CSPE: Democracy

Women in the Oireachtas

Lesson plan

Learning intentions
At the end of this lesson students will
• Understand how women obtained the vote in 1918
• Describe and appreciate the contribution of one woman of their choice to Irish political life since 1919

Key skills
• Communicating
• Working with others
• Managing information and thinking

Resources
Vótáil 100  www.oireachtas.ie/votail100
Irish Women's Parliamentary Caucus  www.oireachtas.ie/womens-caucus
Inter-Parliamentary Union  www.ipu.org/our-impact/gender-equality
World Economic Forum  www.weforum.org/reports/gender-gap-2020-report-100-years-pay-equality
Introduction
Ask students to guess how many of the 160 seats in the Dáil were won by women after the 2020 general election. You could give multi-choice options: 36, 56 or 76.
Explain that the answer is 36 or 22.5% of the seats available.
Ask if anyone is surprised by this or is it what they had expected.

Development
Show the slide show Women in the Oireachtas. The concluding activity to the lesson is contained in the presentation.

Conclusion
Use the resources to lead a further discussion on women’s participation in public life.