

General Information/Updates:



Cineáltas: Action Plan on Bullying Implementation Plan 2023-2027



Cineáltas: Action Plan on Bullying Implementation Plan 2023-2027: The Minister for Education Norma Foley has recently launched the [Implementation Plan for Cineáltas: Action Plan on Bullying](#). This is the Department of Education's whole-education approach to preventing and addressing bullying in schools.

Four key areas of the implementation plan are:

- >a €5 million pilot programme of counselling supports for primary school students
- >the establishment of a Student Participation Unit
- >the establishment of an expert group chaired by Professor Laura Lundy, Professor of Education Law and Children's Rights at Queen's University
- >the updating of the anti-bullying procedures for schools

Cineáltas is dedicated to the prevention and addressing of bullying, cyber bullying, racist bullying, gender identity bullying and sexual harassment, among other areas, in schools.

It is centred on a child right's based approach and provides a collective vision and clear roadmap for how the whole education community and society can work together to prevent and address bullying in our schools. To download the plan [CLICK HERE](#)



Creative Youth Nurture Fund: Creative Ireland is holding an information session to discuss the new 'Creative Youth Nurture Fund' which is a pilot scheme that will support youth-led cultural, artistic and creative engagement by young people aged between 6 and 24 years. It is looking to support individuals and organisations that can reach specific groups of young people that are too often seldom heard, to nurture their creative passions and ignite their creative potential.

Grant funding between **€50,000 - €90,000** per project with a duration of 18-24 months will be provided up to a total of **€500,000**.

Proposals are invited from organisations, individuals or partnerships with experience of working with the following groups of children and young people:

1. Living with physical or intellectual disabilities;
2. Refugees and asylum-seekers;
3. Living with mental health issues;
4. LGBTI+;
5. Traveller and Roma;
6. Those within, or transitioning from, the care system; or
7. Engaged with the youth justice system/ incarcerated persons and ex-offenders (up to age 24).

[A full briefing document is available here.](#) The **online briefing session will take place on the 9th May at 3pm** and will provide an overview of the fund and a Q&A session. To register for this briefing [CLICK HERE](#)



Launch of Longford Westmeath CYPSC Domestic Abuse Leaflets: Go Purple Day a joint initiative between An Garda Síochána and Domestic Abuse Services took place on 28th April to raise awareness about Domestic Abuse. The initiative created by Community Garda Stacey Looby, Athlone Garda Station creates national awareness of Domestic abuse and violence and consolidates community partnerships between Domestic Violence Services and An Garda Síochána.

In support of Go Purple Day Longford Westmeath Domestic Abuse Local Area Network, under the auspices of Longford Westmeath CYPSC, hosted a Go Purple Day event which included the very successful launch of the Longford Westmeath Domestic Abuse Multilingual leaflets. Copies of the leaflets are available in local Domestic Abuse services and in local Garda stations in the Longford and Westmeath garda district areas. They can also be downloaded [HERE](#)

Laois & Offaly Child & Youth Services website: Laois Offaly [Open Up website](#) is a signposting website to child, youth and family services in Laois and Offaly.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view a short video to take you on a quick tour of the website and how it can be of use to you.

This is a website that can be used to share information across all the services that support children, young people and their families.



Guide to Supports and Services for Children and Young People with Disabilities in Laois and Offaly: Laois Offaly CYPSC have launched their disability guide in recent weeks. This fabulous resource is filled with information for both parents and professionals alike and enables them to find resources and support at a local, regional and national level. To download a copy of this guide and the Longford Westmeath Guide to Services for young people with disabilities, please click on the links below:

[Guide to Supports and Services for Children and Young People with Disabilities in Laois and Offaly](#)

[Guide to Services for Young People with Disabilities in Longford and Westmeath](#)

Both LO CYPSC and LW CYPSC continue to support the updating of both guides to ensure they are an up-to-date resource for parents and professionals alike in the midlands area.

Sensory Offaly Toys and Equipment Collection: The [Sensory Offaly Toys and Equipment Collection](#) contains a range of items to help in the development of fine motor, gross motor, communication and life skills. It is based in Tullamore Library, but collection from other branches may be arranged. Each of the eight Offaly branches can provide a sensory backpack for use within the library.

Items from the collection may be borrowed by patrons registered for a Sensory Offaly library card, which can be obtained from any branch of Offaly Libraries. Sensory Offaly patrons may borrow up to three items at a time from the collection.

Browse the collection in the brochure below and contact your local branch to request an item. Items may differ slightly from the catalogue. All queries may be directed to Tullamore Library at TullamoreLibrary@offalycoco.ie or 057 934 6832.

For more details on the Sensory Offaly Toys and Equipment Collection, [check out the brochure here](#).



Webinars/ Training/ Events:



Small changes,
big differences.



**Online 5 Week
Teen Triple P Programme**
For parents of teens aged 11-15 years
Weekly Programme commencing June 6th
10am to 12 noon
To book email angelam.egan@tusla.ie

FREE

Content covered
 * Principles of positive parenting and causes of teen behaviour.
 * Encouraging appropriate/desirable behaviour
 * Managing problem behaviour
 * Dealing with Risky behaviour and
 * Implementing and reviewing parenting routines.



(It is recommended that you attend all sessions)

Teen Triple P Parenting Online Programme: An online Teen Triple P Programme will commence on **Tuesday 6th June** (and continue each Tuesday for five weeks) from 10am to 12 noon. This programme is aimed at parents of children aged 11 – 15years.

Content covered includes

- Principles of positive parenting and causes of teen behaviour.
- Encouraging appropriate/desirable behaviour
- Managing problem behaviour
- Dealing with Risky behaviour and
- Implementing and reviewing parenting routines.

It is recommended that all sessions must be attended.

To register a place email angelam.egan@tusla.ie

BUGGY WALKS



Don't have time, Now you can bring the Buggy with you!

Open to all parents, grandparents, childminders etc in the care of babies/toddlers looking to join a social group

Tuesday's– Longford Town & Ballinacarrigy
Wednesday's– Athlone
Thursday's – Granard



Longford Westmeath Buggy Walks Initiative Returns: The FREE Longford Westmeath Buggy Walks initiative is currently taking place across Longford and Westmeath. This initiative is a collaboration between LW CYPSC, Longford and Westmeath Sports Partnerships, local Family Resource Centres and Longford Community Resources Clg.

Supporting organisations for this initiative also include Community Mothers Longford & Westmeath, Longford & Westmeath County Childcare Committee's, Barnardos, Local Childcare Providers, and the HSE.

The following are the registration details for each of the walks:

Location	Contact number to Register
Athlone Town	085 842 3738
Longford Town	087 947 8650 / 087 945 1771
Ballinacarrigy	044 937 3060
Granard	086 869 6385

Barnardos Plugged In, Switched Off, Online Gaming Webinar: Barnardos online safety webinar, Plugged in Switched off, is back this year on **Wednesday 17th of May from 10-11.30am** and the theme is 'Gaming'. This event will be streamed on YouTube live.

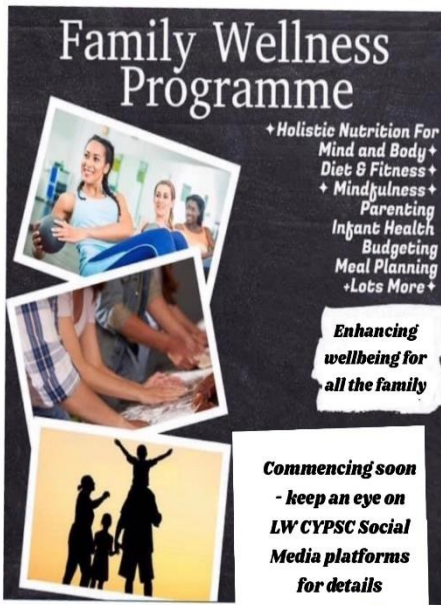
Supported by Google.org, the event is aimed at principals, parents and professionals working with children. It hopes to be practical, solution focused and to give an insight into the pros/cons of gaming and how it impacts on children. To register for the event [CLICK HERE](#) or visit the [Barnardos website](#) for further details.



Barnardos
Plugged In Switched Off, Gaming
Wed, 17 May 2023, YouTube Live
10:00am

Keynote speaker,
Richard Hogan,
Psychotherapist & Author "Parenting the Screenager"





Longford Westmeath Family Wellness Programme: The [LW CYPSC Family Wellness Programme](#), funded by Healthy Ireland will recommence in venues across the two counties in the coming weeks. The aim of the programme is to support families to reduce/eliminate toxic stress and anxiety harmful to family wellbeing. This is achieved through several interactive workshops with the following objectives:

- Provide practical workshops on parenting, meal planning, taking the stress out of the kitchen and support physical and mental wellbeing
- Demonstrate how batch cooking and freezing can save time, provide handy nurturing meals, and cut food costs and waste.
- Offer Information/Tips & Tools on the best management of energy, finance & household budgeting to reduce unnecessary consumption and costs.
- Fun ways to include fitness as a part of daily family life and stress busting and anxiety reducing initiatives such as yoga, crafts and mindfulness and lots more!

Workshops will take place in LW CYPSC Social Media Platforms for further details or contact grainne.reid@tusla.ie who will put you in touch with your nearest participating host organisation.

To view a summary video about the Family Wellness Programme [CLICK HERE](#)

Responding to the Risk of Domestic Violence Homicide in Rural Ireland:

Longford Women's Link, supported by the Longford Community Safety Partnership, and funded by Dept of Justice, are hosting a two day training event on the 17th and 18th of May with **Professor Jane Monckton Smith**, leading criminologist and lecturer at the University of Gloucestershire.

This two day FREE event entitled **“Responding to the risk of Domestic Violence Homicide in Rural Ireland”** is open to Child and Family Services across the midlands area. It is envisaged that multiagency attendance to specific training and workshops will enhance knowledge and a mutual understanding between all agencies and front line staff working within the criminal justice system and in turn will assist in strengthening service delivery for those at risk of violence or domestic abuse in the midlands area. To register please contact natalie@lwl.ie Please note places are limited and to avoid disappointment early booking is essential.

Edgeworthstown Parent and Toddler Group: The Edgeworthstown Parent and Toddler group will meet from 10:30am – 12pm at The Green, Edgeworthstown on the following dates: **Tuesday 16th & 30th May, 13th & 27th June**

All are welcome! If you have any questions or would like to register your place for upcoming dates – please contact Katarina on 087 412 2922

The Edgeworthstown P&T group is a LW CYPSC collaborative project with lead agencies Longford County Childcare Committee, Longford Community Mothers, and Westmeath Community Development.





Coffee Morning for parents of children with additional needs

When: Last Monday of each Month
Dates: Monday, February 27
Monday, March 27
Monday, April 24
Monday, May 29

Time: 10am-12:00pm
Contact: 086 150 6416 / aircmidlands@gmail.com

Venue: Longford Community Resources (LCRL)
Templemichael, Longford N39 RI 122
(located beside Fenlons factory on the road beside the fire station and the Mall)

ALL WELCOME- FREE

"PLAY AREA FOR SMALL CHILDREN"

Coffee Mornings for Parents of Children with Additional Needs -

Longford: Longford Coffee Morning for parents of children with additional needs is a collaboration supported by LW CYPSC with lead partners - AIRC Midlands, Longford County Childcare Committee and Longford Community Resources Clg. The group meet **the last Monday in every month** and is a FREE group for parents of children of all ages. There is also a play area available for parents of young children.

The group meet in Longford Community Resources Clg.

To book your place please email aircmidlands@gmail.com or phone 086 150 6416



Infinity Friends invites our fellow Autism Parents/Guardians to join us for "ME TIME AT TEA TIME"

Cuppa & Chat

May 15th @ 6.30pm
Shamrock Lodge Hotel Athlone

Athlone Autism Parents/ Guardians Group: The Athlone Autism Parents group, a support group for parents of children with Autism, in collaboration with Infinity Friends are hosting an evening event in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel, Athlone on Monday 15th May at 6:30pm.

The event 'Me Time at Tea Time' is an opportunity for parents of autism children to come together for a "Cuppa and a chat". All are welcome



Does your child need support to access pre-school?

AIM ACCESS & INCLUSION MODEL

AIM supports can help your child reach their full potential.

Join us for a virtual information Session Wed. 24th May at 7pm.

To book your place follow this link: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/aim-information-session-for-parents-tickets-5745577993>

If you've any questions, please contact LCCC on 043-3342505.

AIM (Access & Inclusion Model) Virtual Information Session for Parents:

Longford County Childcare Committee in collaboration with [Better Start](#) will be offering a Virtual [AIM](#) Information Session for Parents on **Wednesday, 24th of May at 7pm.**

Any parent that is interested in attending this one hour AIM session can register through Eventbrite by clicking [HERE](#)

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Longford County Childcare Committee on 043 33 42505.

You are invited to apply for a place on ...



Engage National Men's Health Training: HSE will host an Engage 'Connecting with Men' workshop on Thursday 15th June in EDI Centre, Longford. The aim of this FREE workshop is to assist a broad range of practitioners and service providers to explore the world of males, and to develop practical strategies for effectively engaging with them around health and wellbeing issues. It focuses on the engagement process (i.e. **WHY** and **HOW** to build relationships with men) rather than offering a new or revised health programme (i.e. **WHAT** to offer them). To register or for further information please contact 1800 242 505 or Email kathleen.pardy@hse.ie Places are limited, early booking advised.

Date: Thursday, 15th of June 2023

Time: 9:30am – 4:30pm

Venue: EDI Centre, [Mastertech Business Park](#), Athlone Road, Longford, N39 Y0F4

Many thanks to all for forwarding information and links, please continue to forward your updates for sharing and continue to tag LW CYPSC on [Facebook](#) and/or [Twitter](#), or LO CYPSC on [Facebook](#) and/or [Twitter](#)

or you can

email the coordinators at:

Longford Westmeath CYPSC: grainne.reid@tusla.ie or

Laois Offaly CYPSC: niamh.dowler@tusla.ie

www.cypsc.ie