

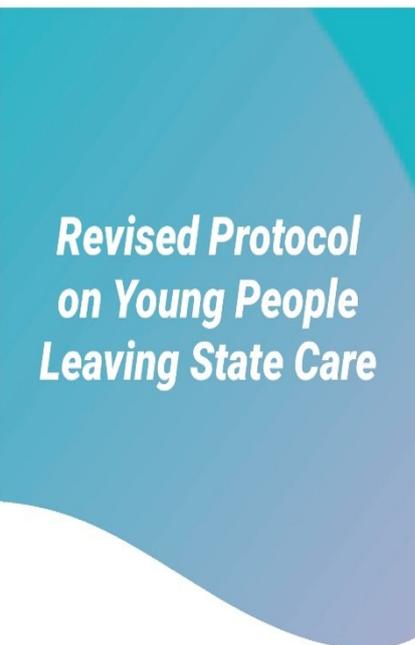
General Information/Updates:



TESS School Attendance Campaign: School is an important part of childhood; where children learn, make friends and have fun. A good education combined with loving care and encouragement will give your child a great start in life.

Children and young people in communities across Ireland are missing a concerning number of school days each year due to casual non-attendance – a day (or two, or three) missed here and there. These days add up quickly. As a result of casual non-attendance there is a real risk that many of our children and young people will not achieve their full potential from education.

For more information on advice and supports available [CLICK HERE](#)



Revised Protocol on Young People leaving State Care: The majority of young people who leave the care of the State each year, having reached 18, do so with secure, stable, safe accommodation in place such as remaining with their foster carers, moving to independent living or returning home to live with their families. However, Young people leaving State care are particularly vulnerable and unless there is appropriate forward planning for their future accommodation and support needs, these young people are at risk of becoming homeless. A joint protocol on meeting the housing and support needs of young people leaving State care has been revised, enhanced and updated in consultation with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Tusla, the County and City Managers Association and the Department of Children, Disability and Equality.

The revised protocol further clarifies the roles of Tusla and Housing Authorities and outlines the practical steps involved in assessing a young person leaving State care and managing that person's accommodation and support needs. The aim of this protocol is to ensure that the necessary measures are in place to prevent homelessness for young people leaving State care. You can view the revised protocol [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.

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

Longford Westmeath CYPSC Youth Forums – Seeking New Members: Longford Westmeath CYPSC Youth Forums are currently recruiting new members. The CYPSC Youth Forums provide an opportunity for the inclusion of Children and Young People in the planning, development and implementation of the LW CYPSC children and young people's plan. This includes input into the planning and development of CYPSC youth actions and projects in Longford and Westmeath.

If you are aged 6 – 24 years and would like to join one of the LW CYPSC Youth Forums please contact your local forum or drop into your local Family Resource Centre for further details.

Longford: Ballymahon: 085 255 1555 Granard: 043 666 0977

Westmeath: Athlone: 085 842 3738 Ballinacarrigy: 044 937 3060





www.fostering.ie

Foster families needed in the Midlands area
Laois | Longford | Offaly | Westmeath

TUSLA
An tSúil le tuisoirí na n-Éireann
Laois | Longford | Offaly | Westmeath
Child and Family Agency

Foster Families Needed in Midlands area: Tusla - Child and Family Agency in the Midlands is in urgent need of kind and loving foster families for children of all ages from birth to 18 who for various reasons cannot live with their parents.

Some of the reasons are alcohol addiction, drug addiction and mental health issues. Foster families are required on an emergency, respite, short term and long term basis.

If you would like to find out more please visit www.tusla.ie/midlands

Online Survey/ Consultations for completion/circulation



National survey on infant feeding support services

Share your experience of the support you received in feeding your baby

mychild.ie

National Survey on infant feeding support services: The National Survey on Infant Feeding Support Services is collecting feedback from new and expectant mums on the support they received feeding their baby, whether breastfeeding, bottle feeding or both.

Your feedback will inform future programs and resources, and help make sure that the best supports are provided to parents on feeding their baby. [CLICK HERE](#) to visit the survey



Submit your responses to the Public Consultation on the Regulation of School-Age Childcare and of Early Learning and Care Services!

We want to hear from parents, as well as service providers and other stakeholders to shape the legislation that supports the regulation of school-age childcare services.

Closing date: 31 October

First5

An Roinn Éireann, Meitheamh agus Comhionannais
Department of Children, Disability and Equality

Public Consultation on the Regulation of School- Age Childcare and of Early Learning and Care Services: As Regulations for [School Age Childcare](#) are mainly focused on registration, the Department is now developing comprehensive School Age Childcare Regulations and giving further consideration to which services should and should not be subject to these regulations. This consultation is an opportunity for parents, school-age childcare practitioners, providers and other stakeholders to shape the legislation that supports the regulation of school-age childcare services. For further information and to participate in the survey, please [CLICK HERE](#)

Webinars/ Training/ Programmes/Events:



Offaly and Laois Libraries PARENTING SUPPORT PROGRAMME

For further information regarding the Offaly and Laois Parenting Support Programme, scan the QR codes below.

Offaly Libraries

Laois Libraries

Offaly and Laois Parenting Support Programme:

Offaly Libraries together with Laois Libraries are delighted to co-deliver a free series of talks and workshops for parents this Autumn. Supported by Laois Offaly Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC), the Parenting Support Programme invites experts to discuss a broad range of parenting topics currently impacting our children.

The programme is open to everyone including parents, caregivers, healthcare professionals, teachers, special needs assistants and those working with children and young people. Details of all events can be found [HERE](#) in their digital booklet.



SO Sensory Offaly

Offaly Libraries

Sensory Offaly Programme 2025

CYPSC

Laois Offaly Libraries

Sensory Offaly: The Sensory Offaly programme aims to support the people in Offaly with the challenges they may face through disability and learning differences with events and workshops. It is free of charge to all attendees (parents, children, young adults, teachers, carers, SNAs, etc.) Sensory Offaly Book Collection can be viewed [HERE](#) Sensory Offaly Toys and Equipment Collection is also available, [CLICK HERE](#) to view items that are available for loan from the library.

Parenting Webinars November 2025



Tues 11th Nov 7pm - 8:30pm

Therapeutic Parenting Using Play with Carol Duffy, Child & Adolescent Psychotherapist & Play Therapist

Specialising in the areas of attachment, trauma and play, Carol will provide practical tips and opportunity for experiential learning in this workshop. Engagement in experiential segment is optional, to join in you will need:
2 balloons, 2-4 empty toilet rolls, scissors, markers, masking tape and 3 sheets of toilet paper

Tues 25th Nov 7pm - 8:30pm

Responding to Child & Adolescent Anxiety - what a parent can do with Dr. Tara Kelly, Co-founder New Authority Parenting & MSC/ Doctoral Researcher

This webinar will explore the impact of child and adolescent anxiety on children and parents. It will highlight some of the pitfalls for parents when trying to support their anxious child. Parents are welcome to bring questions to the session.



LW CYPSC Parenting Webinar Series – November 2025: Hosted by **Lus na Greine FRC**, as part of their LW CYPSC Family Wellness Initiative, a Parenting Webinar Series will run over two dates in November. The webinars are aimed at parents of children aged 0 – 18 years and professionals in the social care field who support parents and families through their work. The webinar topics are as follows:

Tuesday 11th November 7pm – 8:30pm Therapeutic Parenting Using Play by Carol Duffy, Child & Adolescent Psychotherapist and Play Therapist. M.I.A.H.I.P., M.I.A.P.T.P. Carol specialises in the areas of attachment, trauma, and play.

Tuesday 25th November 7pm – 8:30pm Responding to Child and Adolescent Anxiety – What a Parent Can do! – with Dr. Tara Kelly, Co-founder of New Authority Parenting and MSC/Doctoral Researcher

If you would like to attend either/both of these webinars, please contact admin@lngfrc.ie to register.

Longford Westmeath CYPSC HIF Showcase Event: An independent evaluation of the LW CYPSC Healthy Ireland Funded projects, is currently being completed by researcher and evaluator Dr Louise Kinlen.

A HIF showcasing event has been planned for the 26th November and will take place in Lus na Greine Family Resource Centre, Granard, Co. Longford. The event will run from 10:30am until lunch time. Doors open at 10am.

All CYPSC members are welcome. Due to limited capacity available please email Sinead at cypscw@tusla.ie to register.

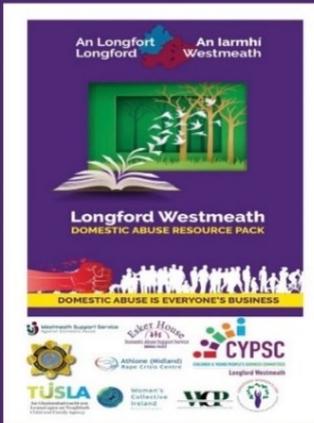
Longford Community Safety & Wellbeing Expo: Slaintecare Healthy Communities, Healthy Longford and Longford Community Safety Partnership are hosting a **Community Safety & Wellbeing Expo on Tuesday November 11th** from 11am to 2pm in Longford Athletics Club, Deanscurragh, Co. Longford, N39 X6X8 This **FREE EVENT** will showcase a wide range of services and initiatives available in Longford that support community safety and wellbeing. The day will feature interactive activities, information stands, and opportunities to connect with local organisations. With special guest speaker, *GetBetterWithChris*, a passionate Irish wellness advocate known for his motivational content and community-focused fitness events. Chris will share insights on the importance of mental and physical health, and how small daily actions can lead to lasting wellbeing.

If you have any questions or would like to host an information stand on the day, please contact HealthyLongford@longfordcoco.ie

Bereaved Children's Awareness Week 2025: Every November, the Irish Childhood Bereavement Network (ICBN) organises a series of events across Ireland to highlight bereaved children's needs and provide a voice for them to be heard. Bereaved Children's Awareness Week (BCAW) helps raise awareness of the fact that children express grief differently; they feel the impact but may not have words to express it so it often shows in their behaviour. This year the awareness week, sponsored by the Irish Hospice Foundation and Tusla, will run from **17th -23rd November**. To view a short video on Childhood Bereavement [CLICK HERE](#) For full details, information on how you can promote the awareness week, resources and a list of events [CLICK HERE](#)



16 DAYS OF ACTION!



16 Days of Action Domestic Abuse Campaign: The 16 Days of Action Campaign is an important opportunity to raise awareness and call for change at an international, national and local level to end violence and domestic abuse. The campaign runs each year from 25th November (UN Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women) to 10th December (International Human Rights Day). These 16 days provide a dedicated period for advocacy and action.

The [Longford Westmeath Domestic Abuse Resource Pack](#) provides useful resource, offers advice, information, intervention, support and advocacy for women, men, children, perpetrators and victims of Domestic Abuse. The goal of this resource document is to create awareness of domestic abuse, support professional and front-line practitioners to identify domestic abuse and respond by highlighting a clear pathway when the need for support is required. This resource is a toolkit for professionals in Longford and Westmeath who support people experiencing any form of domestic abuse.

Stand Up Awareness Week: Stand Up Awareness Week will take place from

November 3rd – 7th November 2025. [Belong To's](#) Stand Up Awareness Week is a time for post-primary schools, youth services and Youthreach centres in Ireland to join us and take a stand against homophobic, biphobic and transphobic bullying. is named as an action in the DCEDIY's [Cineáltas: Action Plan on Bullying 2023-2027](#)

This week is an opportunity to take steps to make spaces safe and supportive for LGBTQ+ young people. Together we can create spaces where LGBTQ+ young people feel safe, equal and valued. For more information including resources and posters [CLICK HERE](#)

Let's Talk About Suicide: Let's Talk About Suicide is a free online suicide prevention training programme that helps people to develop their skills to keep others safe from suicide. It helps participants to identify people who are at risk, confidently ask about the topic of suicide and connect them with resources that can help them stay safe. In just one hour, equip yourself with the skills to identify those at risk, initiate conversations about suicide, and connect them with vital resources.

To register please [CLICK HERE](#) or for information on mental health, services or supports, visit yourmentalhealth.ie

HSE Balancing Stress online stress management programme: HSE Mental Health and Wellbeing in partnership with HSE Psychology are delighted to present the Balancing Stress programme. This freely available online programme is designed to help people manage stress in their everyday lives using practical, evidence-based tools and exercises. The programme is designed for adults aged 18+ years.

The programme consists of six 35 minute online sessions and covers topics including: Managing worry, Managing anxiety, Managing low mood and depression, Understanding relationships and stress. You can access the programme [HERE](#)

A [Partner Pack](#) has also been developed which contains useful link to support you in promoting the programme.

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 grainne.reid@tusla.ie or niamh.dowler@tusla.ie
www.cypsc.ie

