

Title of Post	Child & Youth Participation Project Worker
Location	National Service – hybrid role and national travel as required
Employment Type	Part-Time (22.5 hours) & 2 Year Fixed Term Contract
Salary	€23,259 - €35,952 DOE (This is pro-rated salary for 22.5 hours)
Contact Person	Aine Costello on 050420018 / aine.costello@barnardos.ie
Closing Date	Wednesday 15 th June 2026
Interview Date	Monday 22 nd June

Child and Youth Participation Project Worker

Job Description

- Post:** Child and Youth Participation Project Worker
- Location:** National Childhood Domestic Violence and Abuse (CDVA) Project - Remote working
- Responsible to:** CDVA National Project lead
- Works with:** Children and young people who have experienced domestic violence and abuse.

Job Purpose

The overall purpose of the Childhood Domestic Abuse Project is to assist in increasing the visibility of childhood domestic abuse; to support a collective and collaborative approach to identifying the needs of children; and to delivering effective services in response.

The Empower Kids project, is a Barnardos initiative with a multi agency approach, that support children/young people living with Childhood Domestic Violence and Abuse to be heard in a meaningful way, and advise on both practice and policy responses to children.

The purpose of this role is to empower children and young people in Ireland through the Empower Kids project by supporting them to have a voice and be heard in matters that affect their lives.

Core Job Requirements

- Support the work of the CDVA and Empower Kids project in raising awareness of the impact of gender-based violence and abuse and its impact on children and young people.
- Identify issues/gaps emerging for children and young people who live with CDVA which contributes to and supports current practice responses.
- Facilitate children and young people in the empower kids project to reflect on and give voice to their experiences, and support them to advise on how to better respond to their needs in terms of prevention, early intervention, crisis and recovery.
- Keep children and young people's views at the centre of all aspects of the role.
- Work with and consult with children and young people in a variety of ways, including group work, individual work, and family work both centre based and outreach work.
- Identify appropriate formats for consultation, information materials and developing the required workshop elements for the effective delivery of the child and youth participation.

- Provide the children and young people involved in participation work, with the necessary age-appropriate information to participate fully.
- Provide guidance and support to keyworkers in participating agencies to effectively facilitate meaningful participation with children and young people involved in the Empower Kids project.
- Apply recognised participation frameworks, such as the Lundy Model, in practice while maintaining up-to-date knowledge and continuous professional development in child and youth participation to ensure meaningful, rights-based engagement.
- Prepare and deliver presentations on the work of the empower kids project, to key stakeholders in order to raise influence of the work of the children and young people.
- Facilitate adult services users to have their voice heard in meaningful ways, through parent participation, to order to work towards positive outcomes for children and young people who have lived with domestic violence and abuse.
- Key work individual children and young people in order to meet their needs and to advocate on their behalf.
- Liaise effectively with families and other statutory, community and voluntary bodies and to attend and contribute to reviews and case conferences as required.
- Continuously assess risk in order to promote safety and well-being of children at all times.
- Identify and document to the line manager any unmet needs of children and young people within the service and make appropriate referrals where necessary.
- Be vigilant for signs of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and any concerns regarding the welfare of children. To record concerns promptly and accurately. To consult with the Designated Person and take appropriate action in accordance with Barnardos Child Protection policy.
- Keep regular records in relation to all aspects of work and prepare reports as required. Ensure these records and files are maintained to a high standard and case records are accessible to Service Users, seeking permission from third parties as appropriate.
- Gather information statistics and prepare reports as required, including administration of databases as appropriate to the role.
- Develop and facilitate a culture of Service Users consultation and involvement in all aspects of the work.

Interagency Responsibilities:

- Liaise and develop collaborative working links with partner agencies that work with women and children who have lived with domestic violence and abuse.
- Facilitate multi agency participation via online and inperson network meetings that support the effective running of the empower kids project.
- Raise awareness of domestic violence and abuse and its impact on children at relevant interagency platforms .
- Ensure effective communication within your area of responsibility.
- Represent Barnardos as appropriate at local/regional level.
- Maintain regular contact with relevant agencies to ensure best practice for children and families.

Note: this Job Description will be reviewed and updated in line with the needs of the work.

Child and Youth Participation Worker

Person Specification

Personal Attributes

- Excellent communications and interpersonal skills.
- Commitment to the delivery of quality services to children, young people, families and carers.
- Ability to act on own initiative and consult where appropriate.
- Ability to work under pressure, make decisions in consultation with the line manager when appropriate.
- To be committed to adhering to best practice in the work and be innovative and open to change.
- Flexibility and adaptability in terms of tasks and time is essential for this post.
- Ability to form objective relationships with children, young people, families/carers, colleagues and other agencies.
- Teamwork required and the ability to work in collaboration with others.
- Ability to write clear reports as required.
- Ability to be child-centred and needs led.
- Ability to manage relationships internally and with external stakeholders relevant to your service.

Experience

- A minimum of 2 years' experience of working with vulnerable children/young people and families – which may consist of up to 1 year pre-qualification relevant experience may be considered along with at least 1 year post-qualification experience
- A thorough understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence and its impact on children.
- A good understanding of child development and responding to children across a range of development stages.
- Experience of delivering programmes to children in response to their experience of domestic violence desirable.
- Experience of child and youth participation work desirable.
- Experience of planning, implementing and reviewing programmes with children and/or families.
- Experience of gathering data and writing reports.

Qualifications

Relevant professional 3rd level qualification (minimum Level 7 on the NFQ) essential, for example: Social Work, Social Care, Child Care, Education, Youth and Community Work, Psychology or equivalent.

Applicants with a Social Care or Social Work qualification must be registered with CORU as a Social Care Worker or Social Worker respectively.

Those eligible for CORU registration who are currently in the process of registration through their qualification, or under CORU's transitional arrangements (grandparenting route), will be required to provide evidence that this is in process.

Full driving licence and access to the use of a suitably insured vehicle essential.



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