



## Child & Youth Participation Awards

# Awards Application

Name of organisation	
Title of project/participation experience for evaluation	
Name of Contact person:	
Address:	
Contact Number:	
Email Address:	











#### Child and Youth Participation

## Awards Application

Many projects and services are doing good, high quality participation work with children and young people and building this into their practice. The Child and Youth Participation Awards (CYPA) are open to Tusla/Tusla funded projects or services that can show that they are doing this work.

There are four assessment criteria for the CYPA. These are based on the Lundy Model of Child and Youth Participation (2007). Services or projects will need to show that their work meets these criteria in an age-appropriate way.

- 1. Space: Children have a space to express their views. 'Space' includes physical space as well as enough information, time and support for all children to take part. A good space will allow the children to feel safe and comfortable in telling you what they want, need, feel and think.
- 2. Voice: Children must have the chance to give their views on decisions that affect them if they want to, however small or big these decisions are. Children must be given a choice about what they want to express their views on and how they want to do this. Adults should support this.
- 3. Audience: Children's views must be listened to and considered. The adults listening should tell them what they will do with their views. Children should know who else will hear their views, how their views will be shared, and what might change.
- 4. Influence: Children must get feedback on what happened or changed because of their views. Projects and services must support the children to give feedback on how their views were heard and used.

#### What is a Child and Youth Participation award?

The Child and Youth Participation Award recognises good quality work by services and projects in supporting children's decision-making. The award is given to those who show that they have met the four criteria above.

#### What does this Award mean for children, services, organisations and projects?

- Each child and young person who take part in the work will get a certificate of participation.
- Services, organisations or projects will get a two-year certificate of good practice.
- The work of the organisations will be recognised and highlighted by sharing their achievement on the Child and Youth Participation pages of the Tusla Hub and the Tusla website.
- They can use the Child and Youth Participation Award logo for letterheads, websites and publicity materials.
- Children can use their participation as part of their work towards a Gaisce award.

#### **Evaluation Checklists**

Please choose the checklist that is most appropriate to your application.

## **Everyday Spaces Checklist**

This checklist is designed as a guide to help you ensure that children and young people have a voice in decision-making. It can be applied in many everyday situations including in classrooms, hospitals childcare settings, child and youth services, youth and sports clubs, youth projects, arts and creative initiatives and other spaces.

SPACE

- How can children and young people feel safe to express their views?
- Have you allowed enough time to listen to and hear their views?
- How do you make sure that all children and young people are heard?

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- How are children and young people provided with the support they need to give their views and be heard?
- How can they raise the things that matter to them?
- How are they offered different ways of giving their views?

- How will children and young people know how much influence they can have on decisions?
- How will you give them feedback?
- How will you share with them the impact of their views on decisions?
- How will you explain the reasons for the decisions taken?
- How do you show that you are ready and willing to listen to children and young people's views?
- How do you make sure they understand what you can do with their views?

AUD

Lundy, L (2021), Evaluation Checklists, National Framework for Children and Young People's participation in Decision making: DCEDIY, 2021.

## **Planning Checklist**

This checklist guides you on how to listen to children and young people and involve them in decision-making when you are developing policies, plans, services, programmes, governance, research and legislation at national, local and organisational level.

CE

- How will you ensure that children and young people are involved as early as possible?
- How will their involvement be sustained?
- How will those who have been, or may be, directly affected by the topic be involved?
- What steps will be taken to ensure the process is inclusive and accessible?
- How will they be supported to feel safe and comfortable expressing themselves?
- What support will be provided to those who become anxious, upset or uncomfortable?

- Have you made a clear list of the topics on which you want to hear the views of children and young people?
- How will you ensure that the key focus of the process stays on the topics you identified?
- How will they know that participation is voluntary and that they can withdraw at any time?
- How will you support them in giving their own views, while including age-appropriate and accessible information?
- How will you ensure that they are given a range of ways to express themselves that best suits their needs and choices?
- How will the process allow them to identify topics they want to discuss?
- How will children and young people be informed about the scope they have (including the limitations) to influence decision-making?
- How will they be given age-appropriate and accessible feedback at key points during the development of a service or policy?
- What are your plans to make sure that children and young people's views impact on decisions?
  - How will they be given age-appropriate and accessible feedback explaining how their views were used and the reasons for the decisions taken, in a timely manner?
    - How will you ensure that they are given opportunities to evaluate the process throughout?

- How will children and young people know to whom, how and when their views will be communicated?
- How will you show your commitment to being informed and influenced by their views?
- How will you identify and involve relevant decision-makers (those responsible for influencing change)?
- How and when will a report/record and a child or youth friendly summary of their views be compiled?
- How will you ensure that they are given an opportunity to confirm that their views are accurately recorded?
- What plans are in place to support them to play a role in communicating their own views?

CE

Lundy, L (2021), Evaluation Checklists, National Framework for Children and Young People's participation in Decision making: DCEDIY, 2021.

Summary of organisation.
Please give a summary about the service you provide:
Please note: 200 - 500 word limit.
Please give a summary of your project/participation experience for evaluation:
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Please refer to the Evaluation Checklist questions to help you	complete this section. (See pages 3 & 4)
Space	
	Please note: 200 - 500 word limit.
Voice	

Please note: 200 - 500 word limit.

**Evidence of Participation:** 



## Please email this completed form to the Tusla participation officer in your area:

South/West:

DML:

**Dublin North East:** 

Email: Claire.redmond1@tusla.ie

Email: cathal.smyth@tusla.ie

Email: Davidj.obrien@tusla.ie