



Children's Disability Network Team 3



Welcome for Parents and Guardians

Children's Disability Network 3

Postal Address:

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Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



Welcome Note

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you and your child into the Network 3, Children's Disability Network Team.

We will work together with you and your child to support his or her needs.

This Welcome Sheet gives you a summary of the Network 3 Children's Disability Network Team and the range of services that will be available. It will also give you a brief outline of the members of the team and their roles in your child's support. The information sheet includes details of where we are located.

We hope that this information booklet will help you to understand how the service operates and will provide a basis for a good working relationship with us.

We look forward to working with you and your child.

Children's Disability Network Team 3 (CDNT 3)

Handwritten signature of Therese Healy.

Therese Healy
Children's Disability Network Manager

Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) Network 3 Information Pack

Who We Are

The Network 3, Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) is a partnership between the Health Service Executive (HSE), and Enable Ireland.

The team is made up of: Occupational Therapy, Social Work, Speech and Language Therapy, Psychology, Nursing, Dietetics and Physiotherapy, Administrative support and a Children's Disability Network manager.

Geographic area

Children's Disability Network Teams operate in a defined area and are provided based on the child's home address.

Network 3 covers the geographical area of:

Castlecomer/Freshford/Kilkenny City/Clogh/Ballyragget/Urlingford



We are based out of two centres:

Enable Ireland,
St Joseph's Road,
Kilkenny,
R95 K260

And

Children's Services Centre,
Kilcreene Complex,
Kilkenny
R95 P4AA

Your child may receive service in either of the two centres

Directions to Enable Ireland Centre:

Take R887, Wolfe Tone St and Dean St to St Joseph's Rd

Drive to St Joseph's Rd

We are located on the left hand side, directly behind the Father McGrath Centre

Directions to Kilcreene Children's Services:

Take R909 to Circular Rd and continue to Circular Rd/R695

Turn left onto Circular Rd/R695 and continue to follow R695

Continue on Kilcreene Rd to Kilcreene Hospital Complex on your right

Enter Hospital complex, Kilcreene Children's Services is the second building on the right

What do we do?

The CDNT recognises that the family is the most important influence on a child's development. We work with you and your family to support your child to achieve their full potential.

This model of service, called **Family Centred Practice**, values the uniqueness of every child and their family, is the core principle of the CDNT ethos.

The Children Disability Network Teams consist of an **Inter-disciplinary team** a number of professionals from different disciplines who work together. They work closely together to provide coordinated care to meet the identified needs of the child. The team may see the child separately or together, as appropriate.

The interdisciplinary team approach is supported by national and international best practice.

What to expect from our service?**Key Contact**

When your child commences services you will be assigned a key contact. The key contact is a team member who will be your main point of contact to the team. Your key contact will work with you and support you and your child access the services you need. The key contact will bring you through the initial stages of commencing with the CDNT and will work with you to identify your child and family's priorities at a meeting called the Individual Family Service Plan. The key contact remains your main person to contact for queries and linking with the team.

Individual Family Service Plan

An important aspect of the CDNT's work with your family will involve the completion of an Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP). This meeting with team members helps to identify what is important to you and your child. The team and you will work together to develop the plan to support your child.

Our primary goal is to get to know you and your child. To do this we will discuss:

- Your concerns
- What is important to you and your family, in regards to your child's development
- Daily routines and family life
- Our service

Following this, we will collaboratively discuss the things you would like your child and family to achieve. Together we will set goals to help your child build relationships, take part in activities, and do things for themselves.

Intervention

All intervention is aimed at equipping you to help your child at home and in the community. The Individual Family Service Plan will identify the interventions that your child requires.

As a team we may offer supports in a variety of formats, depending on the needs and goals identified by your family.

What will intervention be like?

Intervention may be offered in the following ways:

- Parent training and review consultation.
- Inter-disciplinary therapy e.g. the SLT, OT or PT might work together during a session with your child
- Group therapy for children/children and parents/parents only
- Workshops for parents/carers/family members/teachers and SNA's
- Individual therapy
- Recommendations for home
- Recommendations for school
- School consultation
- Liaising with the NEPS psychologists who provide school based psychological support

Intervention may be in person or via telephone consultation or video consultation/ webinars. The needs of your child will shape the intervention that we will provide to you and your child. You may be asked to join in during your child's sessions so that you can support your child in their home environment. We may give you home programmes with activities to follow up on skills practised during the sessions.

Unfortunately, due to limited resources, we are not able to provide access to all services immediately. Your child may be placed on waiting list for a service. However, we will work with you to provide you with some general supports whilst waiting for services.

How often will intervention take place?

The frequency of intervention depends on the needs of your child. Interventions may be followed by a break. Following any intervention it is important that each child gets time to put new skills into practice.

Progress of the goals identified at the IFSP will be monitored by your key contact regularly to determine if and when further intervention is required.

The CDNT will work closely with other people and organisations who are involved in your child's care, development and everyday life.

How can you help us to help your child?

For your child to get the best possible service, we ask you to:

- **Attend all appointments and sessions:** You and your child must attend all sessions. We realise that there will be times when you and your child will be unable to attend. If this is the case please contact the CDNT service as soon as possible to cancel and to arrange for another appointment. You may have to wait a number of weeks for another appointment. If you do not contact us to let us know that you will not be attending your appointment, we will send you a letter asking you to contact us.
- **Be on time:** If you are late, (10-15 minutes) we may not be able to see your child.
- **Get involved:** This means attending all appointments offered by the team, working with the team in identifying goals for your child, planning the steps needed to achieve these goals and carrying out home programmes given by the team. The best results are achieved when skills are practiced routinely during daily activities.
- Tell us if your child is having any private therapy.
- Treat all team members with courtesy and respect.
- Please do not attend appointments if you or your child are unwell.

What if your child does not need the Children's Disability Network Team service anymore?

When your child no longer needs the services of the Children's Disability Network Team, s/he will be discharged from the service. This will be discussed with you and where appropriate your child may be referred to another service.

What happens if I move house to another area?

If you and your family change address, please inform the CDNT. If you and your family move out of the catchment area, the Children's Disability Network Team will liaise with the most appropriate service in your new area and organise the transfer of your child's intervention, with your consent.

Other Important Information

Confidentiality

Confidentiality is very important to everyone on the team. All information that you share with the team about your child and your family is private and will not be discussed with anyone outside the team without your permission. We assure you that your personal information is treated with sensitivity and remains confidential to the team.

However, there may be some situations where we are required, by law to pass on information to the relevant authorities (e.g. Tusla or An Garda Síochána) as we have a duty to make sure that all the children we see are safe and protected from harm.

We must pass on information to the authorities if:

- There is evidence or reasonable suspicion that a child is being abused or neglected;
- A child or family member tells us they intend to harm themselves or harm someone else.

Feedback, Concerns and Complaints

The CDNT aims to provide the best possible services to children and their families. We encourage families who use our services to provide us with feedback on the services so that we can continue to develop and meet the needs of children and their families. Please link with your key contact for further information and details.

We look forward to working with your child and your family.