tour, include sensory pods and quiet space, accommodation, labs,library and how to use
- Using your strengths to navigate social and college life
- Reflection any questions or Concerns about college?
- Different Thinking styles,
- Lab Tour
- Introduction to Assistive Technology
- Student Recruitment: pathways, course choice
- "My experience at College" (including INTRA, Redbrick) /Q&A
- Neurodivergent Society: what type of events + student experience

## **Autistic Voice**

- Guest speakers are predominately autistic staff members of DCU
- Student Ambassadors are autistic and previous partipants of the program

# **Transition to DCU**

### Launch Campus explorer Phase Two.



# **Map of Quieter Spaces**

### $\equiv$ V1. Google C&C Live Map Q

### Relaxing or Quieter Space

- [AHC] All Hallows Chapel
  - [GLA] Hindu Prayer Space (Interfaith Centre)
  - 💐 [GLA] Two Muslim Prayer Rooms Men and ...
  - [SPD] Contemplation Faith Room (1st Floor)
  - [SPD] Our Lady Seat of Wisdom Chapel
  - 🧐 [GLA] DCU Labyrinth
  - GLA] Escape Pod- (U Building first floor)
  - [GLA] Meditation Room (Interfaith Centre)
  - [GLA] Memorial Garden (Opp 1838 Albert Co...
  - 🧐 [GLA] Quiet Space (Henry Grattan, Ground Fl...
  - [GLA] Sensory Pods (O'Reilly Library, Y104)
  - 🤏 [SPD] Sensory Pod (Cregan Library, G408)
  - [SPD] The Mezz (1st Floor, Block C)
  - [AHC] Marmadukes
  - [GLA] The Wellness Centre (Henry Grattan) f...
  - [GLA] Balcony (U Building, 2nd Floor)
  - [AHC] Benches (Outside Drumcondra House)
  - [GLA] Benches (1838 Albert College)
  - [GLA] Benches (The Mall)
  - GLA] Grass Area (Albert College)
  - 💐 [GLA] Grass Area (O'Reilly Library)

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### ← [GLA] The Wellness Centre (He...

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#### Name

[GLA] The Wellness Centre (Henry Grattan) from Feb 2024

#### Location

53.386186, -6.259698

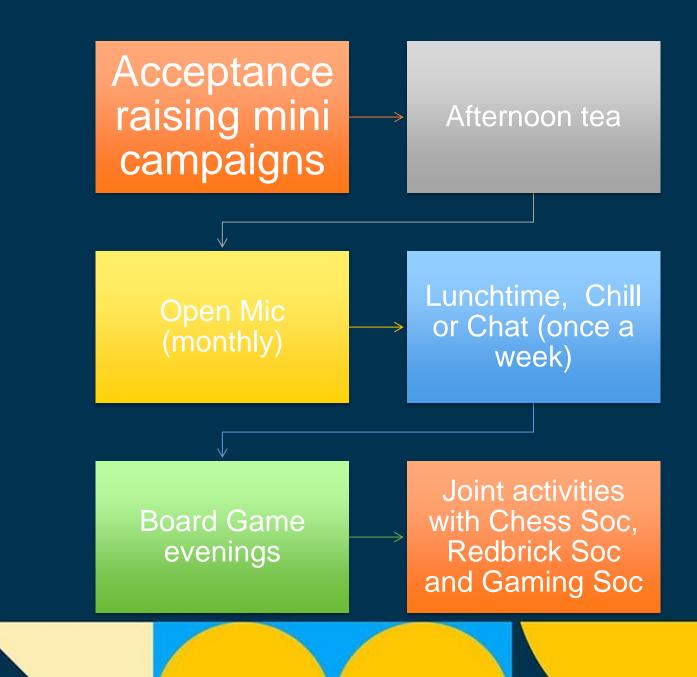
### Description

\*\*Opening February 2024\*\* Our Wellness Centre is the perfect place to chill and get some relaxation. To access go to the Health Centre Reception.

### lcon

Relax Indoor

# DCU Neurodivergent Society Events



Support Neurodivergent Society with awareness campaigns

# Knowing Ewe, Knowing Me

### Neurotypical people tend

### Not to say exactly what they think and assume everyone does the same

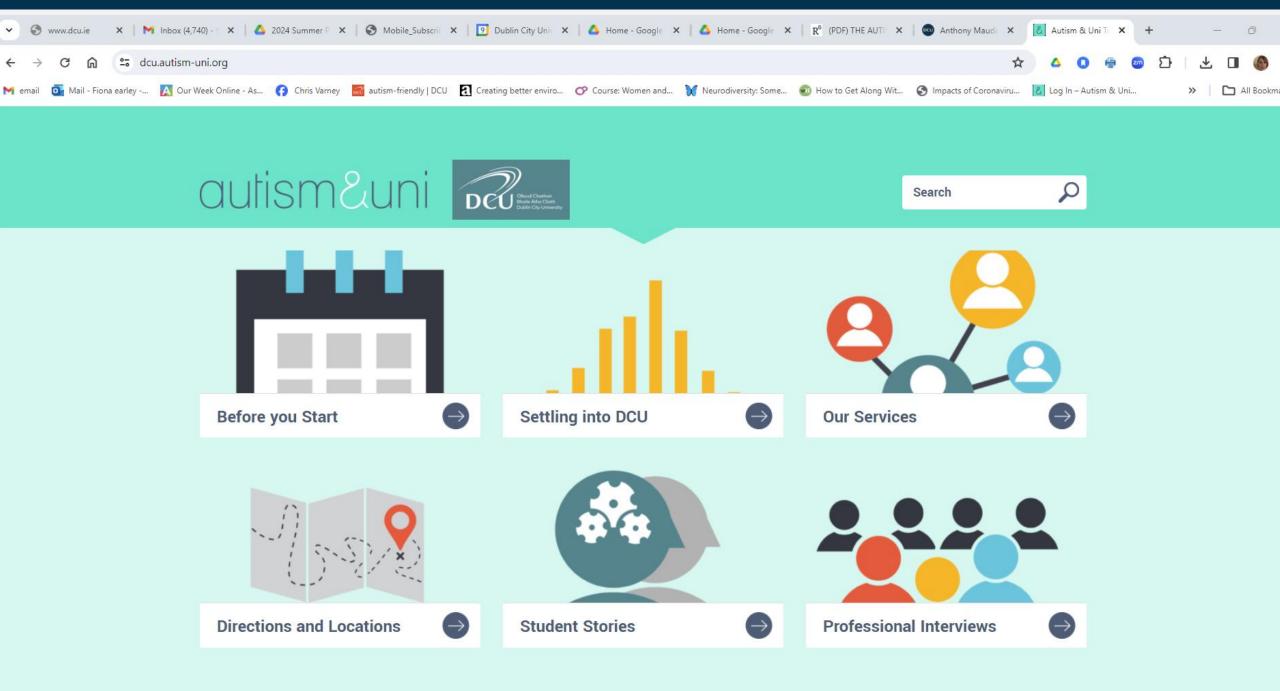
### Autistic people tend

To say exactly what they think and assume everyone does the same



10 different sides throughout day- week 11





# Thank you