

Ministry of Education, Heritage, Environment, Energy and Climate Change

## PRESS RELEASE

No: 541/2017

Date:15th September 2017

## **Cyberfirst Futures Course Students brief Minister Cortes**

The Minister for Education John Cortes recently met a number of Bayside students who returned from the Cyberfirst Futures course at Royal Holloway University of London. The students, Jamie Weigold, Ben Sene, Adam Rocca, Asadullah Shuja and Leon Wellstead, who were accompanied by their teachers Stewart Harrison and Thomas Toughill, were required to carry out a number of entry exams before being accepted onto the course.

The students spent five days at the course where they learnt about different types of cyber attacks and a number of methods to prevent them. They also covered the psychology of the hacker and the different reasons for attacks to be carried out. The course was hosted by GCHQ and the National Cyber Security Centre and is part of the UK's cyber security strategy. The course had 48 participants with two of the Bayside students achieving high scores in their assessment, placing them both in the top 5 overall.

During their meeting the students discussed with the Minister future career aspirations, their views on the role and advancement of technology and the effect cybercrime has on our society.