

Service Map for Children Living in Athlone

Funded by the Community Foundation for Ireland



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Ireland

Ireland is an island in Western Europe with a population of around 4.7 million. The island is the second biggest in Europe (second to Great Britain).

The island of Ireland is divided into 32 counties which are grouped together in 4 provinces. The Republic of Ireland consists of 26 counties and occupies approximately 80 % of the island. The other 20 % is Northern Ireland which is part of the United Kingdom. This is often referred to as 'the six counties'.

Capital City: Dublin

Other Major Cities: Galway, Cork, Limerick

Official Language: Irish (or Gaelige) spoken in specially designated areas of the country, mostly rural and English spoken throughout the country.

Currency: Euro

Weather: mild with abundant rain!



Athlone

Although it borders Roscommon, Athlone Town is in County Westmeath. Athlone is also on the River Shannon and has a population for nearly 18,000 people.

Transportation

The train journey between Athlone and Dublin (Heuston Station) takes approximately one hour and 30 minutes Monday – Saturday. The service does run on Sunday's but with significantly fewer trains. For more information ask for a timetable at Athlone Train Station or go to www.irishrail.ie.

The bus journey between Athlone and Dublin (Busáras/Connolly Station) takes approximately two hours but buses in Ireland are generally cheaper than travel by train. For more information go to www.buseireann.ie.



FOR FUN

Midlands Regional Youth Services

13 Church Street

Tel: 090 647 7075 Email: info@mrys.org

Athlone Community Youth Project

Works to provide opportunities to participate in educational, social or leisure programmes.

ALF Justice Diversion Project

Provides support programmes for young people who are experiencing difficulties in school or social settings or involvement in crim.

Athlone Youth Information Centre

Provides free, confidential information to young people.

St. Mary's Youth Ministry

St. Mary's Place

Tel: 090 647 3358

The Foroige Youth Café

Contact: Breda Maguire Tel: 086 967 2921 Email: breda.maguire@foroige.ie

Big Brother Big Sister

Contact: Ashling Walsh

Tel: 086 859 6879 Email: awalsh@foroige.ie

BBBS is a mentoring programme that matches an adult volunteer to a young person (10-18 years). The basic idea is that a friendship will form between the young person and adult volunteer that will promote the positive development of the young person.

Athlone Community Task Force

Business Development Centre

Ball Alley Lane, Parnell Square

Contact: Hubert Rooney Tel: 087 652 1796 Email: hrooney@westcd.ie

Information service and after school projects.

Gateway Project and Youth Café "a place of their own"

St. Mary's Hall, Northgate

Tel: 086 020 9181



6 Battery Heights

Tel: 090 649 8684 Email: info@athlone.barnardos.ie

&

7 Ashdale, Coosan

Tel: 090 647 6422 Email: info@athlone.barnardos.ie

Barnardos' mission is to challenge and support families, communities, society and government to make Ireland the best place in the world to be a child, focusing specifically on children and young people whose well-being is under threat. Barnardos Athlone provides general family support to parents and children including families living in Direct Provision. Barnardos also offers parent and child sessions and individual work with children and families. Contact Barnardos for more information!!

Parent's Support Group Supporting parents with children!

Building Bridges Group for Families with children in junior infants from all backgrounds!

Friendship Group Helping young people to make and maintain friendships.

Marte Meo Working with families with children to improve parenting skills, behaviour management and relationship building.

Sports & Recreation

St. Peter's Football Club

Newtowncarberry

Tel: 090 649 4544 Email: info@stpetersathlone.com

St. Joseph's Football Club

Drum,

Tel: 090 649 2455

Athlone GAA

Ballymahon Road

Tel: 090 647 5629 Email: athlonegaa1885@gmail.com

Athlone Basketball Club

Our Lady's Bower Gym

Tel: 090 647 4287



For Help

Education in Ireland

Children seeking asylum can attend state funded education until the end of secondary school. If you would like to attend third level education, a Post Leaving Certificate course or undergraduate course, you will have to pay non-EU fees which are quite expensive. In order to qualify for 'free-fees' and a maintenance grant you must have legal status in Ireland and satisfy the 'Habitual Residence Condition'. However a small number of grants and scholarships are available from different organisations.

For more information contact: Barnardos, Christchurch Square, Dublin 8
1850 222 3000
info@barnardos.ie
Or
Irish Refugee Council

