

## Wexford CYPSC Newsletter

16 January 2026

For information on services and supports for children, young people and families see

[\*\*Wexford CYPSC\*\*](#)

For information on parenting supports and programmes, see [\*\*Wexford Parents Hub\*\*](#) or  
access on [\*\*Facebook\*\*](#)



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## WEBINARS/TRAINING

### ► Social Pedagogy in Relationship-Centred Practice Course



Certificate in Social Pedagogy introduces students to *social pedagogy* — a **holistic, relationship-centred framework used in social care, education and community work**. It focuses on how to build meaningful, reflective and ethical professional relationships with individuals, groups and communities of all ages. The course helps learners develop a clear, practical framework for building meaningful professional relationships, improving reflective practice, and responding thoughtfully to complex human situations. It is particularly valuable for those seeking to enhance their effectiveness, confidence and well-being in caring or people-focused roles.

More information on the course can be found here - [SETU | Certificate in Social Pedagogy in Relationship-Centred Practice](#)

An online application can be made here - [Part-Time Courses Application Form](#)

The course is €450 and the first class is onsite in Wexford and the rest of the course is online.

► Supporting Your Child's Positive Mental Health in the Early Years

The National Parents Council (NPC), in collaboration with Wexford Parenting Hub is offering a free online webinar:

## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH IN THE EARLY YEARS

**Register Now!!**

**Easy registration online**

<https://forms.office.com/e/gCLERTf5pk>

Date: 26th of January at 10am  
approx. 75 min

**What You'll Learn:**

- How everyday life shapes your child's mental health
- Supporting your child in developing resilience
- Building and nurturing a strong parent-child relationship
- Promoting children's rights for a mentally healthy life
- Help your child manage big feelings and cope with challenges
- Practical steps to implement the Five Ways to Wellbeing

**NPC Early Years**

**WEXFORD Parents Hub**

Wexford Parents Hub in collaboration with the National Parents Council will host an online webinar for parents/carers of under 5's children titled 'Supporting Your Child's Positive Mental Health in the Early Years'.

This webinar will focus on:

- How everyday life shapes your child's mental health
- Supporting the development of resilience
- Developing a strong parent-child relationship
- Helping your child manage big feelings and coping with challenges
- Practical steps for positive wellbeing

Details:

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> of January

10am (for 75 minutes)

Online – to register please visit: [office.com](https://www.office.com) or scan the QR code in the poster.

## ► HUGG - Free Creative Workshop Dublin



Following the success of our quilt-making workshops last year, we are delighted to invite you to our first free creative workshop of 2026, designed for adults bereaved by suicide.

We are coming together to continue the HUGG memorial quilt, creating new, hand-crafted fabric squares. Each square honours a loved one who died by suicide, and together the finished quilt carries a powerful message: suicide grief does not have to be faced alone. The completed quilt will be displayed at our annual remembrance event and other public spaces also.

This workshop will offer you a supportive space to connect with others who share the experience of suicide loss and may help you explore and reflect on meaningful memories of your loved one. Being in the company of people who understand can bring comfort, support, and a sense of hope, while the process of needle crafting can encourage reflection and creativity.

You don't need any previous crafting, sewing, or artistic experience to take part. This workshop is open to both men and women.

The session will be led by felting artist Marie Hopkins, who will provide a short demonstration and guide you step by step. She will show you how to use the tools, blend colours, and work with the needle. All materials will be provided.

### Workshop details

- 📅 Friday 6 February
- ⌚ 10.45am – 1.00pm
- 📍 Maldron Hotel Tallaght, Whitestown Way, Tallaght, Dublin 24 (D24 XC9W)

Places are limited and will be offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

👉 To take part, please complete the registration form here:  
[HUGG Creative Workshop Registration Form](#)

 If you would prefer to register by phone, you're very welcome to call us on 01 513 4048.

Complimentary refreshments and sandwiches will be served at the end of the workshop.

We hope you'll consider joining us for this meaningful and supportive creative experience

Warm regards,  
The HUGG Team

P.S. You're very welcome to attend with a family member or friend, provided they have registered in advance and secured a place.

[Register for the creative workshop](#)

## ► New Women's Aid Training



Women's Aid have set up a new approach to training about domestic abuse having launched the Women's Aid's new Centre for Learning and Practice Development [CLPD] in November 2025 and making a new suite of training available.

There are two training programmes within the CLDP. They are a service providers programme, e.g. training for anyone with a public facing service provision role in our communities. And our employer engagement programme, which supports employers to respond safely and effectively to employees subjected to domestic abuse. Information about our new programmes and online learning platform can be accessed on [www.womensaid.ie/get-training/](http://www.womensaid.ie/get-training/).

By registering on the CLPD platform you can learn more about the programmes offered. Individuals or a small group of team members (max 3 per organisation) can register on one of our open training programmes directly from the platform. If you are seeking to book a tailored course solely for your organisation, please fill out a training inquiry form and they will respond with an offer of a teams meet up or a phone call to discuss your training needs.



**Centre for  
Learning and Practice  
Development (CLPD)**

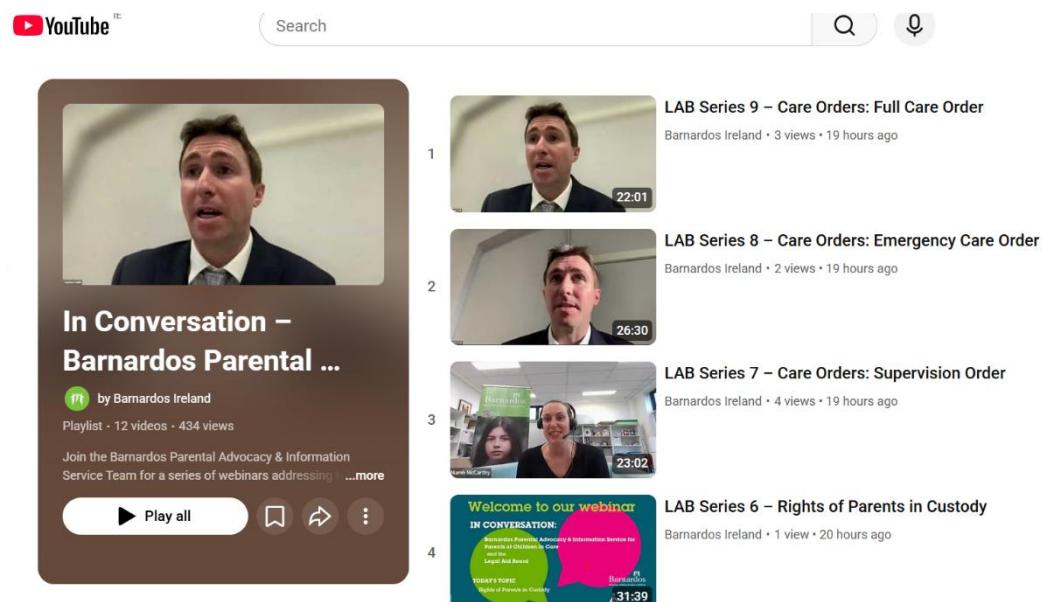
## ► Barnardo's YouTube Webinar Playlist

The "Barnardos In Conversation" playlist is a series of webinars by the Barnardos Parental Advocacy & Information Service in Ireland that address topics around childcare proceedings in a conversational format.

You can access the full playlist and related resources through the following links:

- [Barnardos Parental Advocacy & Information Service Playlist \(YouTube\)](#): This playlist includes 8 videos covering topics such as parental capacity assessments, kinship care, and FAQs for solicitors.
- [Barnardos Ireland Resources](#): This section of the Barnardos Ireland website provides general resources to support children, young people, and parents with various life challenges.

[Click here for the In conversation playlist](#)



## HEALTH & PREGNANCY

### ► Supporting Pregnant Women to Quit and Stay Quit



► Growing up smoke-free



► QR code for South East Stop Smoking Referral Form



## PARENT SUPPORT

### ► Supporting parents to support their primary school children's mental health and wellbeing



Are you a parent of a primary school child? Join us for FREE virtual training sessions designed to give you the tools and knowledge to support your child's mental health and wellbeing.

This interactive programme offers practical advice to help you:

- Foster resilience in your child to navigate life's challenges.
- Promote emotional well-being through meaningful communication.
- Strengthen your relationship with your child by understanding their needs.

#### ❖ Key Details:

- Who it's for: Parents of primary school children.
- The same content is covered in all sessions – pick the time and day that suits you best.
- Spaces are limited – secure your spot today!

#### ⌚ Session Times and Date:

- 10am and 7.30pm Monday 19th - Thursday 22nd January
- 10am - Friday 23rd January

[Register Now](#)

[Register Now](#)

### Why Attend?

By attending, you'll gain strategies to:

- ◆ Encourage open conversations about emotions with your child.
- ◆ Identify early signs of stress or anxiety and know how to address them.
- ◆ Build confidence in managing common challenges in your child's development.

Register here - <https://forms.office.com/e/MDw1HDP3wM>

## LITERACY

### ► Adult Literacy For Life (ALL) Collaboration & Innovation Fund 2026 is open



Calling all community groups working to create literacy-friendly spaces!

The #AdultLiteracyForLife (ALL) Collaboration & Innovation Fund 2026 is open! If you have a collaborative and innovative partnership initiative that could benefit adults with unmet #FinancialLiteracy, #Literacy #FamilyLiteracy or #DigitalLiteracy needs, you can apply to the Fund. Find more information about how to apply at [www.adultliteracyforlife.ie/fund](http://www.adultliteracyforlife.ie/fund). **Applications close on Thursday, 22 January 2026 at 12 pm.**

The Adult Literacy For Life (ALL) Collaboration and Innovation Fund provides funding to collaborative and innovative projects and activities that:

- support adults to improve their literacy, numeracy and digital literacy, and
- help organisations and services to be literacy aware and friendly.

In Ireland, 1 in 5 adults have difficulty with reading, writing, or basic tasks like filling in forms, understanding health information, or helping their children with homework. This fund helps create projects that make a real difference in people's lives.

In the last 3 years, this funding has allowed organisations that work in the public, not-for-profit, community and voluntary sector to support thousands of learners. There have been over 250 projects supported through the ALL Collaboration and Innovation Fund.

[Read about the range of previous projects here.](#)

If you have a project that you would like to discuss please contact me.

Kind Regards

*Edel Finan Regional Literacy Coordinator, WWETB and Adult Literacy for Life*

**Mobile :086 084 5354**

## FUNDING

### ► Rethink Ireland has launched Impact Fund 2025



New Rethink Ireland fund to invest €1.1 million in community-led change across Munster and **Wexford**

24 November 2025: Rethink Ireland has launched Impact Fund 2025, a €1.1 million initiative designed to support innovative, community-led projects across Munster and **Wexford**. The fund, established by Rethink Ireland in partnership with the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, as well as a suite of philanthropic donors, will back up to eight high-impact projects strengthening social inclusion, wellbeing, and environmental resilience at a local level across the south of Ireland.

Applications are now open at [rethinkireland.ie/open-funds/](http://rethinkireland.ie/open-funds/) and will close on Friday 16 January at 1pm. Rethink Ireland is the national funding body supporting the most innovative non-profit organisations and social enterprises working to create a more just, equal and sustainable Ireland.

Impact Fund 2025 is created by Rethink Ireland and the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht, in partnership with the Parkes Family, Limerick; the Estate of Mary Coffey c/o Pat Toomey, Tipperary; the Hospital Saturday Fund; The Luan Fund, Cork; **Ed Murphy, Wexford**; Turas Nua and The Ireland Funds.

**To be eligible to apply for Impact Fund 2025, projects must meet the following criteria:**

- The project must address a critical social issue
- The project proposed must be innovative in an Irish context
- The project must be based on the island of Ireland and must make its main impact in Munster or county **Wexford**
- The project must have potential and a desire to scale or replicate in Ireland
- The project must provide evidence that it is up and running, or has been tested at least in a minimal way
- Applicants must come from an entity with a not-for-profit legal form, e.g. a company limited by guarantee, a co-operative, a trust or a charity

[Full Article on Rethink Ireland Impact Fund 2025](#)

## EVENTS & CAMPAIGNS

### ► Wexford Town Library Events



**Lego Free Play every Saturday from 11:00am - 3:00pm. Suitable for ages 5yrs+**  
LEGO Free Play tables available on our Children's floor area from 11am to 3pm. Free to attend. LEGO will be made available for children and families to build their very own designs. Get Creative. Children should be supervised at all times when visiting Wexford Library. No booking required.



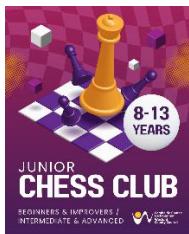
**Story Time every Saturday, 11.00am-11:30am, Suitable for children aged 3-7 years.**  
Join us for Story Time in Wexford Library every Saturday morning. Children should be supervised at all times when visiting Wexford Library. **No booking required.**



**Tabletop Roleplaying Club: Dungeons & Dragons, Tuesday, 13 January, 6:30pm - 8:30pm.**

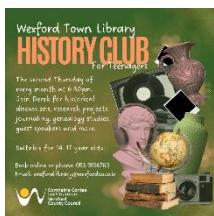
Are you ready to embark on an epic adventure? 🎲🎲 Well then, join us at Wexford Library for tabletop role-playing gaming and unleash your imagination. The sessions will take place the second Tuesday of every month from 6.30-8.30 pm. **Booking is essential.**

**Suitable for ages 12-17 years.**



### **Junior Chess Club at Wexford Town Library for 8-13 years, 14 January - 25 February, 3:30pm - 4:30pm.**

Come along to our Junior Afterschool Chess Club. The club will run from Wednesday 14th of January to Wednesday 25th of February, 3.30pm to 4.30pm. Suitable for all player levels and strictly for ages 8-13 years. Booking is essential, as places are very limited. Only one booking is required, as this will reserve all 7 weekly sessions. Please note that parents/guardians must remain in the library building for the duration of this event.



### **History Club for Teenagers at Wexford Town Library, Thursday, 15 January, 6:30pm - 7:30pm.**

Join Derek on the second Thursday of every month at 6:30pm for historical discussions, research projects, journaling, genealogy studies, guest speakers and more. The club is suitable for 14-17 year olds. Booking is essential.



### **The Chatterbooks Book Club 9-12yrs, Tuesday, 20 January, 4:00pm - 5:00pm.**

Come along and enjoy some chat on all things books and some arts and crafts too. Our next meeting is on Tuesday 20 January. The book we will chat about is The Clockwork Conspiracy by Sam Sedgman and graphic novel Beastie Bros by David O'Connell. Booking is essential.



### **Baby Tummy Time in Wexford Library, Tuesday, 27 January, 11:00am - 11:45am.**

Join us for a Baby Tummy Time session in Wexford Library. According to the HSE, Tummy time helps to strengthen baby's head, neck, and back muscles. Your baby can begin tummy time as a newborn and continue to do it throughout their first year. We will provide books for babies and there will also be books on parenting available to borrow. This is a great opportunity to meet other parents and babies. Booking is essential. Free event.



### **Teen Comics Club, Thursday, 29 January, 6:30pm - 7:30pm.**

Join our new teen comics club! Suitable for 13 - 15 years. Booking is essential.

#### Regular Weekly Events

Sensory Hour, Every Saturday from 4.00pm-5.00pm.

Sensory Hour supports library users who have sensory, extra, and/or additional needs. It offers a calm and sensory family friendly environment.



### **Rhyme Time, every Wednesday, 11.00am-11:30am. Suitable for children aged 0-3 years.**

These fun, free and interactive Rhyme Time sessions are perfect for babies and toddlers. Children should be supervised at all times when visiting Wexford Library. No booking required.

**All events are FREE.** Wexford Public Libraries App.

Access your library 24/7. Online resources include eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines, eNewspapers, eComics & Graphic Novels, music, take eLearning or language courses, business, education, and research databases and more. **Library membership is free.**

<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/libraries/whats-on-in-my-library>

## ► Bunclody Library Events



### **Rhymetime for ages 0 to 5 years - every Wednesday at 11.15am**

Join us for Rhymetime every Wednesday when we will have lots of fun nursery rhymes and stories suitable for babies and toddlers followed by a Duplo play session. No booking required.



### **Sensory Friendly Hour**

**Every Saturday from 4.00 to 5.00pm**, Sensory Friendly hour will be observed in Bunclody Library.

We encourage you to come along and relax in the calm environment of the library. **No booking required**. All welcome!

### **Sensory Basket**

A sensory basket containing various sensory toys/books available for children to use while visiting the library. Just ask at the desk.



### **Saturday Storytime every Saturday at 11am**

Join us every Saturday morning at 11am for stories and songs for ages 3-7 years. No need to book - all welcome!



### **Kids Board Games Afternoon – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2.00 to 3.30pm**

Pop into the library to play some of your favourite children's board games. This is a family event. No need to book, all welcome!

To book events, please telephone 053 9375466 or book online at [wexfordcoco.libcal.com](http://wexfordcoco.libcal.com).

## **► Enniscorthy Library Events**



### **Interactive Story Time at Enniscorthy Library**

Join us in Enniscorthy Library every Saturday at 11am for our Interactive Story Time!

Perfect for 3-5 years old but fun for everyone!

Through the magic of storytelling, children are transported to far-off lands, introduced to diverse characters, and exposed to a rich tapestry of language, all while developing fundamental literacy skills such as vocabulary acquisition, comprehension, and phonological awareness. **All welcome and no booking required.**



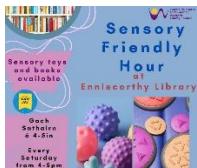
### **LEGO Free Play at Enniscorthy Library - every Saturday 11.30am-5pm.**

Enniscorthy Library invites you and your family to join us for a session of LEGO Free Play, LEGO will be made available for children and families to build their very own designs.

This session is suitable for ages 5+.

**Please note we're closed for lunch from 1pm-2pm.**

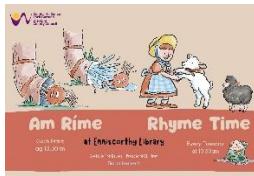
**No Booking Required**



### **Sensory Friendly Hour at Enniscorthy Library - Every Saturday from 4-5pm**

Sensory Friendly Hour will be observed in Enniscorthy Library.

We encourage you to come along and relax in the calm environment of the library. No booking required. All welcome!



### **Baby and Toddler Rhyme Time at Enniscorthy Library - every Tuesday at 10.30am**

Join us in Enniscorthy Library for songs, stories and rhymes!

Perfect for up to 3 years old but fun for everyone!

Through rhymes children naturally learn essential skills for communicating such as turn-taking and joining in.

**All welcome and no booking required.**



### **Winnie the Pooh Story Time - Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup> @ 11am**

Join us in Enniscorthy Library on Saturday, 17th January at 11am to celebrate Winnie the Pooh Day.

We'll have a special Winnie to Pooh Story Time followed by more bear themed activities.

Perfect for 3-5 years old but fun for everyone!

Through the magic of storytelling, children are transported to far-off lands, introduced to diverse characters, and exposed to a rich tapestry of language, all while developing fundamental literacy skills such as vocabulary acquisition, comprehension, and phonological awareness.

All welcome and no booking required.



### **Family Movie - Saturday, January 17<sup>th</sup> @ 11.30am**

Take time out this January and join us for Family Movie at the library.

Gather your family and friends and enjoy a heart warming movie in a welcoming setting of the library.

We'll have comfortable seating and fantastic movie that's perfect for all ages.

Best of all, it's free and open to everyone!

Contact the library for more information.

Please register here: <https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4489377>



### **Bedtime Stories and Teddy Bear Sleepover at Enniscorthy Library -**

#### **Friday, January 23rd @ 4.15pm**

Put on your pyjamas, grab your favourite teddy or a cuddly toy and join us for a magical evening of stories, cuddles and fun at the library!

We'll start the evening with bedtime stories, sing our favourite lullabies and enjoy a calm and friendly atmosphere to help everyone wind down. Then, it's time to tuck your teddy in for a special overnight sleepover at the library!

While you go home to bed, your teddy will have a big adventure exploring the library after dark. Come back the next day (Saturday) to collect your teddy and hear all about what they got up to!

This event is suitable for children aged 4-7.

Booking essential.

Please register here: <https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4489384>



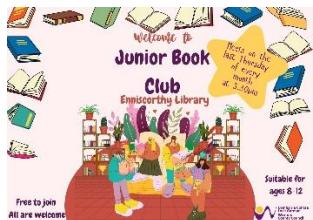
## Meet the Garda Story Time

*Saturday, January 24th @ 2.30pm*

Join us for a special Meet the Garda Story Time, a fun and engaging session for children and families.

The unique story time will be led by Garda Richenda, who will share stories, encourage curiosity and help children get to know their local Garda in a relaxing and welcoming way. For ages 3-6

Please register here: <https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4489385>



## Junior Book Club

*Thursday, January 29th @3.30pm*

Would your child like to join our free book club here at Enniscorthy Library?

Suitable for ages 8 - 12, the children get together monthly to talk about books in all genres and to share a love of books.

We explore new styles together to encourage reading and to develop a love for books. This club is about reading for pleasure, making friends and doing some fun activities, drawing or writing too.

If you would like to know more, ask at the desk of the library or ring us on 053 9236055.

Please register here: <https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4489387>



## Comic Club for Teens

*Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup> @3.30pm*

Love a good story told in both pictures and words? Want to meet like-minded people?

Join fellow comic book lovers for a discussion, board games and a chat.

If you are between the ages of 13 and 15 years, why not drop in and see for yourself! Take a friend with you.

The library is a relaxed environment where you will be able to chat and share views with no judgement, interesting conversation, and lots of chat & fun!

Please register here: <https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com/event/4322873>

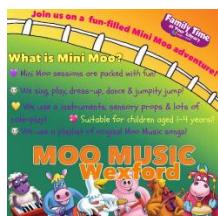
## ► New Ross Library Events



### New Ross Library Rhymetime – Every Thursday, 11-11:30am

Join us in New Ross Library every Thursday at 11.00am for a fun-packed session with lots of stories, rhymes and songs!

**Booking for this event is no longer required.** A parent or guardian must stay for the duration of the event.



**Moo Music Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 11-12pm** Join Mairéad for some festive songs and dances! It promises lots of fun.

This interactive music class for babies, toddlers and preschool aged children with singing, moving, playing and learning, we love it!

Suitable for 0-4 years. **Booking essential.**

<https://www.wexfordcoco.ie/libraries/whats-on-in-my-library>

For more info or to book events, please telephone 051 421877 or book online at [wexfordcoco.libcal.com.](https://wexfordcoco.libcal.com.)

► Gorey Library Events

	<b>Nollaig na mBan Womens Christmas Coffee &amp; Craft Circle</b> Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 3:30-4:30pm
	<b>Alzheimer Society Art Exhibition Launch</b> Tuesday 13th January at 7:00pm
	<b>Film Club: Robert Redford Month</b> Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2:30-5:00pm
	<b>Irish Language Poetry Book Launch with Éire Ní Fhaoláin</b> Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January: 7:00-8:00pm
	<b>North Wexford Historical Society Talk: History of Food</b> Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> January at 7:00pm

	<b>New Year New Baby Tummy Time &amp; Baby Handprinting</b> Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> January 10:30-11:30am
	<b>Bedtime Storytime</b> Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January at 6:00pm
	<b>Winnie the Pooh Day Storytime and Craft</b> Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup> January at 3:00pm

**Children's Storytime: Every Tuesday at 11am**

**Baby Rhyme Time: Every Thursday at 10:30am**

**LEGO Freeplay: Every Saturday from 10:30- 12:30**

**Saturday Sensory Hour: Every Saturday at 4pm**

**YA Unreal Bookclub: Thursday 15th at 4:30pm**

**La Leche Breastfeeding support: Wed 14<sup>th</sup> 11:00am**

**Book of the Month Bookclub: Tuesday 27th Jan**

**Online Bookclub: Wednesday 28th Jan**

**Happy to Chat Coffee Morning: Wed 14<sup>th</sup> 11:00am**

**Film Club: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2:30-5:00pm**

**Ciorcal Comhrá: Monthly: Tue 6th Jan at 7:00pm**

**Short Story Reading Club: Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**

**English Conversation Circle: Monthly Sat 3rd 2:30pm**

**Lifting the Lid: Monday 5th 2.30-5.30pm**

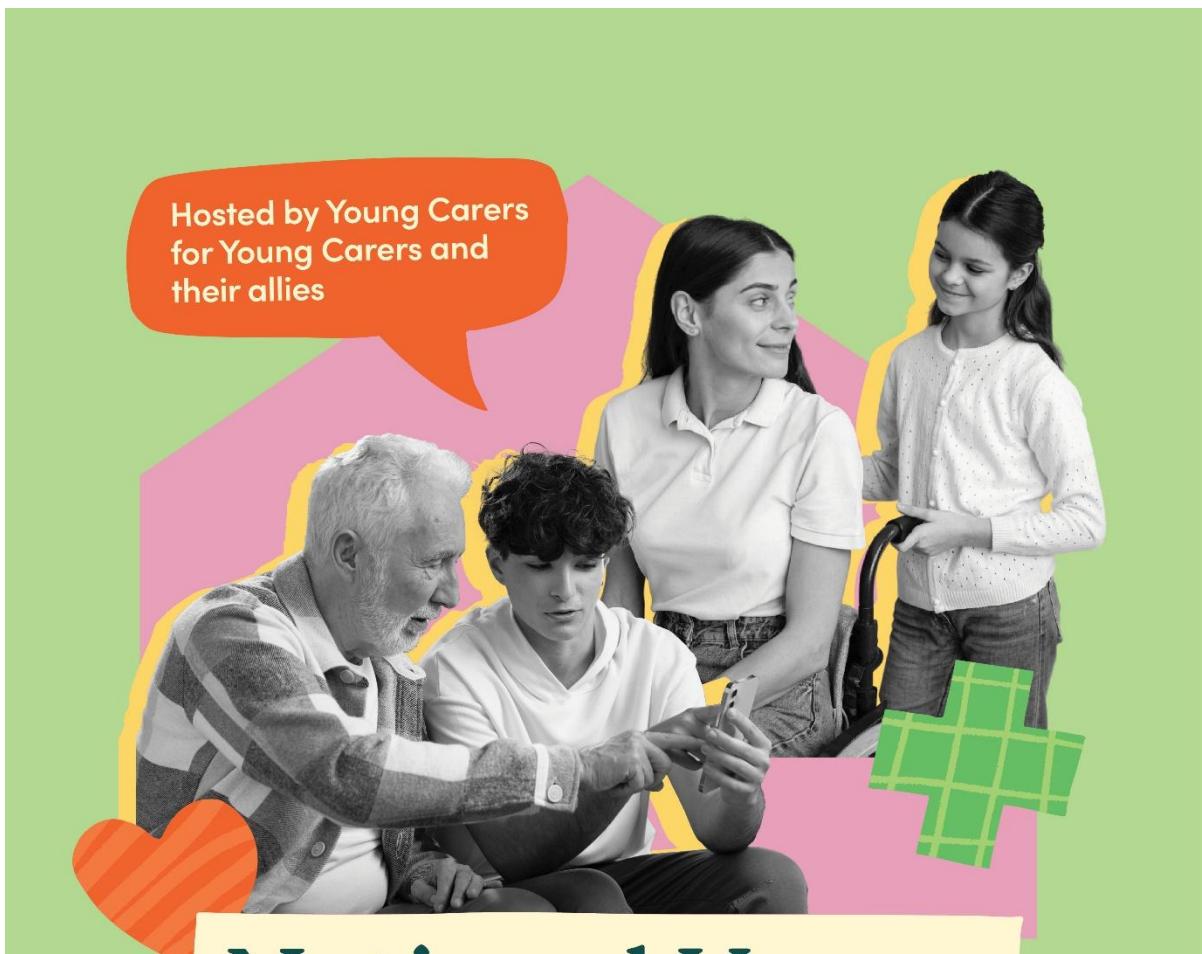
**Wordsmiths Writing Group: Every Friday from 2pm**

**Knitting Circle: Every Friday from 11am**

**Scrabble Club: Every Tuesday from 7pm**

**Philosophy Club: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> Jan 7:30pm**

► National Youth Carers Conference



Hosted by Young Carers for Young Carers and their allies

# National Young Carers Conference

March 7th  
11:00 – 16:40

2026

O'Reilly Hall  
UCD

**Young Carers**  
Children and young people under 25 who support a family member with a disability, illness, long term injury or mental health challenge including addiction or trauma

**Join us!**  
Tickets are free and free transport is available. Follow the link to register for tickets and transport

**ombudsman do leanáid for children**

**Co-funded by the European Union**

## **Who is a Young Carer?**

This is a very difficult question to answer, in the 2022 Census, 4800 young people under age 15 were self-identified as being Young Carers, research by Family Carers Ireland however estimated in 2020 that the number is over 66,000 young people, and the conference project team believe this figure is underestimated.

*Young Carers are deemed as young people under the age of 18*

*Young adult Carers are aged 18-24*

**This conference is for both young carers and young adult carers.** We do suggest that no one under the age of 12 attends unless accompanied by a parent or guardian, due to the nature of some of the content.

[National Young Carer Conference 2026 - BY Young Carers FOR Young Carers. Tickets, Sat 7 Mar 2026 at 11:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Please view this video to understand the role of a Young Carer

<https://youtu.be/6miJJXdWUVQ> There is no minimum threshold for the amount of responsibility a young person has to be considered a Young Carer. It is unique to everyone.

Feel free to contact us as [YCCONF26@GMAIL.COM](mailto:YCCONF26@GMAIL.COM) for more details

## **Young Carer Conference Outline**

**BOOK FREE TCIKETS HERE** [National Young Carer Conference 2026 - BY Young Carers FOR Young Carers. Tickets, Sat 7 Mar 2026 at 11:00 | Eventbrite](#)

### **Background and Team**

The project is funded via Erasmus+ KA154 Youth Participation funding and is led by Shannika Greene and Saoirse Hayden, both 19 year old young carers from Roscommon and Leitrim. They lead a team of 8 young people aged 13 – 21, who were all members of the Roscommon Young Carers Project.

The project coach is Faye Hayden who is the Director Services at CAIM Empowers Social Change and Inclusion Consultancy and was the Roscommon Young Carers Coordinator from 2020 – 2023.

The first of its kind, National Young Carers Conference is supported by the Office of the Children's Ombudsman and will be attended by Dr Niall Muldoon, and Professor Philip

Jaffe who is the Vice Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. We aim to reach 400 people at the event.

The event will be opened by President Catherine Connolly and will include the voice of the young carer, and research presentations from Dr Sarah Donnelly of UCD (Carer Harm) and Professor Breda Maloney of UL (Impact of being a Young Carer on Senior Cycle Participation).

The event is operated by young carers for young carers (see separate sheet for description of young carers) and is also open to key decision makers in the lives of young carers, including educators, youth/social/health care workers, politicians and parents/guardians. The event MC will be well known youth advocate, Cara Darmody.

Additionally, there will be information stands hosted by Spunout, Children's Ombudsman, Family Carers Ireland, Carers Alliance, Leargas, and many fun activities for young people, including an appearance by The Kabin Krew, VR activities, photo booth and much more – including a goody bag for every young person.

### **Event Details**

11 – 4.30pm - Saturday March 7<sup>th</sup> at the O'Reilly Hall University College Dublin.

Free Transport is available.

### **Target Audience:**

Young Carers aged 12-17 and Young Adult Carers aged 18-14

Families of Young Carers

Politicians: Government Ministers, Opposition TDs Spokespeople, County Councillors

Public Service Leads: – Tusla, HSE, DES, DCEDIY, ETBs, ETBI.

Youth/Social Care Services: E.G ETBs, CYPSC, FRCs, NYCI, IYF, Family Carers Ireland Youth Team, Carers Alliance, Foroige, Youthwork Ireland.

Media

### **Theme:**

‘The Real Young Carers of Ireland’

To present an accurate picture of life as a young carer, exploring topics that are ‘hard to hear’ and not openly discussed, whilst also celebrating the important role that young carers lay and the positive skills they develop and experiences they have.

Raising awareness of the challenges faced and taking an action focused approach at the conference to how to mitigate and resolve those challenges. Securing commitments from key decision makers.

**Topics:**

- Impact of Caring on young people in education (primary to third level), health, social life.
- Adultification of young carers
- Violence in the home (sibling to sibling and parent to child in cases of disability/illness e.g Autism, ADHD, Dementia, Brain injury)
- poverty and Deprivation
- Mental Health Challenges
- Social Isolation and Loneliness
- Caring in the EU – welcoming groups of young carers from the 3 other countries participating in the NEXUS project. [Nexus – connecting research, policy and practices to support young carers](#) Italy, Estonia, Greece.

## REPORTS

### ► Child Poverty and Well-being Summit Report September 2025



The 2025 Child Poverty and Well-being Summit was a major national event in Ireland held on September 11, 2025, at the Aviva Stadium in Dublin. Organized by the Child Poverty and Well-being Programme Office within the Department of the Taoiseach, the summit brought together leaders, policymakers, and practitioners to drive systemic change for children.

#### 2025 Summit Programme Highlights

The summit featured high-level discussions and creative participation from young people:

- Keynote Speaker: Dr. Mike Ryan, Deputy Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO), spoke on the urgent need to invest in frontline workers and NGOs.
- Ministerial Panel Discussion: Moderated by Sinéad Burke, the panel featured:
  - Minister Jack Chambers (Finance)
  - Minister Helen McEntee (Justice/Education)
  - Minister Norma Foley (Education)
  - Minister Dara Calleary (Enterprise, Trade, and Employment).
- Youth Participation:
  - Music: A specially written musical performance by Jimmy Maguire of Music Generation.
  - Art: An exhibition featuring artwork from children and young people across Ireland.

- Dialogue: Engagement with the Youth Advisory Group on Child Poverty and Well-being, who presented their ideas directly to the Taoiseach.
- Thematic Focus: Discussions centered on the six priority areas of the National Child Poverty Target:
  - Income supports and joblessness
  - Early learning and childcare
  - Reducing the cost of education
  - Family homelessness
  - Public health and parental support integration

### [\*\*Child Poverty 2025 Summit Report\*\*](#)