



July Newsletter

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1. CDI Launched as a Restorative Organisation

The Childhood Development Initiative was launched as a 'restorative organisation' at its annual *Summer Barbecue* last month.

CDI has been working since 2010 to promote and support Restorative Practices (RP) as a way of working and living in Tallaght West, training over 1,000 adults and young people, and we decided it was about time we declared our interest in this way of working to the world!



All CDI staff have been trained and our HR policies and way of working reflect the principles of Restorative Practice.

CDI's new Chairperson Suzanne Guerin made the formal announcement and RP Programme Coordinator, Claire Casey, unveiled a plaque to let everyone visiting us know of our commitment to being restorative in all we do.

For more information on restorative practice please contact our RP Programme co-ordinator Claire Casey and / or see the RP promotional DVD at <http://www.twcdi.ie/resources-information-centre/videos>

2. Education Research Report and DVD Launched

A new CDI & NUI Maynooth research report and DVD on improving educational outcomes has been launched by the Director of the Teaching Council, Tomás Ó Ruairc.

The Report *Transforming Educational Experience for Children, Parents and Teachers - Practitioner Research from the CDI/NUIM Masters Programme 2013* and DVD resulted from a collaboration which involved a Masters in Education programme.



The purpose of the two year programme (2011-2013) was to provide teachers in designated disadvantaged schools and others working with young people in the area of Tallaght West with a specifically tailored academic programme of studies.

The research emphasis involved the researchers working with students, teachers, parents and the wider community. Together these engaged in a range of themes including: fostering resilience and emotional well being of students, student motivation and supports, restorative practices within schools and promoting literacy and numeracy through home school links.

To see the DVD explaining each research piece please click [here](#)

To read Tomás Ó Ruairc's full speech please click [here](#)

3. Limerick Kids Graduate from Doodle Den



Children from six schools in Limerick gathered at Mary Immaculate College to celebrate their graduation from the Doodle Den Programme.

Cathairleach of Limerick City and County Council, Kevin Sheehan presented children from Corpus Christi Primary School, Our Lady of Lourdes Primary

School, Presentation Primary, St. John's National School, St. Michaels Infant School and St. Munchin's Girls National School with Doodle Den Certificates.

The event highlighted the children and parents satisfaction with and enthusiasm for Doodle Den. It was also a great opportunity to reinforce the hard work and commitment of all of those involved in the programme delivery.

4. Is your Organisation interested in Restorative Practice?

CDI has developed training in restorative practices (RP) that is aimed at people aged 14 and upwards who want to improve their relationship-building and conflict resolution skills.

Our Introduction to Restorative Practices gives an overview of RP and some very practical tools for getting started with a restorative approach. *Our RP Upskilling* training is for people who work with or operate in groups and provides skills in facilitating restorative circles and conferences.



We have also developed and delivered bespoke training for teachers, schools, young people, service providers and community groups and are currently working with a number of organisations on the development of training and support programmes for adopting restorative practices.

For example, we are developing a strategic partnership with the Irish Prison Service to support the embedding of restorative practices in Wheatfield and Dóchas prisons.

If your organisation is interested in exploring the potential for restorative practices to support your work, please contact Claire Casey –

claire@twcdi.ie or (087) 280 6450.

5. Autumn RP Training Schedule Announced

Our autumn schedule for Restorative Practices Training for individuals has been published. Details are available [here](#). Places are limited so please book early.

6. ATTI (Antenatal to Three Initiative) recruiting coordinator

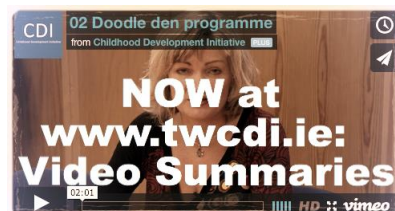
As part of our current funding, CDI has been supported to develop an initiative focusing on the needs of pregnant women and families with babies and toddlers.

There has been significant consultation on the ATTI, and we greatly appreciate the support we have received. We are in the process of recruiting for the initiative and will announce an ATTI Co-ordinator soon.

7. Latest Blog: Connecting Community Development Work and Education

Read our latest [blog](#) including extracts from Teaching Council Director Tomás Ó Ruairc's speech at the launch of the *Transforming Educational Experience* report.

Further Information?



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