



## Statement of Purpose and Function

The purpose of Mountmellick Youth and Family Resource Centre service is to provide quality, affordable afterschool care to children aged between 6 to 14 years in the SAC registration and up to aged 18 years for young people within the Youth service within the Mountmellick area. Additionally as a Family Resource Centre the service utilises a Cradle to Grave Philosophy with a holistic methodology.

Mountmellick Youth and Family Resource Centre service is a community service and is classified as a sessional day care with sessional provision and afterschool care under the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and the School Age Regulations 2018.

### Mission Statement and Ethos:

Mountmellick Community Childcare Ltd. proposes to offer excellent quality, affordable accessible and family friendly childcare to all who need this service in the community.

THE MYFRC project, School Age Service operates for 46 weeks of the year. We can cater for 22 school aged children at any one time within a group setting. The Family Resource Centre is based within Mountmellick town in three separate locations- MDA Business Park, Irishtown, Mountmellick, Co Laois. Additional work is carried out in both local Primary schools (Early Bird and Homework Club) on Davitt Road as well as Afterschool groups (SHAPES) in Community School Sports Complex, Main Street Mountmellick, the Family Resource Centre, MDA, Irishtown and outreach work in the Mountmellick townland.

MYFRC cater for a maximum of 96 children per year inclusive of school age, afterschool and teens. We operate in line with the staff/children ratios as set by the (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and the School Age Regulations 2018. Additional adherence in functioning upon TUSLA Child and Family Agency Guidelines, Child care act 1991 and amendment, Children Act 2015, Children First National Guidelines 2017.

**Principle:** This policy is underwritten by the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 and the School Age Regulations 2018.

### Description of Service

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Type of Setting</b>                | School age service   |
| <b>Type of Service</b>                | Community Service  |
| <b>Curriculum/ Programmes offered</b> | National Frameworks, 5 National outcomes as per Better Outcomes Brighter Futures ( 2020), Logic Model, Hartiker Model, Lundy Model of participation, |
| <b>Number of Weeks Open</b>           | 46 Weeks   |
| <b>Opening Hours</b>                  | 8:00am-6:00pm Monday to Friday. Occasional late evenings and possible weekend events as per needs basis  |
| <b>DCYA Schemes offered</b>           | CCSP   |
| <b>Drop off and Pick up Service</b>   | N/A  |

**Number of Children & Staff**

| <b>SCHOOL AGE CARE</b>                         | Children/ Young people                            | Staff  |
|--|---|--|
| Early Bird (age 7yr -12 years)                 | 14  | 2 staff (5 mornings per week)  |
| Homework Club ( 7yr to 12 years)               | 20 ( each day *4 days per week)                   | 3 staff and 4 volunteers   |
| SHAPES - 3 groups per week (7 years- 12 years) | 56 young people ( 20 YP on Tue, 16 Wed, 23 Thurs) | 2 staff  |
| FUN CLUB - 2 groups (7 years to 12 years)      | 20 young people in 2 groups Friday (40)           | 3 staff  |
| Teens Groups – 2 groups (12 years – 18years)   | 25 Young People on Tues & Thurs                   | 3 staff  |
| Lunch Club (12 years – 18years)                | 8 Young People on Mondays                         | 1 staff  |
| Tots & Tea                                     | 8 children and parent/guardian                    | 2 staff  |
| <b>Sessional</b>                               |   |  |
| Summer, Easter Camps 6 years – 12 years        | 22 children per group maximum                     | Minimum 2 staff at all times (3 staff if group require additional support) |
| Summer, Easter Camps 12 years to 18 years      | 22 young people per group maximum                 | 2 staff (3 staff if group require additional support)                      |
| <b>Total number of children</b>                | 97 ( School age and TEENS)                        | Manager and 6 staff  |
| <b>Total number of Staff</b>                   | Manager, 6 staff                                  | Manager, 6 staff   |

**Programme of activities:**

| <b>Programme Name</b>    | <b>Function</b>  | <b>*Provision of snacks and/or meals</b>   |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Early-brid Groups</b> | Preparing Young People for their school day. Provides opportunity to have fun with their friends and have a filling breakfast before the day's learning begins. Early-bird aims to improve attendance, punctuality, concentration, behaviour, and educational attainment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breakfast cereal</li> <li>• Milk, water or juice</li> <li>• Bread or toast</li> <li>• Fresh fruit</li> <li>• Yogurt</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Homework Groups</b>   | Providing assistance for homework completion, educational monitoring, developing listening skills and routine around homework completion   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cereal</li> <li>• Milk, water or juice</li> <li>• Sandwiches</li> <li>• Fresh fruit</li> </ul>  |
| <b>SHAPES Groups</b>     | Supporting Home & Primary Education Strategies - Delivery of programme based work aimed at supporting the personal, emotional and social development of Young People   | Meals including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chicken Curry</li> <li>• Chicken Goujons</li> <li>• Homemade Burgers</li> <li>• Spaghetti Bolognaise</li> <li>• Mexican wraps</li> <li>• Homemade Pizza</li> <li>• Fish Fingers &amp; Roast Potatoes</li> </ul> Snacks including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brown Bread</li> <li>• Fresh fruit</li> <li>• Milk, water or juice</li> </ul> |

|                          |  |  |
|--------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Teens Groups</b>      | Supporting the personal and social development of Young People through the use of models of Youth Work   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fresh fruit</li> <li>• Fresh vegetables</li> <li>• Sandwiches/bread rolls</li> <li>• Hot drink</li> <li>• Milk, water, juice</li> <li>• Yogurt</li> </ul> |
| <b>Lunch Club</b>        | Provides the opportunity for Young People to check in with their Youth Worker during lunch time on Mondays around issues that may have arisen over the weekend   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brown Bread</li> <li>• Fresh fruit</li> <li>• Milk, water or juice</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Tots &amp; Tea</b>    | Using a variety of mediums to support the physical, intellectual, language, emotional and social development of children. These mediums could then be used by the parent/guardian in the home                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Milk, water or juice</li> <li>• Bread or toast</li> <li>• Fresh fruit</li> <li>• Yogurt</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Fun Clubs</b>         | Focus on increasing participants self-esteem and self-confidence through games, music, arts & crafts, cooking and involvement in community activities  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fresh fruit</li> <li>• Fresh vegetables</li> <li>• Sandwiches/bread rolls</li> <li>• Hot drink</li> <li>• Milk, water, juice</li> <li>• Yogurt</li> </ul> |
| <b>Family Support</b>    | The MYFRC Development Worker delivers a variety of interventions aimed at identifying and supporting the needs of families in Mountmellick and surrounding areas - Community and Family education (Triple P, MABS, etc.) |  |
| <b>Youth Counselling</b> | Available to children and Young People experiencing psychological, emotional or social difficulties as a result of trauma, anxiety, bereavement, parental separation or other presenting issues                          |  |

\*Healthy snacks and meals are provided. Children and Young People are consulted with and menus are developed. Allergies and dietary requirements are considered when developing menus

#### **Communication:**

This statement is available to parents/guardians/staff/children and young people who attend our service. Should a stakeholder need further information regarding our statement of purpose and function, a staff member can go through this in more detail.

#### **List of policies which inform the work of the service:**

- Settling - In Policy
- Homework Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Healthy Eating Policy
- Indoor and Outdoor programme – Afterschool Curriculum
- Use of the internet, photography and recordings, technology usage
- After School Partnership with Parents Policy
- GDPR Policy
- Outings Policy

- Policy on Infection Control
- Policy on Behaviour Management – including Managing Challenging Behaviour
- Complaints Policy
- Dropping off and Collection of School Aged Children Policy
- Child Safeguarding Statement

**Review:**

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Manager of the MYFRC.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Review History**

- Draft 1, December 2019
- Draft 2, January 2020