

General Information/Updates:



Seachtain na Gaeilge: Seachtain na Gaeilge is an international Irish language festival, which is the largest annual celebration of our native language and culture that takes place in Ireland and across many other countries. This year's festival runs from 1st – 17th March and will be a mixture of online and in person events.

Games are a fun and enjoyable way to stimulate interest in the Irish language amongst children and young people.

Here are a few games that you can download and play! <https://snag.ie/en/games/>

For full details on Seachtain na gaeilge visit <https://snag.ie/>

National Policy Framework for Children and Young People: Young Ireland is the new policy framework for children and young people aged 0-24. It covers the period from 2023-2028, and envisages an Ireland in which all children and young people can fully access their rights. It is focused on tackling the biggest challenges that affect children and young people in Ireland today, and setting up robust structures so children's rights are foremost whenever we make decisions affecting the lives of children and young people.

A new [Children and Young People's Indicator Set](#) has been released to compliment the Young Ireland National Policy Framework for Children and Young People. For further details regarding the framework [CLICK HERE](#).

Supporting Children and Parents: All families may benefit from support at some point in their lives. There are many useful supports available for children, young people and parents. However, the many sources of information, advice and support can be overwhelming. Supporting Children and Parents brings together new and existing resources that children and parents may find helpful. It provides a starting point to access high-quality, trusted information and support in an easy to navigate format.

Supporting Children and Parents is continuously updated as new resources become available.

Click on the following links for information and resources for [Young People](#) and [Parents](#) including a dedicated [Ukrainian Resources](#) section

Consultations/ Surveys:

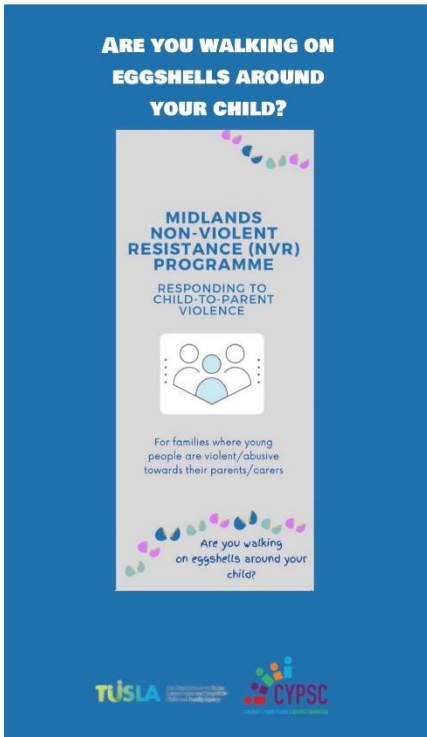
UCD Volunteering Survey Invitation



Volunteering Survey Invitation: UCD encourage any volunteers, over the age of 18 years, who are working with an organisation, to participate in their survey. Those wishing to participate can do so by simply completing the survey [HERE](#). The survey will take about 5 minutes to complete.

Please be assured that all responses will be treated confidentiality and all data collected will be anonymised. Neither your organisation nor individual respondents will be identifiable in the research report. This survey will close for responses on 31/3/24.

Webinars/ Training/ Events:



ARE YOU WALKING ON EGGSHELLS AROUND YOUR CHILD?

MIDLANDS NON-VIOLENT RESISTANCE (NVR) PROGRAMME
RESPONDING TO CHILD-TO-PARENT VIOLENCE

For families where young people are violent/abusive towards their parents/carers

Are you walking on eggshells around your child?

TUSLA CYPSC

Midlands Non-Violent Resistance (NVR) Programme 2024: Are you walking on eggshells around your child? NVR is a non-judgemental programme that helps re-build confidence in parents / carers. The [NVR programme](#) is for parents or carers who are experiencing child to parent violence, intimidation, emotional abuse or controlling behaviour. NVR helps to empower parents/carers to take positive action to end the violent and controlling behaviour experienced by learning new ways to deal with certain patterns of behaviour and repair the damaged relationship between the parent and the child. The NVR programme will be delivered in two locations this April 2024, see registration details below:

Commencing **10th April, 10am – 12pm – Tullamore Family Resource Centre.**

To **register** contact

Jamie at 0876010116 or Emily at 0857671464 or by email at children@advss.ie

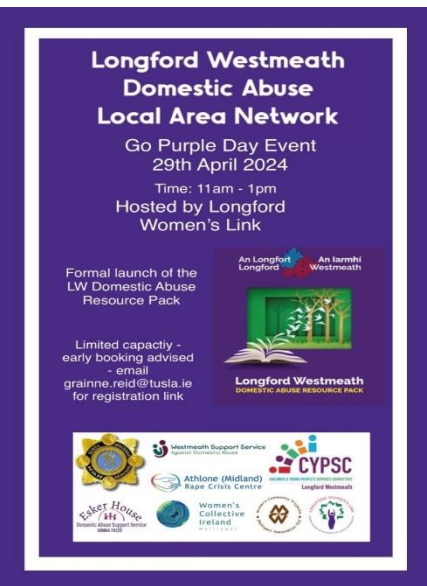
Commencing **17th April, 10:30am – 12:30pm – Mullingar Primary Care Centre**

To **register** contact

lindam.mccann@tusla.ie 0871029890 or angelam.egan@tusla.ie 0870911425

Additional programmes will be rolled out during 2024 at various locations across the midlands area.

If you would like further information regarding the NVR programme [CLICK HERE](#)



Longford Westmeath Domestic Abuse Local Area Network
Go Purple Day Event
29th April 2024
Time: 11am - 1pm
Hosted by Longford Women's Link

Formal launch of the LW Domestic Abuse Resource Pack

Limited capacity - early booking advised - email grainne.reid@tusla.ie for registration link

Longford Westmeath DOMESTIC ABUSE RESOURCE PACK

An Longford Longford An tIarmhí Westmeath

Westmeath Support Service
Athlone (Midland) Rape Crisis Centre
Women's Collective Ireland
CYPSC
Laois Offaly

Longford Westmeath CYPSC Go Purple Day Event 2023: **Go Purple Day** is a joint initiative between An Garda Síochána and Domestic Abuse Services Nationwide to raise awareness about Domestic Abuse. The initiative was created by Community Garda Stacey Looby, Athlone Garda Station to create national awareness of Domestic Violence and to consolidate 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, are hosting a Go Purple Day event for the two counties on **Monday 29th April hosted by Longford Women's Link, Ardnacassa Longford from 11am to 1pm.**

This event will bring together key community organisations working in the area of Domestic Abuse for the formal launch of [the LW Domestic Abuse Resource Pack](#).

To register to attend this FREE event, please click on the following Eventbrite Link – [LW Go Purple Day Event 2024](#). Due to limited capacity, early booking is essential.



Coffee Morning for parents of children with additional needs
Date: Monday, April 22
Time: 10am-12:00pm

Contact: Sarah on 086 150 6416 / aircmidlands@gmail.com

Venue: Longford Community Resources (LCRL) Templemichael, Longford N39 T2422 (located beside Fenlons factory on the road beside the fire station and the Mall)

ALL WELCOME- FREE NO ADVANCE BOOKING/ DROP IN

PLAY AREA FOR SMALL CHILDREN

AIRC MIDLANDS

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 will meet again on 22nd April 2024 in Longford Community Resources Clg.

This is a FREE group for parents of children of all ages. There is also a play area available for parents of young children.

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



Helium Arts Spring/ Summer Programme 2024: The award-winning Irish charity, Helium Arts are running **FREE Art Programmes** over the coming months. Helium Arts provide children with lifelong physical health conditions a chance to explore their creativity and grow in confidence, while making new friends and having fun along the way. Supported conditions include diabetes, epilepsy, cystic fibrosis, allergies, heart conditions, asthma, spina bifida, juvenile arthritis, rare or complex conditions and many more.

Consisting of both online and offline creative activities, this programme is available nationwide. For the full list of workshops and webinars including registration details please [CLICK HERE](#).



Education Rights and School Exclusions – Webinar & Legal Advice Clinics: Community Law Mediation are a legal team offering a variety of trainings, based on feedback gathered from their recent survey conducted in the Autumn of 2023. A **FREE webinar** entitled 'Education Rights & School Exclusions: Reduced hours, suspension and expulsion will take place on Friday 22nd March 10am – 12:30pm.

To register please email education@communitylawandmediation.ie, please note **places are limited**. This project is funded by the Community Foundation of Ireland RTE Toy Show Appeal.

Community Law Mediation also offer legal advice clinics on children and young people's rights. The next clinic is on **11 April 2024**.

The types of issues advised on include education (including SUSI grants, apprenticeships, accommodations for Junior Cert and Leaving Cert exams), equality, domestic violence, risk of homelessness etc.

Bookings can be made by calling 01 847 7804. For further information on services provided please [CLICK HERE](#)



Professional Certificate in Children and Loss (Level 9): Applications are now invited from professionals whose work brings them into contact with children who are bereaved through a family death or parental separation. [This Professional Certificate in Children and Loss](#) course aims to equip professionals who work with children/adolescents with the skills to understand and support them when grieving. The course will be of interest to social workers, teachers, chaplains, social care workers, psychologists, counsellors and others who meet bereaved children in their work. Course details, schedule of dates, and application procedure can be found [HERE](#) The closing date for receipt of completed applications is **7 May 2024**.

An online [open information evening](#) for prospective applicants who would like to learn more about the course will take place on 17th April at 7pm, bookings for this event can be made [HERE](#)

Open Evening



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 [X](#), or LO CYPSC on [Facebook](#) and/or [X](#)

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