



Kilkenny County Council Fire and Rescue Service

Community Fire Safety

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Kilkenny City Fire Brigade – KKII – hosted KILKENNY YOUTHREACH - Summer Programme

Community Fire Safety

Our Vision - Working with communities to protect what they value.

In June 2024, Fire Officers from Kilkenny City Fire Brigade, KKII, hosted a visit to the station from **Kilkenny Youthreach** which is a full-time, second chance education programme for early school leavers aged between 15-20 offering young people the opportunity to achieve a Leaving Certificate qualification in an out-of-school setting and develop social and personal skills. Every year during the summer programme our learners have had the privilege of attending Kilkenny Fire and Rescue Station to receive a meaningful experience from working fire officers. Learners see, hear and partake in an informative safety talk and learn about the history of firefighting in Kilkenny City and County, a tour of the fire station, gaining an up-close introduction to some of the equipment that firefighters use and then partake in an interactive demonstration on how firefighters work at a typical road traffic collisions – RTC's. Learners gain an insight into what work firefighters do and learn what career growth opportunities can be obtained through being a firefighter.

During the tour, the learners had the opportunity to ask questions and engage in discussions with the firefighters. They were fascinated to learn about the intensive training and skills required to be a firefighter, as well as the variety of emergency situations the firefighters respond to beyond just fighting fires.

The highlight of the visit was the interactive demonstration on responding to a road traffic collision. The firefighters went into great detail, walking the learners through the step-by-step process they would follow. This included safely securing the scene, assessing casualties, extricating casualties from vehicles, rendering medical first-aid assistance, and co-ordinating with other emergency services present. The learners were able to get hands-on experience with some of the specialised equipment used, such as hydraulic rescue tools. They were also invited to try on some of the firefighters' protective gear, which they found both fascinating and fun.

Throughout the demonstration, the firefighters encouraged questions and feedback from the learners. They made sure to explain the reasoning behind each action, helping the learners develop a deeper understanding of emergency response procedures. By the end of the visit, the learners expressed a newfound respect and appreciation for the work of firefighters. Many said they found the experience inspiring and were curious to learn more about potential careers in the fire service... *Here's hoping!*

Our Mission - To reduce the incidence and consequence of fire and other emergencies and to provide a professional response.

Yeah I can do this Firefighters are just ... the best! - This is so so cool !!!



Many thanks to all the fire personnel from Kilkenny City Fire Brigade who helped in the preparation and who partook in this community event.

