



ALL YOU NEED  
TO KNOW ABOUT  
Dáil na nÓg  
2006

Dáil na nÓg *(with a hand-drawn smiley face and stars)*

**DELEGATE  
TOOLKIT**





**Dear Delegate,**

**This is the TOOLKIT for Dáil na nÓg 2006!**

Inside you'll find lots of important information about Dáil na nÓg - practical information about the event on March 25th, the programme for the day, how to get to Croke Park and some very useful background information on the two topics for discussion at Dáil na nÓg 2005, which are:

- Migration and Interculturalism
- Facilities for Young People

It is important to be prepared for Dáil na nÓg! You should do your best to read the contents of this TOOLKIT before you meet with all the other delegates in your area. You should DEFINITELY try and read it all before March 25th!

If you have any questions or need to know more you can contact Olivia McEvoy on T: 01 478 4122 or E: [Olivia.mcevoy@nyci.ie](mailto:Olivia.mcevoy@nyci.ie)

Happy Reading!  
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# Background to Dáil na nÓg

The National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) is co-ordinating Dáil na nÓg 2006 on behalf of the Office of the Minister for Children (OMC). Youth Work Ireland (YWI) and Foróige National Youth Development Organisation are helping to organise Dáil na nÓg 2006.

## What is Dáil na nÓg all about?

- Dáil na nÓg is the National Youth Parliament of Ireland. At Dáil na nÓg the views of the young people of Ireland will be represented by you and the other delegates at national level.
- The Dáil na nÓg delegates will let the Minister for Children, Mr. Brian Lenihan, TD (who will be present on the day) and other decision makers in the Government know what they think of issues that affect their daily lives.
- Dáil na nÓg is a national version of your local Comhairle na nÓg.

## Who are the Delegates?

The young people who have been elected to Dáil na nÓg and will be attending on the day are called "delegates". You are a delegate representing your local Comhairle or area.

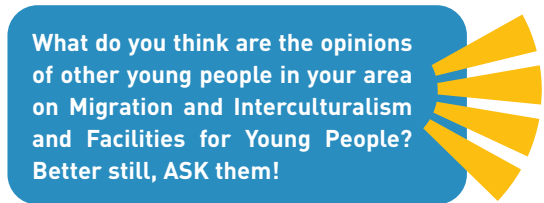
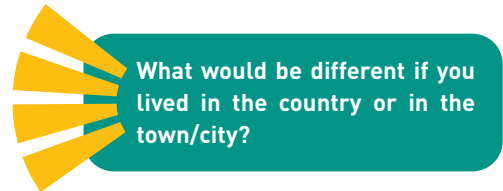
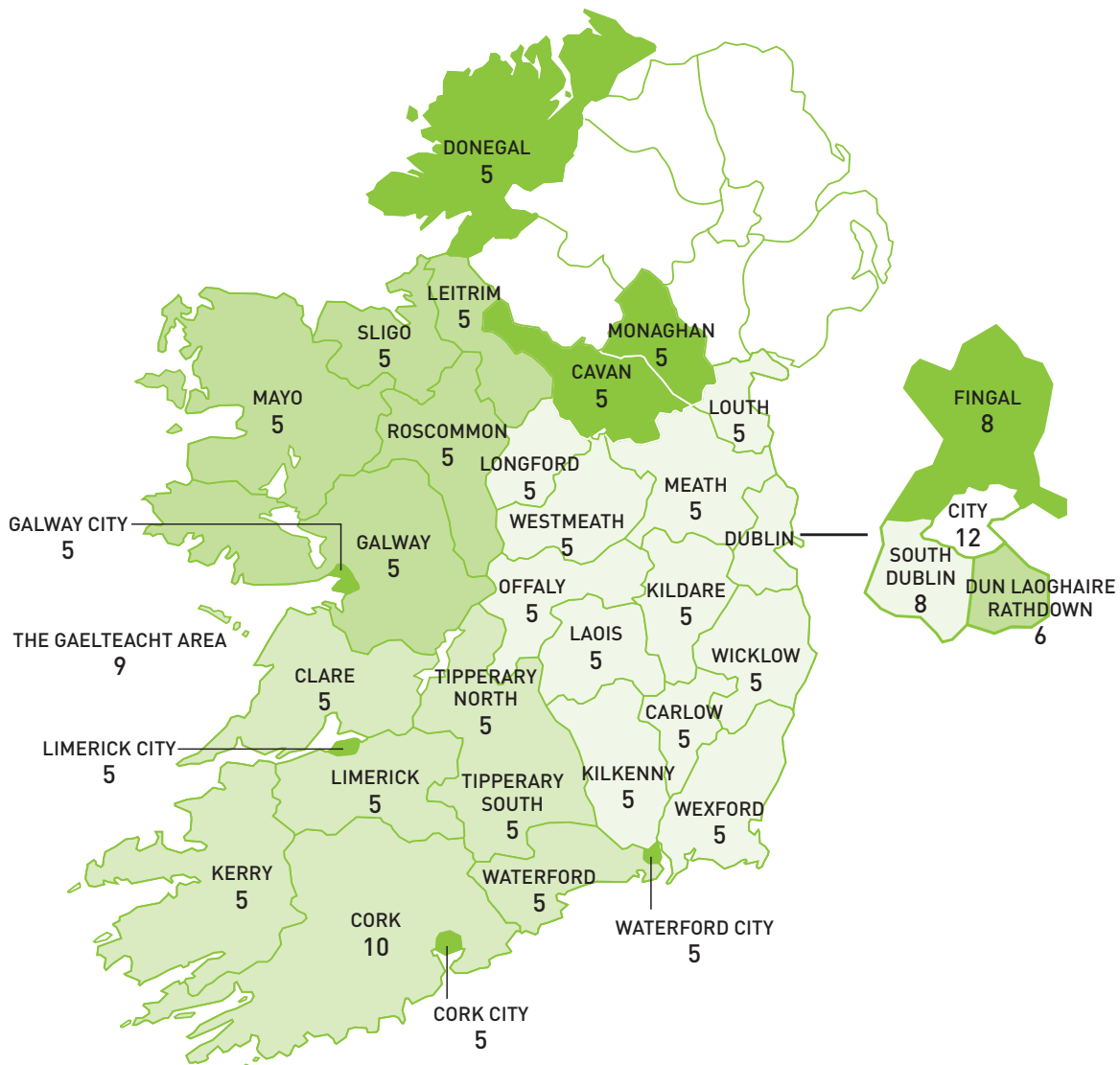


Fig 1.0 Number of delegates per Local Authority Area



### Where are the Delegates from?

Most Dáil na nÓg delegates have come from the Comhairle na nÓg for their local area. They have been elected by the other members of their Comhairle na nÓg. In total, 200 delegates attend Dáil na nÓg. There are 34 Comhairlí na nÓg across Ireland. So that the Dáil represents all young people, some delegates are from special interest or minority groups. If you would like to find out which young people are representing you, please contact your local Development Board. You can find contact details on the Dáil na nÓg website at [www.dailnanog.ie](http://www.dailnanog.ie)

### Why is my Job as a Delegate Important?

As a Dáil na nÓg delegate, you won't just be representing yourself. There are more than a million people aged between 0 and 18 in Ireland. That means that as a delegate, you are representing many other young people.

Through you and the other delegates, the opinions of young people will help inform the important decisions of the Government (public policy).

### How were the Topics Chosen?

Each Comhairle na nÓg was asked to choose two topics that were of most interest to young people for discussion at Dáil na nÓg. Migration and Interculturalism came from a list of 10 special initiatives from a Government Document called Sustaining Progress. Comhairlí na nÓg could choose any other topic as their preferred choice. 'Facilities for Young People' was the topic with the most Comhairlí votes.

### What's Sustaining Progress?

*Sustaining Progress* is a document that was put together by a group of people who were selected by the Government, to advise them on putting a plan together on areas that were really important for the development of Ireland.

How do you think the topics in the special initiatives relate to you or other young people?



### Why they are relevant and what do they have to do with Dáil na nÓg?

Dáil na nÓg gives young people a voice in decision making. Dáil na nÓg is part of the Government's National Children's Strategy, in which they commit to giving young people a voice in matters that affect them. The decisions you make at Dáil na nÓg will be very relevant to decisions the Government is making now. As you can see there are plenty of areas that are relevant to young people and it's important that you have a say on the issues as well.

### What are the issues?

The issues, or as the government call them in the plan - Special Initiatives are

1. Housing and Accommodation
2. Insurance
3. Migration and Interculturalism
4. Care for children, people with disabilities and older people
5. Long-term unemployed
6. Tackling education disadvantage
7. Waste Management
8. Alcohol and drug misuse
9. Including everyone in the information society
10. Ending child poverty

These topics are probably going to change soon as government enter into new talks on what is called Social Partnership.

### What delegates said about the 2005 Dáil

"Dáil na nÓg is a great opportunity for all young people around the country to come together to agree on changes that need to be made in society today."

"The Minister looked professional you could ask him questions, he took the day off to be here, it shows he cares and takes it seriously."

"It was really great to get to hear what the minister is doing about youth issues and it was also a good opportunity for him to be able to hear directly from young people what we think needs to be done."

"I really enjoyed the day and I feel confident that the government will listen to our issues and it will benefit all young people in the future. "

"I just can't wait for next year."

"Great fun, it was wonderful to be able to outline our problems to politicians and then say what we thought the solution to them should be."



## Themes for Discussion at Dáil na nÓg Background Information

### → 6

Each Comhairle was invited to vote for the two themes that they most wanted to discuss at Dáil na nÓg 2006. The two most popular themes were:

1. Migration & interculturalism
2. Facilities for Young People

Because it is such a short day, you will only be able to discuss ONE theme in depth at Dáil na nÓg. One of the forms included in your mailing is a 'Theme Selection' form. You should decide what theme you would most like to discuss and then meet with the other delegates in your area to make sure your area is evenly represented at the discussions on both themes. Somebody from your area will be in touch to organise a local meeting and they will discuss this form and return it for you.



Make sure you use your vote wisely!  
Every delegate will vote using an electronic key pad like you see on 'Who Wants To Be a Millionaire?'

Each working group (10 delegates) at the Dáil will discuss one particular aspect (part or section) of one theme in detail. This way, it means Dáil na nÓg can tell the Minister for Children, Mr. Brian Lenihan, T.D. and the other government representatives what young people think in more detail.

Working groups will decide which are **the 2 most** important key points or statements from their table and a total of ten statements per theme will be voted on by all 200 delegates in the Dáil. This means that you will get to have your say on every single decision made at Dáil na nÓg.

**Ok, when you go into your group there are a few important things to remember:**

- Everyone's voice should be heard
- There are no right or wrong answers
- Respect each other
- Listen to everybody
- Encourage other people in your group
- Have fun!



## THEME ONE: Migration and Interculturalism

### Migration and Interculturalism

The first theme to be discussed at this year's Dáil is 'Migration and Interculturalism'.

Under this theme 5 key areas will be discussed:

1. Identity – Images of ourselves and others
2. Prejudice and Language
3. Promoting Inclusiveness and Equality
4. Human Rights and the rights of young people
5. People on the Move – Migrant Workers and Asylum Seekers

#### 1. Identity and Images of Ourselves

- Our Habits, ways of thinking and life style are only one way of living in the world – there are other ways of living which are not necessarily better or worse but different
- Explaining your way of life and lifestyle to people who do not know you can be useful in helping us to gain a different perspective on how other people live.
- Remember everyone's experience of life is different. You don't just have to be from a different country. It could be because you live in the country or in a town or city or maybe you have either a physical or learning disability. Maybe your religion is different from other people in your community and therefore you believe in different things and do things differently. Maybe you are from a different ethnic group and you have different physical characteristics.

#### Imagine...

How would your life be different if you were you living in an African country or living in China or America? What is life like for young people from those countries living in Ireland?

#### How Do You...

- Imagine yourself to be
- Understand the World we live in
- See difference positively
- Get to like and know other people's attitudes, behaviour and values?

#### Questions to think about for the Dáil

- How can Ireland best represent all the different types of people who live here?
- How do we learn about and understand all the different groups of people who live here?
- How can you share your experiences more with other people so that they understand you and your background and experiences?

#### 2. Prejudices and Language – What Did I Say?

##### Why the language we use makes a difference?

Ireland is a multi-cultural society, and its people have a wide variety of traditions, cultures and values. It is important therefore that the words we use respect the identity of the person or people with whom we are talking to or to whom we are referring.

Language is a powerful tool. It can be used on purpose, or accidentally to discriminate against people. Using wrong or bad language can stereotype people and can contribute to them be treated unfairly.

Using non-discriminatory language helps remove unfairness from our language. Ethnic and racial names and expressions can upset some groups of people. It can also make some groups seem better than others.

The term 'ethnicity' is used when talking about people's cultural characteristics. This can be things like language, religion, history or where they are from. Everyone belongs to an ethnic group. It can be a big ethnic group or small ethnic group. It depends on the amount of people who have the same things in common. Examples of ethnic groups include English, Jewish and Indian people.

## Activity

### Language Matters

Old Person  
Senior Citizens  
Oul' One  
Elderly

Kids  
Young People  
Students  
Children

Disabled Person  
Handicapped person  
Person with a Disability

- Which of the names are positive and which are negative?
- Which ones would you think the people being described would prefer to be called?
- Why do people use the less positive version of names?

#### Questions to think about for the Dáil

- How do we make sure that people know the right language to use and also when to use it?
- How do we change the language that older people or people from different generations use?
- How do we educate people around not using offensive language?

### 3. Promoting Inclusiveness & Equality

For a long time in Ireland many Irish people emigrated. Now times have changed, there are more jobs and better opportunities. For the first time in years people are coming to Ireland to live and work, while others are coming seeking asylum because of difficult situations in their own countries. People see Ireland as having many opportunities.

Ireland is now much more diverse with lots of people from different cultures and backgrounds. There is a challenge to include these 'new people'. Many choose to stay or have children who are now Irish.

#### Questions to think about for the Dáil

- How can we teach in schools so that we have a better picture of the world?
- How can the media – television/radio etc - show the different types of people who live and work here?
- How do we make sure that all people have the same access to work and employment and are not just stuck in low paid jobs?

### 4. Human Rights and the Rights of Young People

All European Countries have signed and agreed the United Nations (UN) Convention on the Rights of the Child. The UN Convention is a list of things that young people should be entitled to as a right! One important part of the Convention says that young people have the right to have their views and ideas heard on all issues that affect them (Article 12).

Ireland has signed up to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and that's part of the reason why you are here today - the Government is committed to hearing your voice on the issues that you think are important.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is an international agreement on the rights of children that was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in November 1989. It entered into force as international law on 2 September 1990. All the countries in the world agreed it, except for two countries, the U.S.A. and Somalia.

The basic principle of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is that society should look after the basic needs of children. The creation of a convention on the rights of the child and young people shows the world that where there is greater awareness of rights, the more chance there is of securing them and making a safer more positive world for young people.

#### Questions to think about for the Dáil?

- How do we make sure young people know and are aware of their rights?
- In Ireland, the Government set up an office for the Ombudsman for children and the Office for the Minister for Children to make sure your rights were being protected. What about other countries? What can Ireland do to make sure that all governments around the world recognise the UN Convention?
- How do we make sure that all children and young people have the same rights?
- Is it important that there is a special convention, other than the Human Rights Convention, just for young people?
- Does it make any difference?

### 5. People on the Move – Migrant Workers & Asylum Seekers

Most people who arrive in Ireland have visas and legal documents. They are mostly looking for employment and are called Migrant Workers. Asylum seekers arrive looking for a safe place as they do not feel safe in their own country for a particular reason e.g. war, political persecution etc.



The top 5 countries of origin of new asylum applicants to date this year are: Nigeria – 557; Somalia – 88; Romania – 77; Afghanistan – 57; Sudan – 32

In April 2000, a new system called the ‘direct provision’ system was set-up. ‘Direct Provision’ means that asylum seekers in Ireland are housed in shared, hostel-type accommodation centres. Asylum seekers in direct provision centres are provided with food and lodging and a **guaranteed cash payment of €19.10 per adult or €9.60 per child per week. In Ireland, asylum seekers are not allowed by the state to take up paid work.**

#### Facts

- In March 2005, there were 7,280 asylum seekers in 68 direct provision centres (4 reception and 64 accommodation centres)
- 1,678 asylum seekers (21%) had been residing in direct provision for over 2 years.
- A quarter (2,094) of those living in direct provision centres are under the age of 4.
- Asylum seekers with children who arrived in the country after May 1st 2004, do not receive child benefit.
- In 2004, of all the people who were looking for asylum 599 were deported and only 75 were allowed to stay (source of information: Irish Refugee Council)

#### Questions to think about for the Dáil?

- Do you think Asylum Seekers should be allowed work while waiting for their applications to be processed?
- How long do you think it is fair to make people stay in these centres?
- How can we make people feel welcome while they live in these centres?

#### Want to Know More?

You can contact:

National Youth Development Education Programme  
You can talk to Johnny or Niamh on (01) 478 4122 or [www.youthdeved.ie](http://www.youthdeved.ie)

Children’s Rights Alliance, 4 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2.  
Tel: (01) 662 9400 Email: [info@cra.iol.ie](mailto:info@cra.iol.ie)  
[www.childrensrightrights.ie](http://www.childrensrightrights.ie)

Ombudsman for Children – Emily Logan  
Millennium House, 52-56 Great Strand Street, Dublin 1.  
[www.oco.ie](http://www.oco.ie)

#### Website Resources

[www.youthdeved.ie](http://www.youthdeved.ie) [www.iccl.ie](http://www.iccl.ie) [www.bigpic.biz](http://www.bigpic.biz)  
[www.paveepoint.ie](http://www.paveepoint.ie) [www.amnesty.ie](http://www.amnesty.ie) [www.pwdi.ie](http://www.pwdi.ie)  
[www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie](http://www.irishrefugeecouncil.ie)

#### Useful Words to Know!

**Prejudice** – Not liking a particular group of people or a person because of their ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, religion, age, disability or socio-economic background.

**Stereotypes** – Putting a label on someone because you think all people from that group are the same.

**Asylum Seeker** – a person applying for refugee status because they are looking for safety because of war or they do not feel safe.

**Refugee** – A person who has fled their country because of natural disasters or war and have been granted asylum in another country.

**Migrant Workers** – People who travel to other countries with the intention of taking up employment.

**Ethnic Group** – A system of defining people who share common characteristics that are different from other people living in a society.

## THEME TWO: Facilities For Young People

'Facilities for Young People' has proven to be a popular theme at Dáil na nÓg over a number of years. Delegates also nominated this theme in 2005.

In response to the issue a number of exciting initiatives have recently been developed. The Office for the Minister for Children (OMC) has:

- Developed a Play Policy;
- Undertook an extensive consultation document with young people in preparing a Recreation Policy;
- Recently published a research report "Young people views about opportunities, barriers and supports to recreation and leisure."

The OMC is currently developing a Recreation Policy, the focus of which is on teenagers. The 2005 Coiste na dTeachtaí has met with the OMC to discuss these policies and will give you an update on progress at Dáil na nÓg 2006.

These actions will ensure that facilities for young people are given a priority and that there is a clear strategy and plan for the future.

### Dail na nÓg 2005

At Dáil na nÓg 2005 12 statements in total were made on "facilities for young people" and the top 10 were ranked in order of importance:

1. 93% agreed child fares on transport should apply to U18s and admission charges to facilities/events should be subsidised/reduced.
2. 82% agreed facilities should be co-run by young people and youth workers.
3. 93% agreed there should be more facilities within reasonable distance, offering alternatives and longer opening hours.
4. 69% agreed that the voting age should be reduced to 16.
5. 88% agreed young people should have a direct influence and input into the development and maintenance of youth facilities and related local facilities.
6. 79% agreed local authorities should have to interact with young people through a liaison office employed to facilitate young people.
7. 73% agreed all young people under 18 should have access to facilities (including discos and cinemas) for a fiver or less.
8. 72% agreed Gardaí and officials should have a better understanding of young people.
9. 91% agreed activities for young people that promote healthy living should be cheaper (food, transport, recreation, etc).
10. 88% agreed opening hours of youth facilities should be extended.

A further two key statements were made under the theme of Facilities for Young People:

11. 59% agreed facilities for young people should be inclusive, i.e. not dominated by any one group/clique/gender.
12. 66% agreed there should be more emphasis on facilities for young people in rural areas.

### What do you think?

Are these similar recommendations you would have made? Is there any of these that you agree or disagree with?

### DID YOU KNOW?

**Under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child that:** You have the right to play and to do things like sport, art, music and drama in your free time. (Article 31)

**Under the National Children's Strategy** Children will have access to play, sport, recreation and play facilities.

### Dáil na nÓg 2006?

The discussion on "Facilities for Young People" will focus on the implementation and practical side of the Recreation Policy as the plan is currently being written.

Who is the Recreation Policy for? The focus of the Recreation Policy is on teenagers. (12-18)

### What is recreation?

Recreation can be described as 'all socially acceptable activities in which a person may choose to take part that will make his/her leisure time more interesting, more enjoyable and personally satisfying'.

The discussion will concentrate on a number of the key objectives identified by the policy, including:

#### → Design and Implementation

This is about giving young people a voice in the design and implementation of recreation policies and facilities. This would mean young people having a say in what kind of recreation programmes and facilities they want. Young People should also be involved in running these facilities and the programmes/events scheduled to take place in them.

#### Questions to think about

1. How can young people have an input or say in the design and planning of recreation policies and facilities - how can this happen in your area?
2. Are young people interested in doing this?

#### → Structured Recreation and Motivation

This part of the policy will encourage young people to take part in well thought-out activities such as games, arts, youth groups and sports activities.

### Questions to think about

1. How do you motivate young people to run activities?
2. What would be the most effective way to get young people involved locally?
3. Who do you think should be responsible for recreation and leisure facilities?

#### → Youth-Friendly and Safe Facilities

This is about ensuring that the recreation needs of young people are met through making youth-friendly and safe facilities and environments. It is important that there is a physical space, a local environment and facilities where young people feel safe. This part of the policy will look at what needs to be done to provide places where young people feel safe and welcome wherever they are taking part in recreation. This includes more casual activities like hanging about with friends.

### Questions to think about

1. Do safe spaces, whether inside or outside, exist for young people?
2. How do we make sure that casual activities like 'hanging out' are safe? Can 'hanging out' be structured?
3. What are youth friendly and safe facilities? What does that mean to you?

#### → Young People Who Are Marginalised, Disadvantaged Or Have A Disability

This aspect of the policy will aim to make it easier for young people with additional needs to participate in recreation.

### Questions to think about

1. How do we make sure that ALL young people have access to recreation facilities, particularly young people with disabilities, ethnic minority groups, young people in rural areas, gay young people etc.
2. Are there adequate services/facilities in your area?
3. What do young people with special needs need?

#### → Information and Evaluation

It is vital to ensure that young people know about all the activities they can do or about all the facilities which already exist. There is no point in calling for increased funding in youth clubs if there are already a number of youth clubs in the area.

### Questions to consider when planning for the Dáil:

1. Do you have enough information on facilities in your area?
2. What is the best way of letting young people know about existing facilities and services?

### FACTS

Taken from *Young People Views About Opportunities, Barriers and Supports to Recreation and Leisure*. (OMC 2005)

- Leisure time activities comprise between 40-50% of an adolescent's life.
- Listening to music is more popular with girls and young women
- 88% of young people are involved in sport
- Nearly one-third of young people are members of one or more community/youth groups
- Young people cited barriers to leisure activities being low self esteem, not having enough time, transport and safety concerns.
- Time as a barrier to participation in leisure activities increases dramatically with age from 31% for 12 year olds to 61% for 17 year olds and 71% for 18 year olds
- The most common reason cited for drop-out from leisure activities is that the individual lost interest in the activity.
- Young people with additional needs & minority groups cited barriers to participation in leisure activities as being barred from leisure facilities, transport, access, programming, finance and lack of facilities.

### Useful Contacts

Dáil na nÓg [www.dailnanog.ie](http://www.dailnanog.ie)

Office of the Minister for Children [www.nco.ie](http://www.nco.ie)

Young social innovators programme

[www.youngsocialinnovators.ie](http://www.youngsocialinnovators.ie)

Gaisce Awards [www.gaisce.ie](http://www.gaisce.ie)

Young environmentalist award [www.ecounesco.ie](http://www.ecounesco.ie)

ESB/Rehab people of the year award [www.esb.ie](http://www.esb.ie)

County Councils – for more information on what is happening locally type in www. (the name of your county) followed by coco.ie e.g. [www.meathcoco.ie](http://www.meathcoco.ie)

### Helpful tips in preparation the Dáil 2006

How are you going to find out the thoughts of other young people in your area?

You could:

- Do a questionnaire/survey in your local school/town.
- You could speak to your class mates or to the student council.
- Talk to your friends.
- Meet the local councillor(s) to find out what is happening in your local community and how young people are being involved in decisions that affect them.



## Role of Young People at Dáil na nÓg

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Now you have learned about the two themes that you will be discussing at Dáil na nÓg. Hopefully, you will come up with lots of great ideas and plans of action at the event. But what happens to all of the fantastic work and ideas from the Dáil na nÓg event?

Every delegate has an important part to play in Dáil na nÓg. However, there are a number of roles that require additional time and commitment that you can also choose to be involved in.

### Coiste na dTeachtaí

It is important to realise that Dáil na nÓg is not just a one day event. The ideas and recommendations that you come up with on the day will be followed up by a group called the Coiste na dTeachtaí. The Minister for Children, Mr Brian Lenihan, TD and other government officials will be at Dáil na nÓg but it is important to have a group of committed young people to make sure that your ideas are heard. The main function of the Coiste na dTeachtaí is to:

- Give young people the chance to follow up on what was agreed by delegates at Dáil na nÓg.
- To meet and present the outcomes of Dáil na nÓg to Ministers, T.Ds, government officials and representatives of the Taoiseach's office.
- To represent Dáil na nÓg at relevant conferences.

This year, there will be one Coiste na dTeachtaí member selected from each Comhairle na nÓg. This means that there will be 34 members on the Coiste na dTeachtaí. Four members from the current Coiste na dTeachtaí will remain in an advisory capacity.

### How do I get involved?

One delegate will be selected from each Comhairlí na nÓg. As the Comhairlí are mostly over for this year, delegates will be selected at the local delegate preparation meetings. A trainer will be in contact soon to arrange this with you and will explain the process to you.

### What Makes A Good 'Coiste na dTeachtaí' Member?

If you think you would like to be on the Coiste na dTeachtaí, you need to think about:

#### What type of person should you be? You should

- Have an interest in youth issues (questions/topics/concerns of young people in school, the local community, politics etc.)
- Be Prepared to work with others in a team
- Be Enthusiastic for the job!
- Be Able to speak up for yourself

#### What else? You should also -

- Have the time to be involved in Dáil na nÓg for about a year. If you are very involved in other sports, meetings, maybe you don't have time to be on the Coiste. If you don't attend meetings, you will be replaced by another delegate from your area. Don't sign up unless you are really committed!
- Be prepared to travel to meetings about 8 times a year, usually in Dublin
- Be prepared to travel on school days (sometimes)
- Have your parent's/guardian's permission to be involved and to travel to meetings

**So have a think about it...**

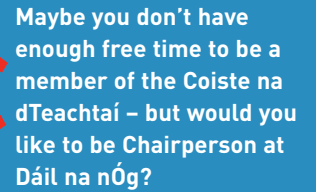
## Chairperson for the Dáil – it could be you!

### What do the chairpersons do?

The chairpersons are in charge during the session when all the delegates are together at Dáil na nÓg. For this part of Dáil na nÓg, the chairpersons will sit on the stage with a microphone and speak to everyone present. They will introduce the speakers and Ministers and will keep the flow of the public debate to the correct time schedule. The chairpersons will make any announcements that need to be made to Dáil na nÓg. Very importantly, the chairpersons will chair the electronic voting when all 200 delegates vote on the statements from the working groups. The Chairpersons will also ensure that everyone remains respectful of each other when speaking at Dáil na nÓg.

### How do I know if I am right for the job? Are you?

- Willing to listen to others
- Able to speak to a big group of young people and adults
- Enthusiastic for the job!
- Not afraid to put forward ideas to the group if they need them
- Able to encourage 'quieter' delegates to speak
- Hardworking!
- Able to represent other views as well as your own



Maybe you don't have enough free time to be a member of the Coiste na dTeachtaí – but would you like to be Chairperson at Dáil na nÓg?

### Practical stuff! Can you?

- Give extra time to reading and learning about your role as chair
- Get your parent's/guardian's permission to travel to Dublin some day before the Dáil to get training for the job
- Arrive early (9am) at Croke Park on March 25th to get ready for the BIG DAY!



### How many chairpersons will there be?

There will be two chairpersons so you won't be by yourself - one female and one male. One chairperson comes from the 2005 Coiste na dTeachtaí (the group selected last year to follow up the work of Dáil na nÓg) so they'll have some experience and one chairperson comes from this year's delegates. It could be you...

### Will the chairpersons take part in the group discussions?

The chairpersons will not miss out on having their say at Dáil na nÓg. They will be included as normal delegates when all the young people are in the group discussions.

### Will there be training for the chairpersons?

Absolutely! You don't have to know what to do and you don't have to know much about the themes, as a trainer will talk you through everything.

### I would like to be chairperson. What do I do now?

- Fill out the application form in the pack and write in less than 200 words why you would be good for the job and why you would like to be chairperson at Dáil na nÓg 2006.
- Send this application, with the completed parental/guardian consent form in the provided stamped addressed envelope to NYCI by Friday 3rd March.

If you have any questions about the job of chairperson at Dáil na nÓg, please contact Olivia McEvoy at the National Youth Council of Ireland. Email: [olivia.mcevoy@nyci.ie](mailto:olivia.mcevoy@nyci.ie)  
Tel: (01) 478 4122

## Practical Information

**When?** Saturday, 25th March, 2006.  
10:00am to 4:45pm

**Where?** Hogan Stand Conference Centre, Croke Park Stadium, Dublin.

**How to get there?** Your local County/City Development Board or the organisers of your Comhairle na nÓg will be in touch soon to let you know the details of the travel arrangements for getting to Dáil na nÓg.

**What do I bring with me?** Just yourself! Pen, paper, lunch and anything else you need, will be provided on the day.

**What do I wear?** Dáil na nÓg is an important event, but it is also important that everyone is comfortable on the day. Therefore the dress code is casual.

**How do I prepare?** To prepare for Dáil na nÓg, you should find out what other young people in your area think are the important issues about the two topics above and what solutions they might suggest for the problems in these areas. There will also be a meeting of all delegates in your area BEFORE the Dáil. This meeting is very important, as it will help you prepare your ideas and opinions before the Dáil. Your local organiser will be in touch to let you know the details of these meetings. You should try and read all of this TOOLKIT before the meeting!

**What Happens on the Day?** People will start arriving from 10.00, where you can sign up to say who you are and collect your badge, delegate information and official bag.

The Dáil will then officially start at 11 o'clock

### IMPORTANT!!

Before you start preparing make sure you have sent back all your forms to the NYCI

- Parental Consent Form
- Nomination Form if you think you want to be a Chairperson

## PROGRAMME FOR THE DAY

- 10.00am Delegates Arrive & Registration
- 11.00am Opening of Dáil na nÓg & Introduction of Programme
- 11.05am Minister's Address
- 11.15am Presentation of Joint Ministerial and Coiste na dTeachtaí Report 2005.

Feedback from Dáil na nÓg 2005. What happened as a result of Dáil na nÓg? How was Dáil na nÓg fed into public policy-making?

*As 'Facilities for Young People' was a theme last year, information on the progress made under the theme 'Facilities for Young People' will be presented during this session.*

Opportunity for all delegates to respond: comments/feedback/questions

- 11.35am Migration and Interculturalism – Presentation on key issues
- 11.45am 'LifeStories': A Drama on the lives of Immigrants in Ireland
- 12.00pm Working Groups:  
Working Group One – Migration and Interculturalism  
Working Group Two – Facilities for Young People
- 1.30pm Lunch

- 2.15pm Local Delegation Group Meetings

Facilitated meetings of regional delegations to determine how best young people can contribute at local level.

- 2.45pm Electronic Voting on All Statements
- 3.45pm 'Questions and Answers' with Minister for Children, Mr. Brian Lenihan and Selected Panel  
Hosted by Jillian van Turnhout
- 4.30pm Evaluation and Close
- 4.45pm Delegates Depart



## What now?

- Think about the topic that you will be discussing at Dáil na nÓg.
- Answer some of the questions under the topic headings.
- Check some of the web site addresses given or do some research in your library.
- Do some of your own research. Ask other young people, what do they think?
- Read up on the issue.

**Remember young people are an important part of every community and that it is important that you are valued, respected and listened to.**

It is up to you to make the best of Dáil na nÓg, we hope it gives you a chance to let your voice be heard but also that you enjoy the day, meet new friends and have fun!

We look forward to seeing you in Croke Park on March 25th!

### **IMPORTANT!!**

**DON'T FORGET** to fill out and send your Parental Consent Form by March 3rd. You should also fill out and return the Chairperson Nomination Form if you would like to be a Chairperson at Dáil na nÓg.

#### **What do I do with my theme selection forms?**

You will be filling out these forms at the meeting you will have with the other delegates attending Dáil na nÓg from your area. The youth worker will take care of these!



OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR CHILDREN  
OIFIG AN AIRE DO LEANAÍ



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND CHILDREN  
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