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Community  
Involvement  
Rannpháirtíocht an  
Phobail

Active participation and engagement between the ECCE setting and the wider community is a key constituent of quality. Information sharing with stakeholders on the facilities and amenities in the immediate environs of the setting, as well as proactively using these resources, has mutual benefits for all involved. This relates not only to immediate advantages for the children attending the ECCE service, but serves as a model for promoting active citizenship into the future.

Community Involvement is one of the sixteen national Standards of *Síolta* and is supported here by 23 publications.

The publications within this theme provide guidance to settings to develop their level of engagement with the local community. The Community Mothers Programme (2000), Fitzpatrick *et al.* (1997) and Hanrahan *et al.* (2002) concentrate on community initiatives that prioritise the needs of parents. A number focus directly on the development of the Home School Community Liaison scheme, which has been in operation in designated disadvantaged primary schools since the 1990s (Archer and Shortt, 2003; Conaty, 2000; 2002; Department of Education, 1992b; Ryan, 1994; 1999). Various models and strategies for engaging voluntary support and promoting community involvement are advanced by Brown (2003), the Community Workers Co-operative (1996; 1999; 2002), the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs (2000) and Faughnan and Donavan (2002).

Abbott, L. and Johnson, M. (2000). Women, Children and Community: Exploring Definitions and Expectations. *International Journal of Early Years Education*, Volume 8, No. 3, pp. 205-216.

Archer, P. and Shortt, F. (2003). *Review of the Home School Community Liaison Scheme*. Dublin: Educational Research Centre.

Ballymun Partnership (2006). *Regeneration? What About my Generation!* Dublin: Ballymun Partnership.

Brown, M. (2003). *Helping Children Feel They Belong – A Guide to Good Practice in Community-Based Prevention and Support Work with Children and Young People at Risk of Educational Disadvantage*. Dublin: Children's Research Centre.

Combat Poverty Agency (2000d). *The Role of Community Development in Tackling Poverty*. Dublin: Combat Poverty Agency.

Community Mothers Programme (2000). *Early Education Pack*. Dublin: Community Mothers Programme.

Is gné lárnach den cháilíocht é rannpháirteachas agus idirghníomhaíocht ghníomhach idir an suíomh COLO agus an pobal níos leithne. Baineann sochair fhrithpháirteacha do chách le faisnéis a roinnt le páirtithe leasmhara faoi áiseanna agus taitneamhachtaí mórtimpeall ar an suíomh agus le húsáid fhorghníomhach a bhaint as na hacmhainní sin. Ní amháin go mbaineann buntáistí láithreacha leis do leanaí a fhreastalaíonn ar an tseirbhís COLO, ach cruthaíonn sé samhail chun saoránacht ghníomhach a chothú don toadhcháil.

Tá Rannpháirtíocht an Phobail ar cheann de na sé Chaighdeán náisiúnta déag de *Síolta* agus tacaíonn 23 foilseachán leis anseo.

Tugann na foilseacháin laistigh den téama seo treoir do shuímh faoi conas leibhéal na hidirghníomhaíochta leis an bpobal áitiúil a fhorbairt. Díríonn Community Mothers Programme (2000), Fitzpatrick *et al.* (1997) agus Hanrahan *et al.* (2002) ar thionscnaimh phobail a thugann tosaíocht do riachtanais tuismitheoirí. Baineann roinnt foilseachán go díreach le forbairt na scéime Teagmhála Baile, Scoile agus an Phobail, atá i bhfeidhm i mbunscoileanna ainmnithe mar scoileanna faoi mhíbhuntáiste ó na 1990í (Archer agus Shortt, 2003; Conaty, 2000; 2002; An Roinn Oideachais, 1992b; Ryan, 1994; 1999). Déanann Brown (2003), Comharchumann na nOibrithe Pobail (1996; 1999; 2002), An Roinn Gnóthaí Sóisialta, Pobail agus Teaghlaigh (2000) agus Faughnan agus Donavan (2002) cur síos ar shamhlacha agus straitéisí éagsúla chun tacaíocht dheonach a fháil agus chun rannpháirteachas an phobail a spreagadh.

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