

# Service Map for Children Living in the Montague Hotel

Funded by the Community Foundation for Ireland

## 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 Gaelic) spoken in specially designated areas of the country, mostly rural and English spoken throughout the country.

**Currency:** Euro

**Weather:** mild with abundant rain!



<p>Some Common expressions:</p> <p>Craic – fun; gossip i.e. What's the craic? – tell me your news/gossip</p> <p>Cúchiar – someone from the countryside</p> <p>The Pale – the region around Dublin</p> <p>Bucketing Down/Lashing/Raining cats and dogs – all mean very heavy rain</p> <p>Gíaff – house/home</p> <p>Greetings: (What's the) story?/What's the craic?/Howya? effort-that's an effort</p>	<p>As Gaelige:</p> <p>Hello - Dia duit (dee-ah guit)</p> <p>Goodbye - Slán agat (slawn uh-gat)</p> <p>Cheers - Sláine! (slawn-chah)</p> <p>School - Scoil (skool)</p> <p>Friend - a Chara (kar-ra)</p> <p>Thank you - Go Raibh maith agat (guh rah mah hah-gat)</p> <p>My name is _____ is ainm dom (ees ah-nim dom)</p> <p>Laois- Laoise</p> <p>Portlaoise- Phort Laoise</p>
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## Portlaoise

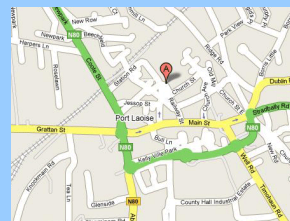
Portlaoise is located in County Laois and is about 80km outside of Dublin.

Laois is home to the Slieve Bloom Mountains which is made up of forest and bog. There are walking and biking trails throughout. The Slieve Bloom Mountains are in the centre of Ireland, halfway between Belfast and Cork, Galway and Dublin, and Donegal and Rosslare.

## Transportation

The train journey between Portlaoise and Dublin (Heuston Station) takes approximately 50 minutes Monday – Saturday. The service does run on Sunday's but with significantly fewer trains. For more information ask for a timetable at Portlaoise Train Station or go to [www.irishrail.ie](http://www.irishrail.ie).

The bus journey between Portlaoise and Dublin (Busáras/Connolly Station) takes approximately one hour and 30 minutes but buses in Ireland are generally cheaper than travel by train. For more information go to [www.buseireann.ie](http://www.buseireann.ie).



## For Fun: Youth Clubs

### Youth Work Ireland Laois

Youth Centre, Abbeylax Road, Portlaoise

Tel: 057 866 5010 Email: [ithompson@ywilaois.ie](mailto:ithompson@ywilaois.ie) Website: [www.ywilaois.ie](http://www.ywilaois.ie)

**Drop-In Youth Information:** A space to hang out with your friends and do stuff or just chill out. If you need advise of support, there will be staff there to help out!

**Arts Workshops, Youth Clubs, Art Clubs and Music Clubs**

**D'Youth Factory:** A safe place to hand out with friends, play playstation, watch TV, listen to music or just chill out!

Monday-Wednesday 4pm-6pm, Thursday 4pm-7pm and Friday 4pm-9pm.

### Danaaron/Daredevils Foroige Youth Clubs

Togher, Portlaoise/32 Chantiere Gate, Portlaoise

Contact: Brid Canny Tel: 086 204 3599 Email: [brid.canny@foroige.ie](mailto:brid.canny@foroige.ie) Website:

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

### Block Project Youth Group

3 Church St, Portlaoise

Tel: 057 866 1934

### Portlaoise Youth Theatre

Parochial Hall, Railway St, Portlaoise

Tel: 057 867 4343 Email: [artsoff@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:artsoff@laoiscoco.ie)

Anyone aged 13-18 can apply to be put on a waiting list for membership.

### APA Youth Group

Young people interested in art, music and drama aged up to 18+. Youth led and supported by guides.

Fridays 7-9.

### Irish Girl Guides

Involves a wide variety of fun and active program ideas to help girls to grow socially, emotionally, physically and intellectually.

**Ladybird Unit:** for girls aged 5-7

Contact: Maria O'Connor Tel: 087 696 0962

**Brownie Units:** for girls aged 6.5-11

**Dunamais Brownie Unit**

Contact: Yvonne O'Reilly Tel: 087 840 4523

**Triogue Brownie Unit**

Contact: Carmel Kelly Tel: 087 242 4909

**Mosse Brownie Unit**

Contact: Carmel McSweeney Tel: 087 685 0199

**Mosse Guide Unit:** for girls aged 10.5-15

Contact: Theresa Greene Tel: 086 365 7664



## Sports and Recreation

### Rugby Clubs

#### Portlaoise Ruby Club

Nayali Lodge, Stradbally Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

Contact: Gerald White Tel: 087 257 6436 Email: [geraldwhite@eircom.net](mailto:geraldwhite@eircom.net)

#### Portlaoise Panthers Rugby League

Ballyclider, Portlaoise

Contact: Nancy Wigmore Tel: 057 86 72940 Email: [nancy@panthersrlfc.com](mailto:nancy@panthersrlfc.com)

#### Portlaoise Rugby Club

22 Colliers Lane, Portlaoise

Contact: Declan Kelly Tel: 086 171 7503 Email: [declan@portlaoiseparish.ie](mailto:declan@portlaoiseparish.ie)

### Soccer Clubs

#### Clinminham F.C.

32 Beachfield, Portlaoise

Contact: John Melvin Tel: 057 866 3150

#### Portlaoise F.C.

33 The Poplars Forest Park, Portlaoise

Contact: Kevin O'Brien Tel: 087 233 7015

#### Portlaoise Celtic

Mountrath Rd, Portlaoise

Contact: John Hayes Tel: 086 240 5669

### Special Olympics

#### Laochra Laois Special

St Marys Hall, Portlaoise

Contact: Elaine McGinn Tel: 057 862 0151

### Laos Chess Club

Capoley, Portlaoise

Contact: Michael Connoll Tel: 086 080 8992

## G.A.A.

### Coiste nOg Laois County Board

Contact: Brendan Fitzpatrick Tel: 057 866 1754 Email: [fitzbrendan@yahoo.ie](mailto:fitzbrendan@yahoo.ie)

### Portlaoise G.A.A. Club

Spa Hill Mountrath, Portlaoise

Contact: Peter O'Neill Tel: 086 258 6742 Email: [cnocspa@eircom.net](mailto:cnocspa@eircom.net)

### Clonard Juvenile G.A.A. Club

21 Colliers Lane, Portlaoise

Contact: Dan Connolly Tel: 086 820 7836 Email: [danconnolly14@gmail.com](mailto:danconnolly14@gmail.com)

### Portlaoise Juvenile G.A.A. Club

Abbeylax Rd, Portlaoise

Contact: Ollie Ryan Tel: 086 399 3066 Email: [oriain@hotmail.com](mailto:oriain@hotmail.com)

### Ladies Football Club

Contact: Phil O'Keefe Tel: 085 174 4971

### Laois Camogie County Board

Green Road, Portlaoise

Contact: Maureen Clooney Tel: 087 634 7378

and

17 Hawthorn Dr, Portlaoise

Contact: Tammy Ritchie Tel: 087 947 3659

### Portlaoise Camogie Club

9 Castle Mews Kilminchey, Portlaoise

Contact: Tammy Ritchie Tel: 085 732 7506



## 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](mailto:info@barnardos.ie)

Or

Irish Refugee Council

