

## General Information/ Updates:



### Let's Play Ireland – Summer of Play & LW CYPSC Promoting Play campaign:

[Let's Play Ireland](#), is a government-led campaign designed to remind everyone, young and old, of the fundamental importance of play. This year during National Play Week LW CYPSC ran a **#PromotingPlay in the Early Years** campaign. This campaign was hugely supported by all of our partner agencies and overall was very well received, with the campaign posts having a total reach of **14,396** on the LW CYPSC facebook page and a total of **43,353** impressions from the campaign tweets on the LW CYPSC twitter page during the campaign period. The LW CYPSC Early Years Learning Subgroup also collated a **'Promoting Play in the Early Years' resource document** which can be downloaded [HERE](#). To view the 'Promoting Play' posts, check out the hashtag **#PromotingPlay** on Facebook or twitter.

For further information on the National Let's Play Ireland campaign [CLICK HERE](#)



**Keep Well In Your Community:** To keep up to date on the cross-government community resilience campaign, on how to keep well visit the [Healthy Ireland](#) Keep Well campaign webpage. For information on how to **Keep Well in your Community** at a local level, check out your local Authority Keep Well Pages at the following links:

[Longford](#), [Westmeath](#), [Laois](#), [Offaly](#) and a full list of [Local Authorities in Ireland](#)

For a list of local **Contact Details for Child, Youth and Family Services** in the Midlands Area click on the following links for [Longford and Westmeath](#) and [Laois and Offaly](#)



**Let's Get Ready:** The Let's Get Ready campaign by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) aims to support parents & children and help them know what to expect when they start pre-school, crèche or go to a childminder. To view the Let's Get Ready video [CLICK HERE](#) or for further information [CLICK HERE](#)

### National Parents Council Primary - Supporting your child's transition

**from Pre-school to Primary School:** NPC Primary Supporting Parents Supporting Children have produced a Hints and Tips document to support a child's transition from Pre-school to Primary School. Topics included in the document are:

- Social Development
- Language and Literacy
- Independence
- Uniform
- School Routine

For further details and to download this resource please [CLICK HERE](#)



### Jigsaw School transition toolkit - primary to post-primary:

**Jigsaw School transition toolkit - primary to post-primary:** Jigsaw has developed a toolkit for primary schools to support teachers to prepare young people for the transition to post-primary school. They have incorporated strategies in a number of engaging resources with a mix of methodologies including classroom discussions, animations, scenarios, reflective exercises and worksheets.

Jigsaw's school transition toolkit is supported by Rethink Ireland through the Innovate Together Fund, a collaboration between Rethink Ireland and the Department of Rural and Community Development. For further details [CLICK HERE](#)



**Summer Stars Libraries Ireland National Reading Programme:** Summer Stars is the free national reading programme for children that takes place in all public libraries and online. The Summer Stars programme runs throughout the summer until 31st August 2021.

For further information [CLICK HERE](#) or visit your local library (links below).

[Longford](#)

[Westmeath](#)

[Laois](#)

[Offaly](#)

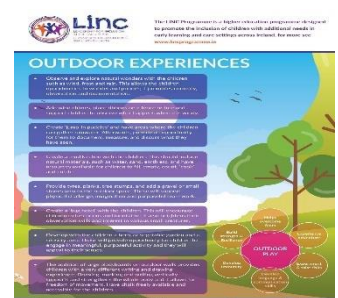
[Libraries Ireland](#)



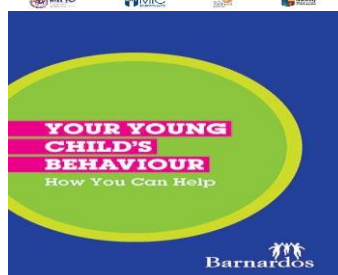
**Tusla Fostering Online Information Session:** Tusla - the Child and Family Agency in Dublin Mid Leinster are looking for people from communities all across the region who might be interested in becoming a foster carer to a child. Tusla foster carers all have positively transformed the lives of vulnerable children and young people, by helping to provide a safe and loving home environment, where they can grow, flourish, and reach the best of their potential.

If you would like to know more Tusla are hosting an **online information session on July 29th** at 11:30am for members of the public that may have an interest in becoming a foster carer.

For further details and to register for this information session [CLICK HERE](#) or email [tusla.fostering@tusla.ie](mailto:tusla.fostering@tusla.ie)



**Leadership for Inclusion in the Early Years Outdoor Experiences Poster:** On foot of the #SummerOfPlay initiative, the team at [Leadership for Inclusion](#) in the Early Years has put together an outdoor experience's poster. [CLICK HERE](#) to download this resource. LINC is a free higher education blended-learning programme designed for early childhood teachers working in early learning and care, to promote the inclusion of children with additional needs in early learning and care settings across Ireland. For further information visit their website [HERE](#)



**Free E-BOOK 'Your Young Child's Behaviour':** This booklet, published by Barnardos, is for parents of young children up to the age of six. It aims to give parents a better understanding of a child's behaviour and what it is that their child is trying to communicate through their behaviour.

For further information on other Barnardo's e-booklets and for information on how to download a copy of this e-booklet [CLICK HERE](#)



**Internet Matters:** This website supports families online, helping parents keep their kids safe online. This website provides expert advice, support, and tips on how to keep children safe online, and how they can benefit from using technology and internet safely and smartly. It is an excellent resource on parental controls. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.



**Youth Work Ireland Laois – Art Therapy Sessions:** A new art therapy service for young people is available two days per week in Youth Work Ireland Laois. Art therapy can help young people communicate what is sometimes difficult to put into words. No art experience is necessary and all sessions are confidential.

To find out more about this Art Therapy service contact YWI Laois at 057 866 5010 or email [clive@ywilaos.com](mailto:clive@ywilaos.com)



**Alcohol Action Ireland publish new report 'Alcohol Treatment Services: A snapshot survey 2021':** Alcohol Action have recently published a new report entitled '*Alcohol Treatment Services: A snapshot survey 2021*' which explores some of the prevailing issues related to services in Ireland. This report presents a synopsis of views sought from service providers who were interviewed over a period in 2020 and distils their commentary on a range of issues into four central themes: ***Mental Health and Trauma, Reducing the impact on children and families, Gaps in Services and Barriers to treatment.*** The report states that "Trauma, as result of adverse childhood experience, was recognised by many service providers within its client population, however some expressed caution in addressing its impact. Children often go unnoticed in the programmes of those seeking treatment; 50% of those in treatment are fathers or mothers, with children having to share the journey to recovery. Providers believe children require a specific response if the intergenerational cycle of dependency and trauma is to be broken. In 2019, there were 5,060 children who had a parent in residential treatment: 23% under 5, 77% between 5 and 17." To download the full report [CLICK HERE](#)



**Public Health Information regarding Covid-19:** As part of the [Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021: Plan for Living with COVID-19](#) there are a number of public health measures in place. To read more about these measures [CLICK HERE](#).

For the **most up to date information** and advice on Coronavirus, please see:

**Department of Health DOH:** Covid 19 information and campaigns [CLICK HERE](#).

**Health Service Executive HSE:** Covid 19 information including symptoms, testing and how to manage Coronavirus at home [CLICK HERE](#)

**For the most up to date**

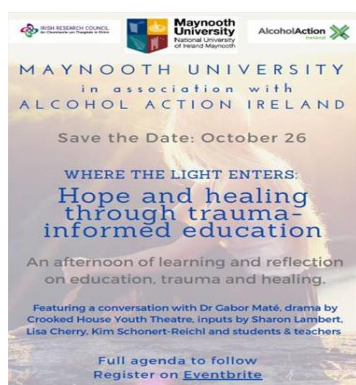
**Partner resources for COVID-19,** [CLICK HERE](#)

**COVID-19 Vaccination Programme info** [CLICK HERE](#)

**Ireland's COVID-19 Data Hub is available** [HERE](#)

For information on **Protecting your Child** from COVID-19, please see: [www.gov.ie/adviceforparents](http://www.gov.ie/adviceforparents)

## Webinars/ Training/ Online Events:



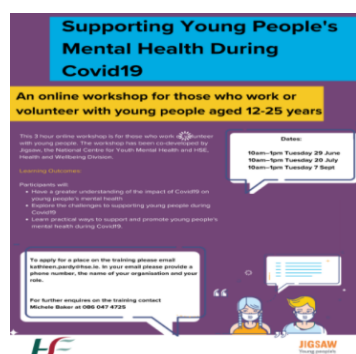
### Hope and Healing through Trauma – Informed Education:

Maynooth University Department of Education is hosting an online festival on Trauma-Informed Education, on **Oct 26th, 2021**, in collaboration with Alcohol Action Ireland and supported by the Irish Research Council

**The event is free** and will feature a conversation with world renowned trauma expert, Dr Gabor Maté, drama from Crooked House Youth Theatre, contributions from Dr Sharon Lambert, Lisa Cherry, Professor Kimberly Schonert-Reichl, Experts by Experience, teachers, and students.

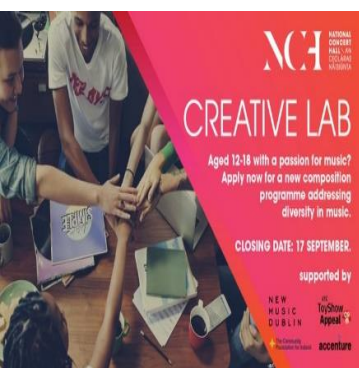
Further details of the event, with full schedule to be announced.

To register for the event [CLICK HERE](#)



**Supporting Young People's Mental Health During COVID-19:** [Jigsaw Ireland](#), who are the National Centre for Youth Mental Health and the [HSE \(Health and Wellbeing Division\)](#) have joined forces to offer free online training to support Youth Mental Health during COVID-19. This online workshop is for those who work or volunteer with young people aged 12-25 years old. The workshop will take place on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> September: 10am – 1pm**. To apply for a place on this training, email [Kathleen.pardy@hse.ie](mailto:Kathleen.pardy@hse.ie) and include a phone number, the name of your organisation and your role or for further enquiries about the training, contact Michele Baker at 086 047 4725. It is envisaged that additional dates will be added in September.





**Creative Lab – Music Composition Programme for Young People:** The National Concert Hall are launching a new music composition programme - Creative Lab - for young people (aged 12-18) from typically underrepresented groups for example, Black, Asian, the Mincéir/Traveller and Roma Communities, other Minority Ethnic Communities within the island of Ireland, as well as women, transgender, non-binary, people with disabilities and gender-nonconforming people. Supported by the RTÉ Toy Show Appeal and Accenture, and in partnership with New Music Dublin, Creative Lab at NCH is designed to offer opportunities to young people with a passion for music, while also highlighting diversity in music and addressing the imbalance of composers from traditionally underrepresented groups who are commissioned, performed and championed.

For further information and registration details [CLICK HERE](#)



**AIT Postgraduate Research Opportunity:** Athlone Institute of Technology have recently announced a funded PhD opportunity in early life nutrition for children aged 1 to 5 years. The primary objective of this project is to determine Irish parents understanding and perceptions of the importance of vitamin D and iron in diet of young children and their awareness and compliance with new recommendations. This project will address this gap in knowledge by using a mixed-methods design. Furthermore, it is envisaged the project will help to understand risk factors associated with iron deficiency and vitamin D deficiency in this age group by carrying out a cross-sectional study of young children and caregivers as well as a secondary analysis of dietary and biochemical data, in order to establish which children are most at risk of these deficiencies. For further information and registration details [CLICK HERE](#) or for additional AIT funded PhD opportunities [CLICK HERE](#)

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](mailto:grainne.reid@tusla.ie) or  
Laois Offaly CYPSC: [niamh.dowler@tusla.ie](mailto:niamh.dowler@tusla.ie)  
[www.cypsc.ie](http://www.cypsc.ie)

