



My name is Elisa Lusignoli and I'm an Italian exchange student living in Kinsale.

I'm in Ireland since January until the end of May. When I first came here I didn't know what to expect and was a bit scared to find it difficult to speak English with everyone and to make friends, but at the end it was all way easier than I expected: English is a "straight forward" language and it's not difficult to get used to it, and it has been really easy to become friends with the other exchange students since we're all in the same situation, but also the Irish people are very open.

Now I feel like I've been here just for two months but I only have 9 days left and I'm becoming sad.

My host family is very nice and always tries to make me feel at home.

Anyway, if we have a problem we can always write to Rachelle, that has been very present for us since the beginning, bringing us to take the uniforms when we first arrived and organizing meetings after school every few weeks. She also organises trips for us if we want to go somewhere.

I personally found the Irish school way less stressful and easier than the Italian one probably also because I arrived only in January and they put me in transition year (the fourth one) that is focused on developing social and other kind of skills. In this school there are a lot of opportunities to learn new skills like subjects such as home economics and constructing with wood.

I'm grateful to Educate with friends for giving me this opportunity, now I will miss a lot been here and hope to come back soon and remain in touch with the friends I made.

Elisa Lusignoli,

12th of May 2025