



Carlow Regional Youth Service
Youth Work Ireland

C.R.Y.S. affiliation outline and options
for Volunteer-Led youth groups/clubs,
and local youth organisations.



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Carlow Regional Youth Service Youth Work Ireland

Carlow Regional Youth Services Affiliation Outline:

Carlow Regional Youth Services (CRYS) is part of Youth Work Ireland. Youth work Ireland is a federation of 22 Local Member Youth Services who deliver programmes and services to young people across the island of Ireland. Youth Work Ireland work with over 100,000 young people, through 470 clubs and youth projects, supported by over 500 staff and 7,000 dedicated volunteers. CRYS aim is to work with and support current affiliated clubs, and will outreach to areas to explore the option of starting up new clubs for young people in the county. We hope to develop a network of volunteer led groups with a responsibility of working with young people so that CRYS and the club network can ensure that quality youth work is reaching out to all corners of County Carlow, through highly trained volunteers. The affiliation can also aid groups, clubs, or organisations that work with young people who may have insurance with other organisations but would like to be connected to a larger network for support, training, and other information.

Carlow Regional Youth Services are recognised across the county and nationally through Youth Work Ireland as a service that excels in areas of training, child protection, and policy development, and feel these services can be offered to Local Youth Organisations that would like to affiliate to avail of these supports. Some of these supports are outlined below. This resource to the local organisations will mean that they will have nationally recognised training, and affiliated to a network that is striving towards excellence.

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs have created a National Quality Standards for Volunteer-led Youth Groups. The National Quality Standards for Volunteer-led Youth Groups is the result of much consultation and input from a large number of youth groups, organisations and agencies. The overall aim of the standards is to help improve the quality of the programmes and activities for young people and the way in which they are provided. In addition, through the standards, young people will be encouraged and supported to have a say in the planning, design and delivery of their group's programmes and to become more involved in the running of their group. CRYS aims to support its current clubs and future groups in following the guidelines set out by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. This will ensure best practice and continued success.

Below is a list of affiliation options. There are a number of benefits and in time these benefits will increase.



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Affiliation Options:

What we can offer	Option 1 Affiliation with Insurance for Volunteer Led Youth Groups	Option 2 Affiliation without Insurance Volunteer Led Youth Groups	Option 3 Local Youth Organisation With one or more paid staff that work with young people with charitable status
Insurance	√		
Volunteer Youth Worker Training	√	√	√
Child Protection Training	√	√	√
Garda Vetting	√	√	√
Policy development	√	√	√
Grant application assistance	√	√	
Special interest workshops	√	√	√
Fundraising	√	√	
Programme development	√	√	
Support organisational development			√
Be part of larger network for sharing ideas and supports	√	√	√
Price	€300	€150	€150



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Criteria for affiliation under the various options:

<p>Option 1:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be eligible for this option, the group or club needs to volunteer led. • Prepared to engage in the National Quality Standards Framework for Volunteer-led Youth Groups. • To ensure all policies adhere to Carlow Regional Youth Services policies in the areas of Child Protection, health and safety, volunteers, access to training, and Drugs and alcohol. • To also ensure that all volunteers are fully trained and have Garda vetting by Carlow Regional Youth Services.
<p>Option 2:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be eligible for this option, the group or club needs to volunteer led. • Prepared to engage in the National Quality Standards Framework for Volunteer-led Youth Groups. • To ensure all policies adhere to Carlow Regional Youth Services policies in the areas of Child Protection, health and safety, volunteers, access to training, and Drugs and alcohol. • To also ensure that all volunteers are fully trained and have Garda vetting by Carlow Regional Youth Services. • If the members are vetting by an alternative organisation, there must be written proof that all members are vetted by the associated organisation. • The group need to provide proof of adequate insurance
<p>Option 3:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be eligible for this option, the company must have charitable status. • Can have a number of paid staff • Local youth organisation • Must also have a board of management Structure • The group need to provide proof of adequate insurance • To ensure all policies adhere to Carlow Regional Youth Services policies in the areas of Child Protection, health and safety, volunteers, access to training, and Drugs and alcohol. • To also ensure that all volunteers and staff are fully trained and have Garda vetting by Carlow Regional Youth Services. • Committed to organisational development.



Further details:

Carlow Regional Youth Service Youth Work Ireland

- Insurance: Youth Work Ireland provide insurance through BHP insurance, and is ideal cover for majority of the work carried out within the club and covers the volunteers and young people. A booklet with more information can be sent out by request.
- Volunteer Youth Work Training: This training is called 'Starting Out', and is provided by our staff. The Training was developed by National Youth Council of Ireland, and is recognised nationwide and transferable.
- Child Protection Awareness Training (NYCI C.P.A.T.): This programme again was developed by NYCI and is the only recognised training for people who work or volunteer in the Youth Work Sector. This training is also transferable.
- Garda Vetting: It will come into place that all volunteer Youth Workers will not be permitted to start working with young people until they have been fully vetted. This will be done through our child protection worker. For local youth organisations, and youth clubs/groups not seeking insurance and associated with another organisation have to provide evidence that members have been vetted. The vetting covers an individual only for 2 years.
- Grant application assistance: throughout the year funding opportunities will arise, and if so and club meet the criteria to apply, then CRYS will provide support in filling in those application forms.
- Special interest workshops: They will be developed over time with consultation from the youth club volunteers. Examples could be: games, arts and crafts, conflict resolution etc
- Fundraising: CRYS hold a number of fundraising events throughout the year. This would give the Youth Club the opportunity to participate, and any money raised would ring fenced and reallocated back to the club.
- Programme Development: There is plenty of experience within the Youth Clubs, however if and when required CRYS can and will assist the club in developing plans. This can aid in the clubs efforts to promote positive mental health, or deal with issues that are developing within their communities.
- Youth Club Network: This will be a new element. This is to draw from other clubs experiences, and to pull together the many resources that are among the clubs. The Network will also be an opportunity for the Clubs to identify any additional needs that CRYS could support them on.
- Support Organisational Development: This is to provide support to an organisation that work with young people; however are not a big enough to have child protection officer, or support regarding training to work with young people.



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NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARDS FOR Volunteer-Led Youth Groups and Clubs	
Each group complete the annual plan & progress report forms.	
Each Club/café keeps a Box file with the following:	The group should have:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution • Consultation sheets from consultation with Young People • Programme plans • Evaluation Sheets • Press releases • Photos • Minutes of meetings • Discussions with Young person's notes • Any other relevant info 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent consents for members on file • Parent contact list available • Sign in/out books/sheets • Accident/incident forms • List of volunteers vetted & trained on file • Emergency contact numbers for GP, Caredoc etc readily available • A basic first aid kit available • Leaders should be familiar with first aid procedures • A child Protection policy and C.P. statement displayed • A safety statement displayed & Health & Safety policy • Fire drills should be carried out regularly • A designated emergency exit route and meeting point should be identified • Volunteer Manual Available • Club handbook