



Corlann
The Future is Ours to Shape



Welcome *to network 6*

Support booklet
Children's Disability Network Team 6



Children's
Disability
Network
Team

Welcome

You are very welcome to CDNT6.

On behalf of the entire team I want to extend a very warm welcome to you. Our team are deeply committed to ensuring that every child and young person feels safe, valued and empowered to reach their full potential.

We strive to create a positive, inclusive and supportive environment where both children and families can work in partnership with the team to reach their own individual goals. We look forward to working together and being part of your child's journey.

With every best wish,

Gillian Raftery

Children's Disability Network Manager – CDNT6)

Mission & Values

The Children's Disability Team (CDNT) 6 in Galway City East and County is led by Brothers of Charity Services Ireland, which will be shortly changing to its new name Corlann.

Brothers of Charity Services Ireland are an inclusive, progressive organisation committed to the people we support and their right to lead full and valued lives as equal citizens. Inspired by the ethos of the Brothers of Charity we promote the values of dignity and respect for each person. (March 2022).



About us



Children's Disability Network Team (CDNT) provides specialised support and services for children and young people, aged from birth to 18 years, who have a disability and/or developmental delay.

The team supports a child's development, well-being and participation in family and community life.

It is the role of the CDNT to share knowledge, information and skills with families so that they will feel empowered to support their child's unique growth, learning, and participation in everyday activities.

As parents you are the main people who are, and will continue to be, involved in your child's life. You know your child and family best and you will have the biggest impact on your child's development. Therefore, we aim to work with your family as active and equal partners.

We will do this by building on your family's and child/ young person's strengths and interests, and supporting you and your child's skills and abilities.

Our team operates as 3 sub teams:

- Maple Team which covers the city area,
- Hazel covers north of the County
- Willow covers the South area of Galway.



Each sub team is an interdisciplinary team which consists of a group of experienced professionals from various disciplines who collaborate to provide comprehensive care and support to children.

Each team includes Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, a Community Nurse, Psychologists, Speech and Language therapists.

The dietician, behaviour support therapist and our pre-school liaison coordinator provide input into each of the 3 sub teams.

The overall CDNT is supported by Administration and 1 Children's Disability Network Manager.

About us

Contact information for the team:

35 Lr Newcastle
Galway
H91 W934;
Tel: 091 860112

The Gables, Woodlands
Centre, Galway
H91 KN20;
Tel: 091 721580

Email address: cdnt6.chw@bocsi.ie



The Team

Each professional brings their own unique expertise to the team. Depending on your child's needs and goals, the roles and responsibilities of team members often work together based on their area of expertise. This makes it easier for the child and family to work with the team to meet the goals set out in their Individual Family Support Plan. We have outlined a brief explanation (in alphabetical order) of the roles that are linked with our CDNT however we work in a collaborative and interdisciplinary way.

Administrators:

Shane, Mary, Tatjana and Tracey are the administrators on the team. They will often be your main point of contact with the team, as they manage the CDNT's email inbox and phone line.



About us

Behavioural Therapist

Leanne is our Behavioural Therapist who works on a half time basis with our team. She has special skills in breaking down and analysing behaviours. Working alongside the team she develops and helps to put supports in place to help with behaviour. These supports aim to maximise your child's participation in school, home and in the wider community.

Community Nurses:

The Community Nurses will assess the care needs of a child and develop nursing care pathways. They will also participate in team assessments across various settings (home, clinic, preschool, school, and community).

Dietician:

Children with complex medical needs often encounter feeding and nutritional problems. Tara is the dietitian linked with our team, she also covers other Network teams. Tara can advise and support the child and family through oral or tube-feeding difficulties where they arise.

Disability Network Manager:

Gillian is the Children's Disability Network Manager (CDNM), she leads the team. CDNMs are responsible for developing and delivering a safe and quality children's disability service. We use the principles that are the foundation of the PDS model of service (see Glossary of Terms) to support:

- Day-to-day management
- Leadership and team development
- Managing resources
- Ensuring best practice and working to regulatory clinical standards
- Quality improvements
- Managing risk
- Working closely with other services and community supports that families might access.

About us



Occupational Therapist:

We have Occupational Therapists (OT) on each of our sub teams. They have special skills in assessing how a health condition or disability can affect a child's ability to take part in daily activities. OTs also help with daily living skills and with sourcing equipment to help your child take part and engage in activities (for example, managing posture which they will work on with the Physiotherapist). They can support your child with gross motor skills and fine motor skills, and with sensory processing and integration.

Physiotherapist:

We have Physiotherapists on each of our sub teams. They have special skills that improve or maintain maximum and functional ability in someone's body. They will help support all aspects of your child's physical and motor development. This includes helping your child meet their physical potential to the best of your child's abilities. They are involved with providing equipment to enhance your child's physical abilities (for example, a walker or orthotics). They are also involved in managing posture with the OT.



Psychologist

We have psychologists on each of our sub teams. They have skills in psychological assessment and psychological formulation. They further provide support in areas such as emotions, and learning.

About us

Preschool Liaison teacher:

Bernadine is our Preschool liaison teacher. Bernadine has a background in early childhood development and education. Using a holistic approach, Bernadine supports your child at home, in their preschool, in the clinic or in the community.



Speech and Language Therapist

Speech and Language Therapists have expertise in understanding communication and the different ways people can express themselves. They also have expertise in feeding, eating, drinking and swallowing (FEDS).

Social Worker

We have 3 Social Workers covering CDNT6, they have skills in providing emotional and practical support to you, your child, and your family. They will help you to tap into and maximise the supports available to you within your family and wider community. This could include making sure you access all your rights and entitlements.

We all work together in a family-centred practice (FCP) approach. FCP is internationally considered to be the best way to support the development, learning and wellbeing of children with complex needs arising from a disability. (PDS policy framework for service delivery of children's disability network teams, revised May 2022.)



What to expect?

- When your child's is accepted to CDNT, Tatjana will be in contact with you to complete some necessary paperwork.
- We review each referral to the team and each child or young person is seen in order of date of referral.
 - There are exceptional circumstances where a child or young person is prioritised such as if your child is under 16 months or intervention is required following discharge from hospital, following surgery or significant illness.

All families are invited to an Individual Family Support Plan (IFSP) with member/s of the team. We explain in more detail what an IFSP is later in this booklet.

You will work closely with the team using a wide range of services and supports. The team members you meet, and how often you meet them, will depend on your child's needs and goals. This will be discussed with you and your child when your Individual Family Support Plan (IFSP) is being designed.

The CDNT provides support in different ways. For example, you may be invited to join a group or attend a workshop and depending on your child's needs in some instances these may be offered prior to your IFSP.

We encourage you to attend these groups or workshops, and we usually ask for your feedback at the end. We value your feedback – it helps to improve how we deliver services.

Please contact us if there is a change in your child's circumstances which you have significant concerns about. Also, please let us know if any of your contact details change.



Finding Us

We have three locations:

This is 35 Lower Newcastle Road H91 W934

There is large parking area to the back and you can enter it through the gate parked with the red arrow.

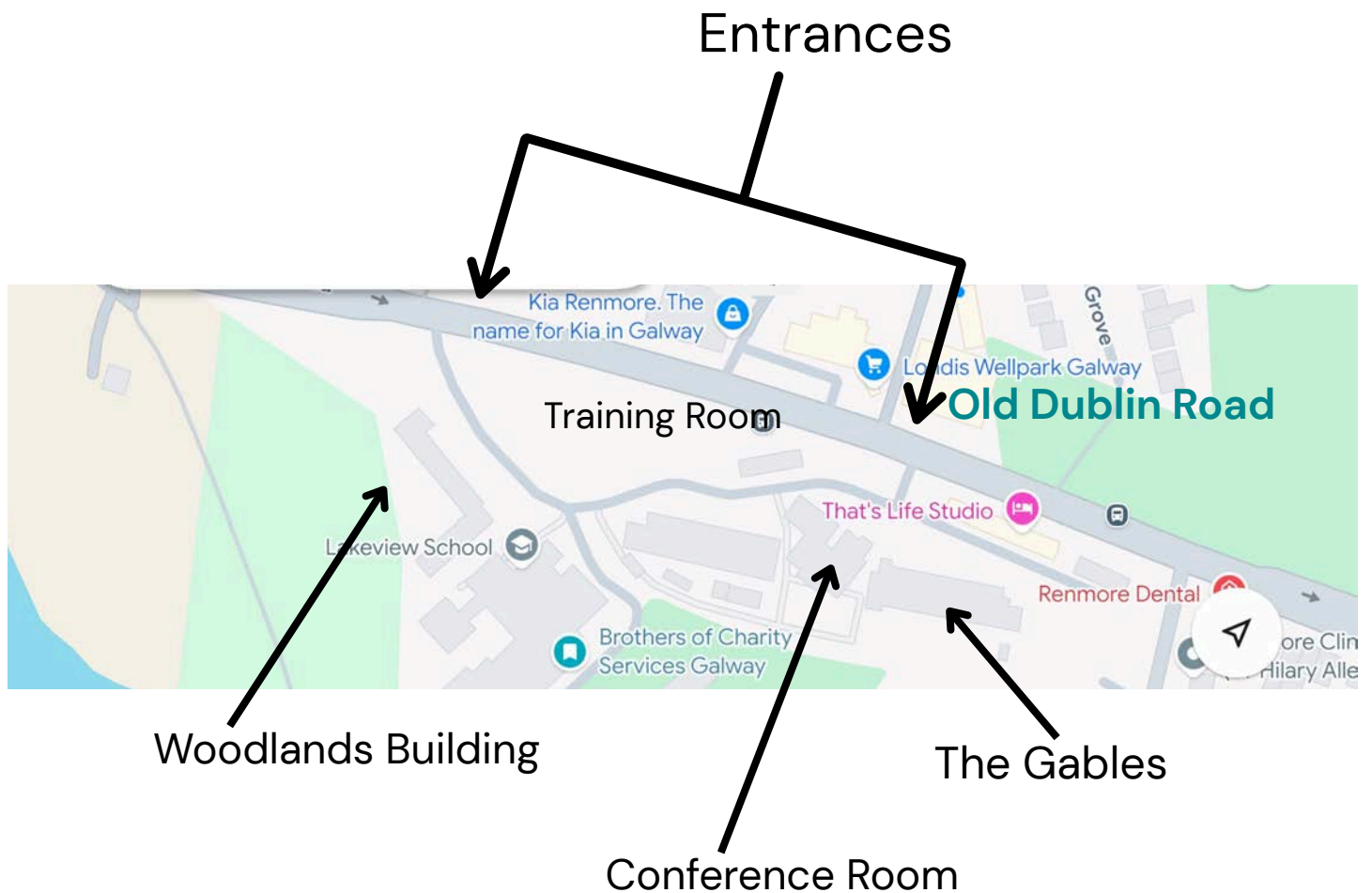


We have access to one therapy space in Gort, it is located in the Orchard Centre, Queen St, Gort H91 R3W0



Finding us

This is Woodlands Campus , Dublin Rd, Galway H91 KN20.
There are several buildings that we utilise on this campus



Finding us



This is The Gables
H91 V9RW
There is parking
available to the rear



You can access
the car park by
turning left before
Rosedale School



The Gables building
from the rear car
park

Coming to us



We look forward to welcoming you, if you think a social story (a personalised picture story about what to expect) or a visual schedule would help prepare your child to attend appointments, please let us know.

When attending appointments we ask the following:

- Sign in/check in at reception and include the number of people with you.
- If possible, we ask that only the relevant people attend the appointment. Child/children must be supervised at all times including in the car park and while waiting for an appointment.
- You stay in the building for the duration of their child's appointment.
- Please bring any emergency medication your child might need.
- If you need to have your phone turned on during an appointment, please ensure it is on silent.
- Explicit consent must be sought by staff or service users in advance to take a photo or record part of your session.
- You are not permitted to record any interventions or meetings.



- If you cannot attend please let us know as soon as possible.
- If you cannot attend we can offer an alternative appointment, however appointments are planned in advance so there may be a period of waiting time for your next appointment.
- If you have problems accessing our locations please let us know and we can arrange an alternative location such as school or home.



Your Journey

Your journey may be different to other children and this is okay. Once your referral is received by CDNT it is reviewed by the team. Unfortunately some families experience a waiting time, our team works as fairly and as efficiently as we possibly can.

Depending on your child's needs you may be offered support in different ways. For most families you will meet one or more members of the team. The first meeting takes place in the clinic and it is at this point we commence support with you and your family, through what we call an Individual Family Support Plan (IFSP). Some children may be offered a group or workshop before meeting our team members (for example a physiotherapy clinic appointment or transition to primary school information session).

The CDNT provides support in different ways such as

- groups
- information sessions
- workshops

These are all interventions that have been tailored for the children/parents who attend each group.

Groups and workshops are based on your child's needs and delivered by clinicians on our team.



Parent Workshops



We run parent workshops and group interventions
for different groups and ages.

This is why run them:

1

Build Understanding

They support your understanding of your child's development and what it means for them as they grow.

2

Empower

They empower you with strategies you can use daily at home.

3

Shared Understanding

They create a shared understanding that we can build on in future work with your child.

5

Evidence Based

This is an approach that has been studied and shown to work well for children and families.

6

Proactive & Preventative

We focus on giving you tools today that can make things easier for you and your child in years to come.

4

Daily Impact

They recognise that you, the parents, are the most important support in your child's daily life, spending the most time with your child.

Family Centred Practice



The role of our team is to share knowledge, information and skills with you so that you can further support your child's development and learn and participate in everyday activities. It is a family-centered practice.

Family Centred Practice is a model of care which acknowledges and prioritises the strengths and abilities of the family unit through recognising the family as central in the delivery of services (Bradley et al, 2020; Dunst, 2002; MacKean, Thurston and Scott 2005).

It does not replace other types of intervention but instead provides a framework for how interventions are provided or utilised. (Eurlaid, 2019).

As part of PDS and the outcomes focused commitment of the framework, the integrated family centred model of support ensures that children and their families, regardless of nature of disability, will receive appropriate support in their local community.

We work in a family centred approach which means that we treat families with dignity and respect, and endeavour to provide you with information to facilitate informed, empowered decision making. Collaboratively, families and teams focus on the strengths and abilities of the child and emphasise what the child can do.

Here is a link to a YouTube clip which describes PDS and family centred practice:

<https://youtu.be/4oiGaQi25m4> or scan this QR code:





An Individualised Family Support Plan (IFSP) sets out the goals for your child.

At your first IFSP, you will meet with team members, you will identify what your main priorities are for your child. Children and young people are encouraged to take part in the process.

This meeting will either be in person or online, whichever suits you and your families needs.

Why we have individual family support plans?

For children to:

- have a voice in matters that affect them
- have the best possible health
- are safe
- have friends and get on well with other people in their lives
- learn the skills to help them to be independent
- take part in home, school and community life



For families to:

- understand their child's needs, strengths and difficulties
- look after and support their child
- to know their rights and their child's rights
- take part in life in their community
- are supported by family, friends and neighbours



The IFSP will act as a guide to the services your child receives. The team will refer to it on an ongoing basis, and it will be reviewed to check that the goals are still relevant.



What should I do before my first IFSP?

Think about the way your child is developing. Ask yourself what is most important to you and to your child right now. Talk to your family about this.

Think about what your child is good at and what they enjoy, as well as what they find difficult. It's a good idea to write down any questions or concerns you have and bring these to your IFSP meeting.

Some questions worth considering:

- What is the priority for our child and our family at the moment?
- What have we tried already? Was this successful?
- How can we work on this priority?
- Is this the best time to work on this goal for us as a family?

After this meeting, the team will discuss your identified priorities. They will confirm the supports they can offer to help you achieve your child's goals. Once the IFSP is agreed, you get a written copy of it and with your consent may be shared with other important people involved with your child such as Paediatrician or School Teacher or Nurse



Types of Support

Members of the team will suggest different type of supports they think will be helpful for your child.

The types of supports recommended for your child and family will depend on the goals identified through your IFSP.

The team will recommend the most up to date and evidence based supports available.

A few different approaches may be required and input from other team members may be required to ensure we get the best results.



Below are the the three types of approaches and supports that we might recommend for your child and family. All these approaches have equal value. Your child's needs may be met using just one approach, or they might benefit from a mix of two or three. All of the below services are delivered by clinicians on our team.

Universal Supports:

These focus primarily on supporting parents to access information and may include:

- Information leaflets
- This information booklet
- Written and online information/resources
- Parent information sessions
- General family support



Types of Support

Targeted Supports:

At your IFSP you will be given suggestions to support your targeted goals. We also offer targeted parent, caregivers groups and workshops for young people and their siblings.

- Information sessions, talks and workshops for families may cover (for example Sleep, toilet training, transition to adult services).
- Group work provides education on a particular topic over a series of sessions. Examples are Exploring Autism, Hanen programmes for developing communication, Lámh Courses, hydrotherapy.

Individual supports:

Are for children and young people whose goals are best met through working directly with a clinician.

Individual support might be needed for certain clinical needs, such as difficulties with postural management, feeding, eating, drinking, or swallowing.

