Creative Youth

Nurture Fund 2023







In March 2023, the new <u>Creative Youth Plan 2023-</u> <u>2027</u> was launched.

Will be implemented by an Inter-departmental Creative Youth Working Group:

- Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts,
 Gaeltacht, Sport and Media (Creative Ireland Programme)
- Department of Education
- Department of Children, Equality, Disability,
 Integration and Youth
- Department of Further and Higher Education,
 Research, Innovation and Science
- The Arts Council







Defining Creaturity

There remains much debate, and often differences of opinion, regarding definitions of creativity.

For the purposes of the Creative Youth plan, the most appropriate skills and behaviours are those which support development and learning such as curiosity, resilience, imagination, discipline, and collaboration.

Many forms of creativity are welcome, just some of which are listed below:

CIRCUS, FILM, LITERATURE, CREATIVE WRITING, MUSIC AND DANCE OF ALL TYPES, STREET ARTS AND SPECTACLE, THEATRE, TRADITIONAL ARTS, VISUAL ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE, COOKING, ANIMATION, ARCHITECTURE, PODCASTING, GRAFFITI, AUGMENTED AND VIRTUAL REALITY, FASHION, COMEDY, DESIGN AND OTHER CREATIVE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY ARTS



What is the Nurture Fund?

- A pilot to support **youth-led** cultural, artistic and creative engagement to encourage equity and diversity.
- > Support individuals and organisations that can reach specific cohorts of young people.
- Funding is for projects that can nurture creative passions and ignite young people's creative potential.
- ➤ Applicants will be expected to work with **6-24 year olds**, implementing a youth-led approach.
- Fivaluation will be a key part of the pilot. Creative Ireland, working with the selected projects, wants to learn how best to reach the specific groups of young people and identify potential areas for future development.



Nurture Cohorts

Young People aged 6-24 who are:

- Living with physical or intellectual disabilities;
- * Refugees and asylum-seekers;
- Living with mental health issues;
- **❖** LGBTI+;
- Traveller and Roma;
- Within, or transitioning from, the care system;
- Engaged with the youth justice system/ incarcerated persons and ex-offenders.

Funding

€500,000 is available across two years to support Creative Youth Nurture Fund projects. It is expected that projects with **budgets of between €50,000** — **€90,000** will be funded for 18-24 months in duration.

Co-Funding

We welcome co-funded projects – through other public funds, philanthropy or business contribution. If you are awaiting funds from an alternative source please outline this in your application and include the timeframe when you expect to be notified of the outcome, as this may impact on your project timeline and budget requirements.

We are looking for collaborative applications from (but not limited to):

- Youth organisations
- Charities or not-for-profit organisations
- Philanthropic and research bodies
- Individuals
- Community groups and networks
- *Arts and cultural organisations or institutions
- Creative organisations, networks, museums, galleries and art centres
- Education centres and bodies
- Social enterprises
- Local authorities as a partner to an external organisation
- *Business, commercial companies
- Education and Training Boards (Note LCYPs as a partner on an application, not a lead applicant)

Requirements for Applicants

Applicants should be able to demonstrate:

- ✓ a commitment to supporting children and young people to access culture, creativity and the arts
- ✓ how they can reach and support children and young people who experience barriers to access creative and cultural opportunities, in particular those within one of the priority groups listed previously;
- ✓ how they will facilitate participation from children and young people in the development of the creative initiative using best practice, i.e. as outlined in the National Youth Participation Framework;
- ✓ how they will support engagement by children and young people across many forms of creativity;
 and
- ✓ how they will evaluate and report on the process and outcomes, with input from the children and young people involved.



What Will The Evaluation Entail?

Successful applicants will be expected to participate in evaluation and share their learnings.

This will entail a systematic and objective assessment in the form of a written report, with the participation of children and young people demonstrated, in order to determine the impact, learnings and sustainability of the project.

Applicants will be assessed on the following:

Criterion	Marks Available
Approach to facilitating strong participation from children and young people in the project development and delivery	25
Experience of working effectively with seldom heard children and young people	25
The project idea and its creative approach	20
Project team, track record and experience in working with children and young people on a creative project and feasibility	15
Evaluation plan	15
Total Marks Available	100

Shortlisted applications will be assessed by a panel with youth representation and Departmental representation



Budget

Costs May Include:

- Costs to appoint a scheme coordinator with experience in youth participation
- Costs to convene a diverse group of young people to design and oversee the implementation of the scheme, including access costs
- Documentation costs
- Networking/show-casing of initiatives awarded funding through your scheme

Ineligible Costs

- Costs not directly related to the project
- Retrospective costs i.e. expenditure which has taken place prior to the project approval date
- Capital requests for building improvements to workspaces and venues
- Application relating to Television series or a standalone advertising campaign

Key Dates and Further Information

24th **April- Fund Opened for Applications.** The online application portal will open for submissions.

9th June - Closing date. Proposals should be submitted through submit.com by 5pm.

July 2023 – Aim to inform applicants if they have been successful.

If you have any queries on the Creative Youth Nurture Fund or the application process, please email creativeireland@tcagsm.gov.ie using the subject heading 'Creative Youth Nurture Fund'.



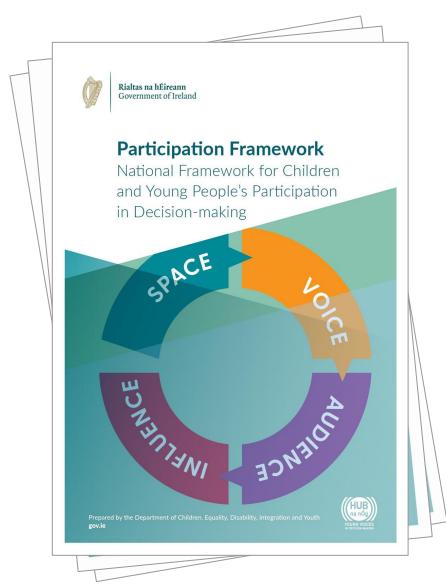
An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth



IN DECISION MAKING

HubnanÓg.ie

National Participation Framework





What is the Framework?

- ➤ Developed by Hub na nÓg in collaboration with Professor Laura Lundy to support the implementation of the National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-making (2015).
- > Supports organisations to improve practice in giving children and young people a voice in decision-making.
- ➤ Rights-based underpinned by the UNCRC (1989), the UNCRPD (2006), and the Lundy Model of child participation.



UNCRC and the **UNCRPD**

▶ Article 12 of the UNCRC:

"State Parties shall assure to the child who is capable of forming his or her own views, the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child"

▶ Article 7 of the UNCRPD:

Also requires the child to be given age appropriate assistance in expressing their views and that their views be given due weight.



The Frameworks Aims

- ➤ The Framework aims at achieving the overarching objectives of the National Participation Strategy.
- ➤ Improving and establishing mechanisms to ensure that seldom-heard and vulnerable children and young people are listened to and involved in decision-making;
- ➤ Mainstreaming the participation of children and young people in the development of policy, legislation, services and research.



Vision: Participation with Purpose

- Two interrelated factors:
 - the purpose of your organisation
 - the purpose of involving children and young people in decision-making
- Avoid getting stuck in the process of 'doing' participation
- Ensure that the purpose of participation is to give voice on:
 - day-to-day activities and practice
 - development of projects, programmes, services, policies that are central to the objectives of your organisation
- The intention should be that their views will influence an outcome or initiate change



What is Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-making?

- The right to a voice on decisions that affect them in everyday situations and strategic developments.
- Believing children and young people are capable of and have a right to agency.
- Xnowing children and young people have unique perspectives that are as important and valuable as those of adults.
- Understanding children and young people are not only the future of society they are their own present.
- Public policy would be improved if it focussed as much on their present lives as on their future as productive adults.
- Listening to children and young people is the key to understanding their present lives.



What Participation in Decision-making is Not:

- > Handing over complete power to children and young people
 - ➤ Instead it is giving due weight to their the views by acknowledging what they want and discussing the safest, most realistic and best decision(s) with them
- Believing that they are the only experts on their own lives
- Allowing them to do things that are unsafe or violate their other rights
 - ➤ Children and young people are entitled to have decisions made with their best interests as the primary consideration



9 Overarching Principles:

- Transparent and Informative
- Voluntary
- Respectful
- Relevant
- Child Friendly
- Inclusive (non discriminatory)
- Supported by training
- Safe and sensitive to risk
- Accountable

Prioritising Children and Young People's Perspectives:

- Seek their blue sky thinking rather than issues determined by adults.
- Avoid giving opinions or information that could influence their thinking.
- Use a strengths-based approach starting with their experience and understanding.
- Involve them in developing age-appropriate, engaging and accessible methods.
- > Ensure they have choice about ways to express themselves in person and online.
- > Use open consultation questions or easily understood survey questions.
- Avoid placing adult interpretations on their views while seeking opinions.
- Document their views in a way that avoids adult interpretation.

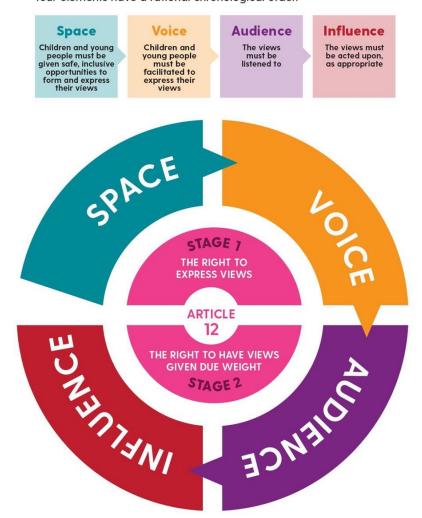
Giving Feedback to Children and Young People (Lundy's 4 Fs):

Obligation on decision-makers to demonstrate to children and young people how due weight has been given to their views.

- Full: Which views were accepted, which were not accepted and the reasons for decisions. Who is implementing their views and what is happening next.
- Friendly: In a format and language they understand. Include information on how their views were given due weight.
- Fast: Children and young people grow up. Decision-makers need to give them feedback on next steps as soon as possible.
- **Followed-up:** Provide ongoing feedback and information to children and young people throughout the policy or decision-making process.

Lundy Model

This model provides a pathway to help conceptualise Article 12 of the UNCRC. It focuses on four distinct, albeit interrelated, elements. The four elements have a rational chronological order.



Checklists and Feedback Forms based on the Lundy Model:

- Planning Checklist
- Evaluation Checklist
- Everyday Spaces Checklist
- Child and Youth Feedback Forms

Planning Checklist

This checklist guides you on how to listen to children and young people and involve them in decision-making when you are developing policies, plans, services, programmes, governance, research and legislation at national, local and organisational level.

You should inform children and young people that they have the right to a voice in decision-making and that you will take their views seriously.

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- How will you ensure that children and young people are involved as early as possible?
- How will their involvement be sustained?
- How will those who have been, or may be, directly affected by the topic be involved?
- What steps will be taken to ensure the process is inclusive and accessible?
- How will they be supported to feel safe and comfortable expressing themselves?
- What support will be provided to those who become anxious, upset or uncomfortable?

- Have you made a clear list of the topics on which you want to hear the views of children and young people?
- How will you ensure that the key focus of the process stays on the topics you identified?
- How will they know that participation is voluntary and that they can withdraw at any time?
- How will you support them in giving their own views, while including age-appropriate and accessible information?
- How will you ensure that they are given a range of ways to express themselves that best suits their needs and choices?
- How will the process allow them to identify topics they want to discuss?
- How will children and young people be informed about the scope they have (including the limitations) to influence decision-making?
- How will they be given age-appropriate and accessible feedback at key points during the development of a service or policy?
- What are your plans to make sure that children and young people's views impact on decisions?
- How will they be given age-appropriate and accessible feedback explaining how their views were used and the reasons for the decisions taken, in a timely manner?
- How will you ensure that they are given opportunities to evaluate the process throughout?

- How will children and young people know to whom, how and when their views will be communicated?
- How will you show your commitment to being informed and influenced by their views?
- How will you identify and involve relevant decision-makers (those responsible for influencing change)?
- How and when will a report/record and a child or youth friendly summary of their views be compiled?
- How will you ensure that they are given an opportunity to confirm that their views are accurately recorded?
- What plans are in place to support them to play a role in communicating their own views?

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Evaluation Checklist

This checklist is a guide for the self-evaluation and external evaluation of policies, plans, services, programmes, governance, research and legislation at national, local and organisational level.

- How did you ensure that children and young people were involved as early as possible?
- · How was their involvement sustained?
- · How were those who are directly affected by the topic involved?
- · What steps were taken to ensure the process was inclusive and accessible?
- · How were they supported to feel safe and comfortable expressing themselves?
- What support was provided to those who became anxious, upset or uncomfortable?

- Did you make a clear list of the topics on which you want to hear the views of children and young people?
- How did you ensure that the key focus of the process stayed on the topics you identified?
- How did they know that participation was voluntary and they could withdraw at any time?
- How did you support them to give their own views, while including age-appropriate and accessible information?
- How did you ensure that they were given a range of ways to express themselves that best suited their needs and choices?
- How did the process allow them to identify topics they wanted to discuss?
- · How were children and young people informed about the scope they have (including the limitations) to influence decision-making?
- · How were they given age-appropriate and accessible feedback at key points during the development of a service or policy?
- · What did you do with their views?
- How were they given age-appropriate and accessible feedback explaining how their views were used and the reasons for the decisions taken, in a timely manner?
- · How did you ensure that they were given opportunities to evaluate the process throughout?

- · How did children and young people know to whom, how and when their views would be communicated?
- · How did you show that you were committed to being informed and influenced by their views?
- How did you identify and involve relevant decision-makers (those responsible for influencing change)?
- How and when was a report/record and a child or youth-friendly summary of their views compiled?
- How did you ensure that they were given an opportunity to confirm that their
- support children and young people to play a role in communicating their own views?

views were accurately recorded? What plans were put in place to

Everyday Spaces Checklist

This checklist is designed as a guide to help you ensure that children and young people have a voice in decision–making. It can be applied in many everyday situations including in classrooms, hospitals, childcare settings, child and youth services, youth and sports clubs, youth projects, arts and creative initiatives and other spaces.

Please do not use this checklist for developing policies, plans, services, programmes, governance, research and legislation – use the Planning Checklist.

Please make sure that the ways you involve children and young people in decision-making are age-appropriate and accessible for all, whether in person or online.

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- How can children and young people feel safe to express their views?
- Have you allowed enough time to listen to and hear their views?
- How do you make sure that all children and young people are heard?
- How are children and young people provided with the support they need to give their views and be heard?
- How can they raise the things that matter to them?
- How are they offered different ways of giving their views?
- How will children and young people know how much influence they can have on decisions?
- How will you give them feedback?
- How will you share with them the impact of their views on decisions?
- How will you explain the reasons for the decisions taken?

- How do you show that you are ready and willing to listen to children and young people's views?
- How do you make sure they understand what you can do with their views?

AUDIENT

Children and Young People's Feedback Form (for groups)

ick the number of stars you would give to every	ything below. Five stars is th				e best.	
SPACE	*	**	***	****	***	
I have been listened to from the start						
I felt comfortable giving my opinions						
l felt safe giving my opinions						
A lot of different voices were included						
VOICE	*	**	***	****	****	
I got the chance to give my opinions						
I got enough information to help me give my opinion						
I got support to have my voice heard						
l understood what was being discussed						
I could give my opinions whatever way I wanted						
l had enough time to talk						
AUDIENCE	*	**	***	****	****	
I know who wants to hear our opinions						
I know why they want the opinions of young people						
They were honest about what they would try to do with our opinions						
INFLUENCE	*	**	***	****	****	
I know where our opinions are going next						
l know how we will be told about what happens to our opinions						
I think what we said today will be taken seriously						
What were the best things about today?	Wh	at wo	uld you d	change abo	out today?	
The FOOD was	The R	OOM w	as	0 9	IANK YO	

Enabling Factors:

- Four enabling factors underpin the Framework to support organisations involve children and young people in decision-making
- Organisational buy-in
- Training and capacity building
- Resources (financial, human, time)
- Monitoring and evaluation



Visit <u>hubnanog.ie</u> to download the Framework, checklists, feedback forms and good practice examples

The Application Process

