

youngballymun Background and context

Area-wide strategy of evidence-based programmes and practice for all children and families Ballymun	Prevention and early intervention across the life cycle – developing protective factors from pregnancy and infancy, building skills as children grow	Practice is mainstreamed in real world universal services through capacity building, training, mentoring and coaching	Delivered through public health nurses, speech and language therapists, psychologists, community workers, early years practitioners, teachers, youth workers and others: sustainability and value for money	Providing expertise to support replication of approach in other communities; informing policy development in related areas
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Translating research on children's outcomes into policy and practice: What has worked

- Collaboration and dialogue from service design stage
- Engagement with local needs analysis and service landscape
- Collective review of evidence of what works
- Extensive capacity building
- Innovative practice partnerships
- Facilitated implementation through training, mentoring, coaching
- Structures to support implementation
- Ongoing multi-disciplinary, cross sectoral oversight of implementation
- Feedback on progress from outcomes monitoring systems and evaluations
- Ongoing reflection on practice, openness to develop and refine
- Increasing integration across strategies, embedding of practice
- Gradual release of responsibility built into the work, moving to fully mainstreamed sustainable provision by 2016



Building blocks of our strategy

	Training and capacity building for youth service practitioners in Youth Mental Health	Configuring mental health services to be youth-friendly	Strategy for young parents – integration with services for 0-3s	
All 11 primary schools actively implementing Balanced Literacy Framework	Extensive programme of teacher training, capacity building and mentoring	Family and Community literacy strategy	Whole school implementation of Incredible Years child, parent & teacher programmes	Transitions Programme in schools & with parents to support transfer to second level
Integrated implementation of Síolta & HighScope in early years settings		Practitioners trained in HighScope curriculum to Advanced level	Practitioner training on various themes (including Child Protection) to support Síolta implementation	Leadership development programme for Early Years centre managers
Infant Mental Health training across Health Service and Community practitioners	Courses and groups for parents of 0-3s (e.g. IY toddler, language programmes)	70% of all babies in Ballymun take part in Parent-Child Psychological Support Prog		PCPSP integrated into mainstream delivery of child development clinics by PHNs and SLTs

Extensive needs analysis and evidence of what works underpins all of our work. The strategy is being rigorously evaluated. Early findings very encouraging: Evidence of improved outcomes in Literacy; Social and Emotional Learning; Parental Wellbeing and Quality of Early Years provision.