



Wexford CYPSC Newsletter

March 22nd 2024

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](#)



CONTENTS

Webinars & Training

P.3 : NALA: Free introduction to literacy webinars for the community and voluntary sector

P.5 : Helium Arts : Free Online Creative Workshops

Consultations & Panels

P.7 : “Belong To’s” Youth Advisory Panel – seeking applications

P.8 : Public Consultation on the Draft Regulations for Childminders - DCEDIY

Funding

P.10 : Parent & Toddler Group Grants Initiative 2024

P.12 : 2024-25 Human Rights and Equality Grants Scheme

P.14 : The Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2024

WEBINARS & TRAINING

→ NALA: Free introduction to literacy webinars for the community and voluntary sector



The National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) is organising free webinars for the **community and voluntary sector**. These each provide a 1-hour introduction to literacy, numeracy and digital literacy in Ireland.

[Introduction to literacy 25 April, 10am – 11am](#) – Register now

Literacy in Ireland,

In Ireland, over 500,000 adults struggle with reading and understanding information and using everyday maths*. This means they may find it difficult to:

- fill in a form;
- divide or add up a bill; or
- help kids with homework.

Community and voluntary organisations provide essential support and services to communities across Ireland. You are in a unique position to champion literacy and be a support to those who are nervous or embarrassed to ask for help.

About the webinar

The webinar will help you better understand the issues, hear from colleagues about being literacy friendly, and get tips you can bring back to your organisation.

We will look at:

- What is literacy;
- the impact of struggling with reading, writing, everyday numbers or digital tasks;
- Using a literacy friendly approach;

- Your experience of responding to adults with literacy, numeracy and digital needs;
- Tips for how to support people sensitively; and
- Using plain English.

You will also hear from a Literacy Ambassador about their experience returning to education.

[Find more information on the NALA website](#)

→ Helium Arts : Free Online Creative Workshops



Hello from Helium Arts,

We are an award-winning Irish children's charity that aims to improve the well-being of children and young people living with **lifelong physical health conditions** by providing **free online creative workshops**, tailored to different age groups from **ages 6-12**.

Why?

We support children to realise their potential. Beyond lifelong health conditions. We use creativity and art to **build community**, spark **friendships**, unlock **skills and new interests** that can help children to **overcome adversity**.

We believe that **creativity empowers children to feel confident, worthwhile, and respected and this helps them to become more prepared and capable in daily life**.

Supported conditions include **diabetes, epilepsy, cystic fibrosis, allergies, heart conditions, asthma, spina bifida, juvenile arthritis, rare or complex conditions** and many more.

*****Exciting news! Our popular FREE Online Art Workshops, which were fully booked last Autumn, are returning on 6th April for ages 6-8 and 9-12 NATIONWIDE! *****

When you sign up for our Online Art Workshops, you're in for a treat! Participants will receive a **bespoke art pack delivered right to their doorstep**. 📦👉

Starting on April 6th, you'll receive **weekly activities via email every Saturday morning**.

Places are filling up fast, and the **deadline to sign up is approaching - this Sunday, March 24th! Sign up now through the links below to secure your spot in time**.

Ages 6-8

[Online Spring Saturdays](#)

Every Saturday from 6 Apr - 11 May

Ages 9-12

[Online Spring Saturdays](#)

Every Saturday from 6 Apr - 11 May

Spread the Word

If you could help spread the word about our upcoming workshops through your networks, that would be greatly appreciated. You can forward this email to your contacts, or if you prefer, we can provide materials for social media sharing, posters, and flyers. Just let me know your preference, and I'll be happy to assist

We conducted an independent evaluation report on the impact of our work in the community last year, and the results are amazing:

93% of parents indicate that Helium Arts had improved their child's physical health & well-being.

If you have any questions at all please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Cathy Mc Gann

CONSULTATIONS & PANELS

→Belong To's Youth Advisory Panel – seeking applications



The Youth Advisory Panel is a group of LGBTQ+ young people who come together to empower themselves and LGBTQ+ youth across Ireland through campaigning, education, research and youth work.

Online applications are open until Wednesday, April 10th.

Our Youth Advisory Panel is made up of LGBTQ+ young people aged 16-22 from across Ireland engaged in campaigns, media events and skills training with Belong To.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE!](#)

What does joining the Youth Advisory Panel involve?. Members of the Youth Advisory Panel will:

- attend an in-person training day on Saturday, April 27th to develop media and campaigning skills.
- act as ambassadors for Belong To in the media, at events and in external meetings with politicians and other organisations.
- shape and develop national campaigns on areas including mental health, anti-bullying and online safety.
- give input to key policy and advocacy areas including education, healthcare and LGBTQ+ equality.
- benefit from skills-based trainings and workshops.

Who can apply to the Youth Advisory Panel? Applications to Belong To's Youth Advisory Panel are open to anyone who:

- is aged 16-22.
- identifies as LGBTQ+.
- lives in Ireland.
- is available to attend our first in-person meeting and training day in Dublin on Saturday, April 27th.
- wants to be a changemaker for LGBTQ+ youth!

Please share this opportunity with LGBTQ+ young people in your network, to help us ensure that our Youth Advisory Panel reflects the diversity of our wonderful LGBTQ+ community.

→ Public Consultation on the Draft Regulations for Childminders



The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth is currently conducting a public consultation on the draft Regulations for Childminders.

The National Action Plan for Childminding 2021 – 2028 sets out a phased approach to the regulation and registration of childminders. Central to work under the National Action Plan has been the development of new regulations that are specific to childminders. The draft regulations set out proposed minimum standards for anyone who provides a childminding service.

These regulations will not apply to anyone who is only minding their relatives' children e.g. grandparents, nor will they apply to people who are employees caring for children in the child's own home. These regulations relate only to childminders who single-handedly look after other people's children in the childminder's primary family residence, i.e. their own home. Childminders themselves were involved in the drafting of the regulations. The regulations set out safe-guarding measures for children.

Currently the majority of childminders are legally prevented from registering with Tusla. Following the introduction of regulations, childminders will be able to register, and to avail of the benefits and supports offered to other early learning and childcare providers. It is envisaged that, once registered, they will be able to take part in the National Childcare Scheme, making subsidies available to parents.

DCEDIY want to hear from as many childminders, parents, representative organisations and other interested individuals/bodies as possible. You can make your views known by participating in the online survey or taking part in an in-person or online focus group. The deadline for response is **Thursday 2 May 2024** and you can find more information on the regulations and details of how to participate in the consultation

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DCEDIY want to hear from as many childminders, parents, representative organisations and other interested individuals/bodies as possible. You can make your views known by participating in the online survey or taking part in an in-person or online focus group.

Further Information : The deadline for response is **Thursday 2 May 2024** and you can find more information on the regulations and details of how to participate in the consultation [here](#).

EVENTS

→ Meet Your Neighbour

**Rathnure Development Group
invite you to**

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOUR

**John Kelly Hall
Rathnure
Sat 23rd March
2pm to 4pm**



**New friends, Old friends – All welcome
Drop by for tea and a chat**

Supported by



Healthy
Wexford

For details of upcoming events.....Keep in touch with Healthy Wexford social media.

FUNDING

→ Parent & Toddler Group Grants Initiative 2024

Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Roderic O'Gorman, T.D. launched the Parent and Toddler Group Grants Initiative 2024 as part of the Government's First 5 Strategy. The Minister has secured funding of €250,000, which will be allocated to Parent and Toddler Groups nationwide through local City/County Childcare Committees (CCCs). Parent and Toddler Groups are invited to make an application for funding under this Initiative through their local CCC.

This year the emphasis will again be on supporting Parent and Toddler Groups that offer a welcome to Ukrainian families and to all families who are newly arrived in Ireland.

Following from the success of last year's Grants, the Parent and Toddler Group Grants Initiative 2024 will offer two streams of funding:

1. Funding of €800 for existing Groups and €1,000 for the establishment of new Groups.
2. Funding of up to €300 to establish and operate Buggy Walking Groups. These Buggy Walking Groups are organised social walks for parents/guardians and young children. This stream is open to any existing or new organisations or Groups who wish to offer a minimum of six organised walks within their community

Conditions apply and the CCCs are available to discuss these with new and existing Groups. The contact details for all CCCs can be found on myccc.ie.

In announcing this year's Parent and Toddler Group Grant Initiative Minister O'Gorman said;

Parent and Toddler Group Grant Funding is available for:

- Toys, equipment and books for indoor and outdoor activities, and children's refreshments.
- Storage for equipment.
- Training for parents, e.g. paediatric first aid, committee skills, parenting courses, facilitate sessions.
- Promotional Leaflets including any required translations.
- Children's activities, e.g. arts and crafts, music.
- Limited funding will be available towards insurance or rent, up to a maximum of 50% of total funding for existing services.
- Limited funding will be available towards insurance or rent, up to a maximum of 70% of total funding for new services and buggy walking groups.

The maximum allowable total funding to be granted to new and existing Parent and Toddler Groups in 2024 is €1,300.

→ 2024-25 Human Rights and Equality Grants Scheme



Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta
an Duine agus Comhionannas
Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission

The Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission's 2024-25 Human Rights and Equality Grant Scheme is now open and accepting applications until **3.00pm sharp, Thursday 18 April 2024**. The purpose of the grants scheme is to support projects by civil society and trade unions that promote human rights and equality. A total of €350,000 is available for projects.

Grants Scheme Strands

The 2024-25 Grants Scheme's themes are informed by the Commission's strategic priorities set out in its [Strategy Statement 2022-24](#). This year the Grants Scheme will support projects under the following strands:

- **Strand A:** Advancing Economic Equality
- **Strand B:** Promoting Awareness of Rights and Access to Justice
- **Strand C:** Promoting Climate Justice, Environmental Justice and a Just Transition

Funding Streams : Funding is available for small and general grants:

- Small Grants up to: €6,000
- General Grants up to: €20,000

Guidance and Application Form

- [Grant Scheme 2024-2025 Guidance](#)
- [Grant Scheme 2024-2025 Application Form](#)

The Grants Scheme is open to civil society organisations and trade unions, registered in the Republic of Ireland only (it is possible to have a partner in Northern Ireland), that aim to promote human rights and equality.

Civil society organisations include: local and national community and voluntary organisations, non-governmental organisations, rights-holder-led groups, groups representing area-based communities or communities of interest protected under the nine grounds of the Equality legislation, as well as people experiencing poverty, socio-economic

discrimination or exclusion, including international protection applicants and migrant communities.

Activities Supported

Activities eligible for grant support include but are not limited to:

- Training and capacity building courses
- Education and training resources
- Participatory and qualitative research, legal and policy analysis
- Conferences, seminars, and workshops
- Creative and participatory engagement initiatives
- Campaigns and digital resources

→ The Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2024

What is The Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2024?

Funding announced by Rethink Ireland and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth is set to accelerate access and skills-building for people with disabilities, with a €3.5 million injection of funding for the sector to support projects.

Five high-performing projects that applied under the 2023 application process were awarded a share of €1.1 million. These include Project Arts Centre, SOS Kilkenny, Cumas New Ross, Paralympics Ireland, and No Barriers Foundation. Up to 10 new projects will be eligible to share in funding worth a total of €2.4m available through application for the funding below.

The 2024 Disability Participation and Awareness Fund is now open for applications from change-making non-profit organisations focused on supporting people with disabilities to participate in community life. This includes social, cultural, arts and sports participation, as well as promoting disability awareness and training at a local level, and supporting pathways for young people transitioning through education.

The goal of the Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2024 is to support innovative projects or organisations across Ireland to:

1. Enhance community, social, cultural and physical participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life,
2. Promote disability awareness and training for people with disabilities at the local level, and
3. Promote innovation in supports and pathways for teenagers transitioning from secondary school through the use of innovative and meaningful services, products or programmes.

The Fund offers a package of cash grants and non-financial supports to the value of €200,000* for up to 10 projects, to help them expand and increase their social impact.

This includes:

- Up to 10 awards of up to €200,000*
- The non-financial supports will include:
 - a place on Rethink Ireland's Accelerator Programme
 - bespoke business and capacity building supports designed in consultation with the successful projects on topics such as strategic planning, maximising your impact, communications, storytelling and fundraising.
- Access to Rethink Ireland's networks.

** The Rethink Ireland Board will decide how much money to award, which may be less than the amount requested. The final amount of the award will depend on how many organisations are selected.*

You can apply to The Disability Participation and Awareness Fund 2024 via the online [portal](#) from 26th February to 5th April 2024. [Click HERE to apply.](#)

If you would like to access an Easy Read version of these Fund Guidelines, please click [HERE](#).

Deadline for applications: Friday, April 05th at 1:00 pm