

Title of Post	Midlands Project Worker - Young Parent Support Programme & Family Support
Location	Athlone – Midlands
Employment Type	Part-time, Specific Purpose – Maternity Leave Cover, 18.5hrs
Salary	€37,498.51 - €57,961.53 (Full-time 37 hrs) €18,749.25 - €28,980.77 (Pro-rated for 18.5hrs)
Contact Person	hayley.tillman@barnardos.ie , recruitment@barnardos.ie
Closing Date	16 th December, 2026
Interview Date	TBC

Information Note

Name of Project: Barnardos Young Parent Support Programme and Family Support
Athlone

Address of Project: Young Parents Support Programme Westmeath / Longford
The Hickey Building, 1 -2 Magazine Road, Athlone, Co Westmeath, N37 Y2A8

Young Parents Support Project is European Social Fund + (ESF+) co-financed programme. This ESF+ Action is co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union.



Arna chomhchistiú ag
an Aontas Eorpach

Co-Funded by the
European Union



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



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

What do our Young Parent Support Programme and Family Support Services do?

We offer support, information and advocacy in all areas of a young parent's (parents under the age of 24) life including health, relationships, parenting, childcare, social welfare entitlements, education, training and anything else about which the mother or father is concerned.

Our Family Support services offer a range of services for families (children aged 0-18), which include individual sessions with children, attachment and bonding sessions with young parents and their children, sessions with siblings, parent and child sessions, group-based therapeutic support for children, parenting support focusing on strengthening and modelling core-parenting skills, and structured parent-child support which aim to enhance and strengthen the parent-child relationship. Empowering parents to make appropriate parenting decisions. Parents may be seen with their children and / or on their own depending on the presenting need. The services operate Monday to Friday.

Project Worker

Job Description

Post: Young Parent Support Programme (YPSP) and Family Support Project Worker

Location: Co. Westmeath - Midlands

Responsible to: YPSP Project Co Ordinator and Family Support Project Leader Barnardos Mullingar and Athlone services

Works with: Barnardos staff, service users and other agencies.

Job purpose

To develop and implement programmes that respond to the needs of children and families referred to the service working in partnership with families and other organisational, community and voluntary bodies.

Core Job Requirements

- Assess the needs of the children and the families engaging with the project.
- Plan, implement and review programmes for children/young people/carers/families based on an assessment of their individual and group needs.
- Be vigilant for signs of physical, sexual and emotional abuse, neglect and any concerns regarding the welfare of children.
- Record concerns promptly and accurately. To consult with the Designated Person and take appropriate action in accordance with Barnardos Child Protection policy.
- Work with children/young people/carers/families in a variety of ways, including group work, individual work and family work, centre based and outreach work.
- Key work individual children/young people/carers/families in order to meet their needs and to advocate on their behalf.

- Liaise effectively with families and other statutory, community and voluntary bodies and to attend and contribute to reviews and case conferences as required.
- Work in partnership with other Barnardos services to best meet the needs of children and families by collaborating resources with planned interventions targeting groups/families of shared need
- Keep regular records in relation to all aspects of work and prepare reports as required.
- Gather information statistics and prepare reports as required, including administration of databases as appropriate to the role.
- Identify and document to the line manager any unmet needs of children/young people/carers/families within the service and to participate in the advocacy work of the agency.

Requirements Specific to this Post

- Provide family support to children and families living in Co. Westmeath.
- Initially assigned to work in the Westmeath projects but may be required in the future to work in other projects in the Midlands region in line with organisational needs.

Personal Attributes

- Commitment to the delivery of quality services to children, young people, families and carers.
- Ability to act on own initiative and consult where appropriate.
- Ability to work under pressure, make decisions in consultation with the line manager when appropriate.
- To be committed to adhering to best practice in the work and be innovative and open to change.
- Flexibility and adaptability are essential for this post.
- Ability to form objective relationships with children, young people, families/carers, colleagues and other agencies.

Experience

A total of 2 years' experience, comprising:

- 1 year post-qualification experience, and
- 1 year prior qualification experience working with vulnerable children and families

Qualifications

A recognised third level practice qualification¹ (minimum Level 7 on the QQI) in one of the following:

- Social Care
- Education
- Social Work
- Youth Work

¹ Course content should include relevant student placements

- Or related discipline (Nursing, Psychology, Early Years Education).

Applicants must be registered or eligible for registration with CORU as a Social Care Worker. This includes those currently in the process of registration under CORU's transitional arrangements (grandparenting route). Candidates who meet the eligibility criteria but have not yet completed registration are encouraged to apply. However, you will be required to provide proof of registration or evidence they have initiated the application process.

Full driving licence and access to the use of a suitably insured vehicle essential.

The postholder is initially assigned to work in the Westmeath Family Support projects but may be required in the future to work in other locations in the Midlands area in line with organisational needs.

Barnardos is an equal opportunity employer.

We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all.