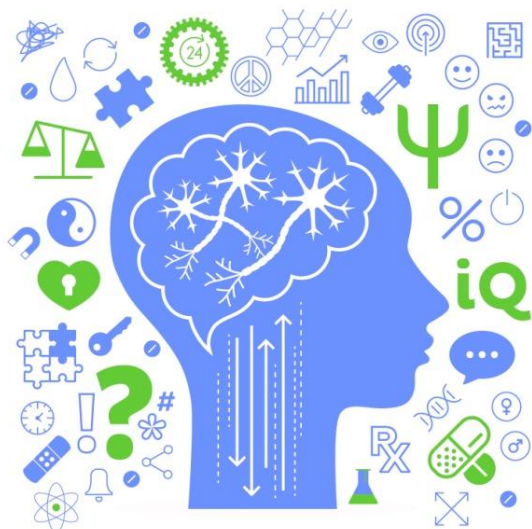


# Emotional Wellbeing – at the heart of school communities



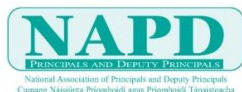
**Wednesday, 4th Nov 2015**

**Citywest Convention Centre, Dublin**

Price: €25 per person

[#LetsTalkWellbeing](#)

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## About this Event

This one-day symposium sets out to challenge current thinking on how emotional wellbeing is handled in the education sector and to build on existing work in this area. It will raise awareness of the importance of primary and post-primary schools embracing emotional wellbeing of both pupils and staff as a key measure of success. By this, we mean establishing and embedding a culture whereby all children feel safe to express their anxieties and can develop emotional resilience to meet the challenges they will face as they go through life. For staff it means acknowledging that they may be experiencing difficulties themselves and how important it is to look after themselves and support their colleagues.

Speakers include:

- **An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD**
- **Conor Cusack** - Wellbeing 'Ambassador'
- **Dr Niall Muldoon** - Ombudsman for Children
- **Gordon Jeyes** - CEO, Túsla - Child and Family Agency
- **Dr Rosaleen McElvaney** - Dublin City University
- **Margaret Grogan** - Regional Director, NEPS
- **Suzanne Dillon**, Assistant Chief Inspector
- **Colma Nic Lughadha** - Children & Young People's Services Committees
- **Pat Goff** - Deputy CEO, IPPN
- **Clive Byrne** - CEO, NAPD

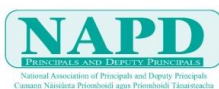
## Who should attend?

- Principals, teachers and chairpersons of primary and post-primary schools
- Representatives of teacher training colleges and other third level colleges
- Education agencies, management bodies, education partners and relevant service providers.

## Why are we doing this?

- Four times as many primary school principals stated that emotional wellbeing difficulties are the greatest child welfare challenge in 2015, than in 2009 (IPPN, 2015).
- Anxiety disorders are one of the most common forms of psychological distress in childhood and youth (Cartwright-Hatton et al., 2004).
- Statistics show that suicide and self-harm among young people indicate that Ireland has the fourth highest rate of youth suicide in Europe. Suicide is among the top five causes of mortality in the 15 to 19 year age group in Ireland (CSO, 2012).
- Without intervention, emotional and behavioural problems in young people may be less amenable to intervention after eight years of age, resulting in an escalation of academic problems, antisocial behaviour and eventual school drop-out in later years. (Clarke, A.M. and Barry, M. 2010)
- 82% of principals feel 'insufficiently trained' or 'not trained at all' to identify emotional wellbeing issues in children, much less adequately support them once the problems have been identified (IPPN, 2015).
- The *My World Survey* (Headstrong, 2012) found that the presence of one supportive adult in a young person's life is critically important to their wellbeing, sense of connectedness, self confidence, and ability to cope with difficulties. This adult may be a parent/guardian, relative, teacher, sports coach, or youth leader.
- Whilst it is recognised that the home and family are the primary source of nurturing and support for children, emotional wellbeing is everyone's business and involves the whole school community, parents/guardians and other relevant stakeholders.

### Supported by:



## Programme of the Day (subject to change)

Time	Topic
9am	Registration
9.30am – 10.00am	<b>Setting the Scene</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Claire Byrne, Symposium Facilitator</li> <li>Dr Niall Muldoon, Ombudsman for Children</li> </ul>
10.00am – 11.30am	<b>Understanding the School Context</b> Keynote Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr. Rosaleen McElvaney, Dublin City University</li> <li>Pat Goff, Deputy CEO, IPPN (Primary sector)</li> <li>Clive Byrne, CEO, NAPD (Post Primary sector)</li> </ul> Additional facilitated Panel Discussion
11.30am – 12.00noon	Break
12.00 – 1.00pm	<b>Addressing the Challenges of Wellbeing in Schools</b> Keynote speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Suzanne Dillon, Assistant Chief Inspector, DES</li> <li>Gordon Jeyes, Túsla</li> <li>Colma Nic Lughadha, Children &amp; Young People's Services Committees</li> </ul> Facilitated Panel Discussion with additional Panel Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maria Lawlor, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)</li> <li>Monica Haughey, Clinical Operations Manager, Carecall</li> </ul>
1pm – 2pm	Lunch
2pm – 3.30pm	<b>The Way Forward</b> Keynote speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD</li> <li>Margaret Grogan, NEPS</li> <li>Angela Lynch, Principal Advice Manager, IPPN</li> <li>Conor Cusack</li> </ul> Facilitated Panel Discussion with additional Panel Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tomás Ó Ruairc, Director, Teaching Council</li> <li>Brian Murray, Professional Development Services for Teachers (PDST)</li> </ul>
3.30pm	Close