



BARNAHUS

I R E L A N D

A Guide for Children



Barnahus West

We are a friendly team who work together. **We call ourselves the Barnahus West team!**

If someone has hurt you, shown you something that upset you, or made you do something with your body that made you feel upset, it can be hard to talk about. **Remember, it's never your fault. At Barnahus West, we can help you.**

If you or your caregiver have communication needs, an interpreter or signer will be invited to be with you. We aim to support you as locally as possible, but we can explore if online support would work for you too.

Protecting children...

Tusla social workers need to make sure that you and other children are safe. To do this, they will talk to you and your family and listen to everything that people say. **Together, they will come up with a plan that will show everyone how to keep you safe.**



Gathering important information...

When Gardaí think you may have been hurt, they will want to talk to your parents or carer about meeting you. Special Gardaí and Social Workers will talk to you to find out if you are worried about something. These special Gardaí and Social Workers meet with children all the time and they wear normal clothes.

They will meet you in a safe place to talk so they can get to know you. They will ask you questions and listen to everything you have to say. **This will help the Barnahus Team do their job.**

Health and well-being...

Sometimes you may need to see the doctor or nurse. This is to make sure that you are in good health. You will be checked by the doctor or nurse. **They will help with any questions or worries you may have about your body.** There will be drinks, toys and colouring books and plenty of time for you, and whoever comes with you, to relax and get to know the team. We hope that a medical check-up will help you feel safe and well.

Helping you feel better...

It is common to have lots of different feelings like sadness, anger, and worry. It may seem scary, but often talking to someone from the Barnahus team can help you to feel better. At Barnahus, we talk to lots of children who have been hurt and we know how to listen to children. **If you want to meet with us, we are happy to spend time getting to know you.**





Barnahus West is located at Faustina House, IDA Small Business Centre, Tuam Road, Galway **H91 VW84**. We will inform you should our services require visits to other locations across the Barnahus West region.

We have a website www.barnahus.ie if you would like to find out more.

We would like to know what you think of Barnahus.

You can fill out a feedback form, or let us know at: tellus@tusla.ie



CONTACT US

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