

**General Information/ Updates:**



**Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) launches Live Out Loud Campaign:** The Live Out Loud campaign is a national campaign that celebrates LGBTI+ youth and shows how they are visible, valued and included in culture, society and sport. The campaign launched on International Coming Out Day, 11 October 2020 (see Press Release [HERE](#)) with an open call for submissions of stories clearly showing how young people and adults contribute positively to the LGBTI+ youth community. For full details of the campaign visit [gov.ie](http://gov.ie) [HERE](#)



**First 5 Ireland:** This week [First 5](#) continue to promote healthy eating for children and also promote the new [Children's Food Pyramid](#). To view a video from Dr. Marian O Reilly, Safefood speaking about the Children's Food Pyramid, [CLICK HERE](#). For information and advice on healthy eating visit the [gov.ie](http://gov.ie) Eat Well webpage [HERE](#).

For information and resources for preschool and parents, please see: [www.gov.ie/letsgetready](http://www.gov.ie/letsgetready)

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



**Tusla National Fostering Week 2020:**

Tusla National Fostering Week has been running this week with the theme of 'Raising Amazing'. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the official launch video.

This week celebrates how Tusla foster carers have positively transformed the lives of vulnerable children and young people, and its aim is to appeal to

others to join with Tusla in helping to provide a child with a safe and loving home environment. The following are some **Key National Messages** which have been highlighted during the online campaign this week:

- Tusla is the only organisation that provides a statutory fostering service to the public, and is always seeking carers for short-term, long term, emergency placements, or respite fostering.
- Across Ireland 4,124 foster carers currently open their homes to 5,450 children. In 2019, almost 600 children were entered foster care for the first time.
- Tusla foster carers have positively transformed the lives of vulnerable children/young people, but we need many others to join them.

## Weekly Information Bulletin – 16<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020

- Foster carers are invisible heroes in their communities and provide a huge service to their locality - and to the Irish State itself.
- Tusla foster carers receive financial, emotional and professional social work support, and training from Tusla, including a national out-of-hours emergency phone service.
- There are many misconceptions around who is, or isn't, eligible to foster.
  - Tusla currently work with foster carers who are in a same-sex relationship, are Travellers, are of African or Eastern European origin, are Muslim, have a disability, who don't have a job currently, who rent, who are single, who are over 40, and with parents who both work.
- Covid-19 has impacted on Tusla fostering services by significantly slowing down the assessment, training and communication processes' involved in the recruitment of new foster carers.
- Members of the public wishing to find out more Tusla fostering services can contact [www.fostering.ie](http://www.fostering.ie), by ringing freephone 1800 226 771 or by emailing [tusla.fostering@tusla.ie](mailto:tusla.fostering@tusla.ie).

### Physical Activity Resource Booklet For Children With Disabilities



### Physical Activity Resource Booklet for Children with Disabilities:

A resource booklet was designed in partnership with Longford, Roscommon and Westmeath Sports Partnerships. The booklet which is designed with the child in mind is super easy, colourful and fun and is aimed at ages 2 to 18 years. It come with adaptations for various disabilities and contains a record card to mark down your Fit from 6 Activities - this can be sent back to your Local participating Sports Partnership to receive a certificate & medal! *Limited number of packs available.* To receive a free booklet and sports pack, contact Orla in the Longford Sports Office by emailing [odempsey@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:odempsey@longfordcoco.ie) or contact Mary in the Westmeath Sports Office by emailing [mary.duignan@westmeathcoco.ie](mailto:mary.duignan@westmeathcoco.ie)

Click on the Resource Booklet photo to view an informative video about the project.

**Public Health Information:** Longford, Westmeath, Laois and Offaly are currently on Level 3 of the Plan for Living with COVID-19 along with additional measures. [CLICK HERE](#) for full details.

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

- **Department of Health DOH:** Covid 19 information and campaigns [CLICK HERE](#). You can view the latest national public health measures [here](#).
- **Health Service Executive HSE:** Covid 19 information including symptoms, testing and how to manage Coronavirus at home [CLICK HERE](#)
- **Health Protection Surveillance Centre HPSC:** Covid 19 Information including advice for general public, return to work, resources and posters [CLICK HERE](#)

### Online Survey for completion/circulation:

**Youth Consultations on the EU Child Rights Strategy:** The EU are developing a Child Rights Strategy which will be published in early 2021. The EU Commission would like to hear from children and young people so as to inform this strategy and to help the EU better understand the challenges children face and help prioritize and suggest solutions. For further details on this online survey please [CLICK HERE](#)

## Weekly Information Bulletin – 16<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020

### Webinars/ Training/ Online Events:

**Alcohol Marketing and Young People: Causes for Concern:** The Irish Community Action on Alcohol Network supported by the Alcohol Forum, are hosting a webinar entitled 'Alcohol Marketing and Young People: Causes for Concern'. The free webinar will take place on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and its aim is to address the impact that alcohol advertising is having on children and young people. The event will be of interest to parents, teachers, coaches, youth workers, Drug and Alcohol Task Forces and those working in the area of public health. To register for this event [CLICK HERE](#)

**Festival of Learning:** The 'Festival of Learning' is taking place as part of What Works, an initiative designed by the DCEDIY and the Dormant Accounts Fund, to maximise the impact of prevention and early intervention to improve outcomes for children and young people living in Ireland. For the full programme of events, which run from 3<sup>rd</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> November, please [CLICK HERE](#)

**Connected for Life Webinar:** Connected for life will host an online webinar for parents entitled *How Early Experiences Can Impact Us Throughout Our Life- Webinar*. This 2-hour webinar is one of a series of online events aimed to provide support and reassurance to parents, wherever they are on their parenting journey. The webinar will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> November. Please [CLICK HERE](#) for registration details.

**National Parents Council Parenting and Supporting your Child webinars:** The National Parents Council are hosting a series of free, interactive webinars for parents every Wednesday in October. The webinars with Dr Colman Noctor entitled 'Let's Talk' discuss parenting and supporting your child. For further details and to register please [CLICK HERE](#) or phone 01 8874034.

**It All Works Out:** The sixth and final part of this podcast series was aired last Friday. [CLICK HERE](#) to listen to Part six entitled 'It All Works Out'. You can find the full six episodes [HERE](#).

**SpunOut.ie Webinar:** SpunOut.ie are hosting a webinar entitled 'Being Young in the COVID-19 Pandemic'. This once-off online event will look at the challenges young people face during the COVID-19 pandemic and how we can respond to them. The webinar will take place at 11am on Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October, and will explore what policymakers can do in Ireland and across Europe to address the challenges of young people in the wake of the pandemic. For further information and registration details [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)  
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# Weekly Information Bulletin – 16<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020

