

Kerry Children and Young People's Services Committee (CYPSC) launches '#Connected Respected' Social Media Campaign



Kerry Children & Young People's Services Committee

C/O Kerry Community Services,
HSE, Rathass
Tralee, Co Kerry

Phone: 066-7199764

Mobile: 086-7871477

E-mail: claire.otoole@hse.ie

www.kerrychildrensservices.com

Kerry CYPSC

Membership:

Mr O Mawe, Child & Family
Agency,

Mr J Breen Kerry County
Council;

Inspector A Sugrue An Garda
Síochána;

Ms P Horan, HSE;

Dr C Craven CAMHS;

Ms A O'Dwyer Kerry

Education & Training Board;

Ms M Galvin, Kerry Education &
Training Board;

Mrs M Griffin Probation Service;

Mr N Spillane South Kerry
Partnership;

Mr R Carey North & East Kerry
Development;

Ms G O'Brien KDYS;

Ms O Fleming Kerry County
Childcare;

Mr D O'Shea National
Educational Welfare Board;

Ms A Sharkey IT Tralee;

Mr S Falvey FRC Network;
National Association of

Principals & Deputy Principals; -
vacant

Ms U Coffey, Irish Primary
Principals Network;

Mr D Lane, HSE Drugs &
Alcohol Service;

Ms C O'Toole, Coordinator
Kerry CYPSC

Kerry CYPSC Youth Participation Working Group have today (Friday, January 15th) launched the **'#Connected Respected'** Social Media Campaign which seeks to hear the voice of young people in Kerry in order to better inform the work of Kerry CYPSC. We will be asking young people to post pictures with comments via Instagram, Facebook & Twitter which highlight **'What makes young people feel Connected, Respected & Valued in their Communities'**.

A central focus of the campaign is to find out what makes young people feel connected to & respected by family, friends, school, clubs, sports, community, fun & Kerry etc. In this way we hope to learn what's important to young people in Kerry and highlight in a positive way some of the challenges they may be experiencing. Gemma O'Brien, Chairperson of Kerry CYPSC Youth Participation Working Group says: "I am delighted to be here today to launch this Social Media Campaign. One of the aims of this Working Group is to include the voice of children and young people in all aspects of the work of Kerry CYPSC and young people have told us the best way to hear what they have to say is via social media".

The role of the Committee is to improve outcomes for children & young people at local county level by ensuring that the needs of children, young people and families are identified and responded to as early as possible. Creating awareness among young people that their opinions matter is an important part of this work; Kerry CYPSC and all its' member agencies are very committed to including the voice of children and young people.

ENDS

Notes to Editor

- The **#Connected Respected** Social Media Campaign will run from January 11th 2016 to March 17th 2016. The winning entry each week will receive a €20 voucher and there's an overall prize worth €200.
- Youth Participation is about creating opportunities for young people to be involved in influencing, shaping, designing and contributing to policy and the development of services and programmes. It is based on the principles of young people being informed, having an effect on outcomes, organising themselves, making decisions or being involved in decision making and being involved in follow up.
- Kerry CYPSC Youth Participation Working Group: The main objectives of the Youth Participation Working Group is to make it easy for Kerry CYPSC working groups to include young people in a meaningful way and to facilitate the active participation of young people in the development of the CYPSC Work plan and working group decision-making.
- The Kerry CYPSC Youth Participation Working group is being led by Gemma O'Brien, Senior Manager KDYS. Membership includes representation from An Garda Síochána, Kerry ETB, Kerry Life Skills, Kerry County Council, Jigsaw Kerry, GAA, Institute of Guidance Counsellors Kerry Branch, Kerry County Childcare Committee and Kerry Comhairle na nÓg.