



Tipperary

TÚSLA

An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency



Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan



www.cypsc.ie

Tipperary Children and Young People's Plan



TOTAL POPULATION:

- 159,553 – 0.5% increase since 2011
- 4th lowest population growth in the State
- Traveller population: 0.8% of total population in county
- Other ethnic groups: 10.1% of the total population

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S POPULATION:

- Children, 0 - 17 years: 40,764; Urban/Rural ratio of population is 2:3
- Young Adults, 18 - 24 years: 11,577; Urban/Rural ratio of population is 3:4
- Youth Dependency rate = 33.7%, higher than State rate, 32.6%
- Traveller children, 0 - 17 years: 649; Traveller young adults, 18 - 24 years: 143
- Children from other ethnic groups, 0 - 19 years: 4,341;
Young adults from other ethnic groups, 20 - 24 years: 848

LONE PARENT FAMILIES:

- 3,701 Lone Parent families with children aged less than 15 years
- 20.5% of all families with children in this age group

ACCOMMODATION:

- As a proportion of total households in the county: Owner Occupied households with mortgages – 12th lowest in the state; Private rented households – 2nd lowest in the state; Social housing households – 8th highest in the State.

SOCIAL WELFARE:

- 10,958 children dependent on Social Welfare (DEASP, 2017), 27% of children, aged 0 – 17 years.

SOCIAL DISADVANTAGE:

- 9,055 children and young people, aged 0 – 24 years, live in areas designated as socially disadvantaged, 17.3% of the total population in this age group.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE:

- School retention rate to Leaving Certificate: 2nd highest in the State (93.3% - 2011 cohort)





Message from Pat Slattery, CYPSC Chairperson

TIPPERARY CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICES COMMITTEE:

Who we represent:

Tipperary County Council, An Garda Síochána, Túsla, Tipperary Education & Training Board, Youth services, Barnardos, Family Support services, the Local Development Companies, Probation Service, Tipperary Childcare Committee, HSE, Community & Voluntary (Public Participation Network) sector, National Association of Principals and Deputy Principals, Irish Primary Principals Network, and Comhairle na nÓg

What's our purpose?

Our main purpose is to improve inter-agency cooperation and collaboration for better outcomes for children and young people.

Our Children and Young People's Plan

Our Children and Young People's Plan is based on the most recent information from the 2016 Census and other data sources and is informed by the working experience of front-line staff working with children and families. The plan is also informed by the views and perspectives of children, young people and young adults from the general population. We spoke with children, young people and young adults from a range of social backgrounds and circumstances about what they considered to be the key issues in their lives.

The full Children and Young People's Plan can be viewed on the national CYPSC website at: www.cypsc.ie



Views of children and young people in Co. Tipperary



Active and healthy, physical and mental wellbeing

FAMILY RELATIONSHIPS:

“I like to swim in the swimming pool and Mammy does too.” – pre-school child

“I go to Tipperary match with my Daddy.” – pre-school child

OPPORTUNITIES TO BE MORE PHYSICALLY ACTIVE / OUTDOOR PLAY:

“The best thing about being a child is that there are lots of places to play and be active in Tipperary.” – young child

“You become more noticeable of yourself...A girl is not going to go into a gym with a load of fellas.”
– young person



MENTAL WELLBEING:

“There’s a lot of anxiety. People don’t want to talk about it. Depression as well.”
– young person

“I think that there should be more centres set up so that young people can just drop in and talk about their problems.” – young adult

Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development

SCHOOL STRESS:

“There is a lot of pressure put onto pupils to receive good grades and if they are struggling many feel too intimidated to ask for help.” – young person

SUPPORTS AND ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS IN EDUCATION:

“There are other ways to learn, not everything has to be done through a book.” – young person

“I like coming to the club because I get my homework done. It’s hard in my house to do homework because I have a lot of younger brothers and sisters and it’s very noisy.” – young child

Safe and protected from harm

ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE MISUSE:

“Like if your friends are there at the back smoking a joint and they’re like ah here, take a pull, you’re gonna take it if you want to chill with your friends.” – young person

BULLYING:

“In our school you have to be able to stand up for yourself. If you back down, you are going to be hounded.” – young person

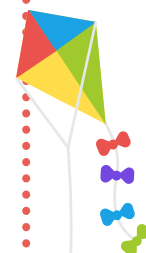
“Many of my friends say that this town is very homophobic and that people say and throw things at them while walking and stuff” – young person

SECURITY IN THE HOME AND IN THE COMMUNITY:

“You feel safe around here and compared to lots of places in the world, Ireland is a stable country.” – young child

“I like knowing that my mammy and daddy are in the room next to me, especially when it is cold and dark.” – young child

“There is a certain group in every school and town, that our parents warn us about.” – young person



Economic opportunity and security

FINANCIAL INSECURITY:

“I hate it when there is stress in our house...usually when there are lots of bills and not enough money.” – young child

“There are money worries for young people as they want to have the best clothes and phones to fit in.” – young person

LACK OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

“When more parents have jobs there is more money which is good for children.” – young child

“I believe it is hard for young people to get jobs in Tipperary as there are very few jobs available and those that are often go to older, more experienced people.” – young person

“If you had a secure job for a while then you could make a break for it (leave family home). It’s hard to get fulltime work. Once something is set in concrete then you can start making a break for it.” – young person

SUPPORTS TO GET FURTHER TRAINING:

“I think there could be more job and training opportunities for young people starting out in their working lives, more real life courses to prepare them for work.” – young adult

Connected, respected and contributing

PLAYING WITH FRIENDS:

“One of best things about being a child is having friends to have fun and play with.”



LGBT* IDENTITY:

“[I feel] not accepted, alienated, like I am a lesser person than everyone else” – young person

“Imagine if you were born in a body you felt wasn't yours and that nobody would respect your choice to try to change it.” – young person

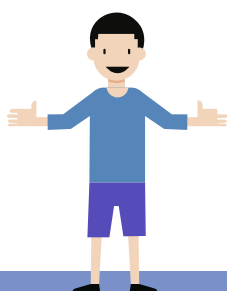
SOCIAL INCLUSION AND PARTICIPATION:

“I wouldn't say I will get a job over being a Traveller” – young person

“Young people with disabilities, different nationalities and Travellers are treated differently” – young person

“I think rural transport is a massive issue. A lot of my classmates live in rural areas and have no way of getting to college. If their parents work they often get dropped in college at 7am and not collected until 7pm. This affects mental health.” – young adult

PARENTS' TIME WITH CHILDREN:



Children and Young People’s Plan for Tipperary – some of the actions:



Priority Issues	Objectives	Actions
Mental Health & Wellbeing	To increase Mental Health supports and to facilitate access to appropriate services for young people	To examine alternative models of mental health supports to support early intervention for the at risk 10 - 24 year old age group
Early School Leaving	Increased school retention of children and young people at risk of social exclusion in an educational setting.	To support alternative learning programmes for young people, under 16 years, who have dropped out of school
Parenting Support	To co-ordinate, and where possible increase supports for parents so that they have information, skills and support to rear their children to reach their potential.	To disseminate information on all parenting supports across Tipperary To establish the parenting needs addressed by the current programmes and interventions and identify the gaps.
Young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs)	To support the development of initiatives that facilitate NEETs to transition into paid employment	To replicate and support existing successful projects such as ‘Work Winners’ in those areas that have high levels of youth unemployment
LGBT* Youth	To secure resources for supports for LGBT* young people	To support the adequate resourcing of LGBT* supports around the county.

