



## **Looking forward to going abroad**

Hello, my name is Laura McEntee and I am a third year Erasmus student in Maynooth University studying BA Arts German and Business Management. For my third year of university, I am going to be studying for one academic year as an ELA English language assistant in Dinkelsbühl Germany. I am currently 2 weeks away from leaving Ireland and travelling to Germany. I am nervous and excited at the same time. I am excited for the new opportunities and experiences the internship will offer and all the new things I will learn while abroad, but I am also nervous about adjusting into a new atmosphere, a new job and probably also about living away from my family for the first time. In order to prepare for my internship as an English Language Assistant, I have to finalise loads of documents for my Erasmus grant: this means obtaining insurance and gathering details about my employment in Germany and filling in details about myself and my current university in Ireland. I also have to ensure I have all the correct documents to go abroad such as my European Health Insurance card, passport and insurance documentation. I have to book my one-way flight (!) over to Germany with Lufthansa, pack all my clothes and ensure I have all the required documentation in order to travel abroad in times of Covid--locator forms, COVID tests, or a COVID vaccine passport to present at the airport and ensure my registration for Maynooth university is all taken care of in order to be ready to start my Year Abroad.