

The event was opened by a representative from the Parenting Support Champions Group, Sue McGlone, a Regional Manager of the Parent Support Programme (Midwest). Sue welcomed everybody on behalf of TUSLA and the PPFS Programme and acknowledged the tremendous efforts and travelled distances of everybody who came to attend the event. Sue outlined the significance of the Parenting Support Champions Programme for children and young people, regardless of race, creed or circumstance, to achieve their full potential and the contribution of the Champions in achieving this is deeply appreciated. Sue explained that the planning and networking day is about working on the PSC Plan for the next two years. Sue asked participants to prepare to be challenged, excited and inspired by the presentations, the project elements, collaborating in the plan and importantly, learning from and linking with each other. Sue thanked everybody for attending and provided an overview of the themes of the event on Parenting Support Champions Planning and Networking Day.

Sue outlined the objectives for the day which were:-

- Collaborate on the PSC plan development.
- Increase the knowledge of the NUIG Child and Family Research Centre's research of the parenting stream.
- Gain information on the framework to assist the practice in relation to parental participation.
- Engage and network with colleagues and other PSC

Sue challenged Parenting Support Champions to create opportunities throughout the day to network and engage with 3 other Champions and utilise opportunities to create positive links with other PSC.