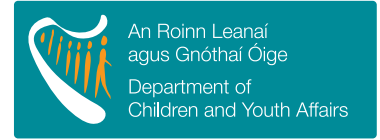




The Local Authority Play and Recreation Network



What is it about?

The Local Authority Play and Recreation Network and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs are hosting a seminar on Natural Play in Croke Park on Friday 24th October 2014.

Playing with sticks, climbing trees, building dens, splashing about in rivers and getting muddy; these may be some of our treasured childhood memories, but children today are restricted more than ever before. Lots of children are not allowed further than their own garden or the end of their road. This means they have less chance to play freely and develop independence and life skills.

This seminar looks at the opportunities of providing natural play spaces, their design and maintenance, the risks and benefits associated with natural play and how to progress the development of Natural Play in Ireland.



Who should attend?

The seminar is for the members of the Local Authority Play and Recreation Network and local authority staff with responsibility for the provision, maintenance and development of play facilities.

The seminar will be opened by the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Dr James Reilly

You can share your ideas and suggestions about how natural play could be introduced and developed in your local authority area.

The seminar attendance fee is €20 per person payable to the Play & Recreation Network following registration.



To register, please complete a registration form (attached) and email to Lapnetwork@gmail.com before 17th October 2014. For queries contact Hans Visser at 01 8905605/087 1214641 or Alison Silke at 01 4149042/-086 8516669





Creating Opportunities for Natural Play

Croke Park Dublin, 24th October 2014

Programme

9.30 Registration

10.00 Welcome & Opening of Conference

by James Reilly, TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs

10.15 What is Play and how do we cater for it

Stuart Lester, Gloucestershire University

10.45 Design of Natural Play Spaces

Sigrun Lobst, Aardrijk Consultancy, The Netherlands

11.30 Tea break

11.50 Natural Play in Schools

Alison Motion, Learning Through Landscapes, Scotland

12.20 Do's and Don'ts of Natural Play

Marianne van Lier, Stichting Springzaad, The Netherlands

13.00 Lunch

14.00 Risk Management and RoSPA in Natural Play

Prof David Ball, Middlesex University, England

14.45 Funding Natural Play Spaces

TBC

15.00 Panel Discussion:

Natural Play in Ireland - where do we go from here?

15.30 Closing Remarks