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Children’s Participation Work Package Final Report

Key Findings

Ms Edel Tierney, Dr Danielle Kennan, Dr Cormac Forkan, Dr Bernadine Brady and Ms Rebecca Jackson
UNESCO Child and Family Research Centre, NUI Galway
SEPTEMBER 2018
WHAT ARE THE KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS?

1. There is strong evidence of children and young people’s participation being embedded across Tusla.

2. The PPFS Child and Youth Participation Programme of Work, has supported this. Especially the participation training for staff and the tool kit which helped support participation of children and young people in line with the Lundy Model of Participation.

3. Other reasons such as an openness to work in a participatory way and a strong national legal and policy framework supported children’s participation to become normal practice in Tusla.

4. Collective participation is less embedded than individual participation, but has shown large improvement over the course of the PPFS Child and Youth Participation Programme of Work being carried out.

5. The presence of a trusted adult, whom children and young people could express their views to and would speak on their behalf supports participation.

6. Obstacles to embedding participation include the time for staff to do participatory work and the idea among some staff that children and young people don’t want to participate or they feel that their voice won’t be heard.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The PPFS Child and Youth Participation Programme of Work has been a significant driver in embedding children and young people’s participation across Tusla. There are still gaps which need to be addressed. These needs to be more awareness about the PPFS Child and Youth Participation Programme of Work.

Finally, more long term research should be put in place to track progress and to measure the impact of this programme on children’s lives.
List of Publications for the Children's Participation Work Package:


Further Information

If you would like to read the Children's Participation Work Package Final Report, or any of the publications listed above please visit our website [www.nuigalway.ie/childandfamilyresearch](http://www.nuigalway.ie/childandfamilyresearch)

If you have any questions on our research, please email *cfrc@nuigalway.ie*