

HSE Supports

In March 2023, a scoping inquiry was established to inform the Government's response to revelations of historical sexual abuse in a number of day and boarding schools run by religious orders. The report of the scoping inquiry was submitted to the Minister for Education 07/06/24 and is now awaiting Government approval to proceed to publication.

People who believe they have experienced sexual abuse in day and boarding schools run by religious orders, or have been re-traumatised as a result of the inquiry, may seek information in relation to mental health supports.

The range of mental health services delivered by, or on behalf of, the HSE is extensive and covers both specialist and non-specialist (lower level) mental health support.

Community-Based and Primary Care Mental Health Supports

- The HSE [National Counselling Service](#) (NCS) provides a professional, confidential, counselling and psychotherapy service to adults and is available in all HSE Health Regions. NCS was established in 2000 to provide counselling and psychotherapy to adults who experienced childhood abuse. Access to the service can be made by self-referral or referral by a GP.
- People who are referred to the NCS have complex needs arising from the trauma they have experienced and the HSE's counsellor/therapists have specialist expertise in this area. Clients attend for an initial assessment where the client and counsellor talk about how counselling may help. If the NCS is considered to be the most appropriate service counselling will be offered.

Person to Person Support

- [Connect Counselling](#) is a HSE telephone counselling and support service for adults who have experienced childhood abuse. It is staffed by qualified counsellors and is available Wednesday to Sunday from **5 to 9pm. Freephone 1800 477 477**
- [Samaritans](#): Provide confidential non-judgmental support and are available 24 hours a day. [Freephone 116 123](tel:116123) or email jo@samaritans.ie
- [Text About it](#): Provides emotional support to anyone experiencing a crisis, through engagement in a text message 'conversation' with a trained and supervised volunteer. **Text Hello to 50808 to begin.**

Self-Help

- **Minding Your Wellbeing** a series of five online videos available free of charge to the general public at www.yourmentalhealth.ie.
- **Stress Control** is an evidence-based stress prevention and management programme, which aims to help people who want to learn effective ways to manage stress or prevent stress becoming a problem. It is suitable for people with severe, moderate or mild symptoms of stress. It is a free six session online class available at www.stresscontrol.ie

Mental Health Information

- **YourMentalHealth**: Information about mental health and available supports and services can be found on the HSE website yourmentalhealth.ie. Or by calling the **YourMentalHealth Information Line** free of charge on **1800 111 888** (available 24/7)

Anyone who is unsure about what type of mental health support they need should speak to their GP.

Additional Resources

The HSE funds and supports a number of organisations that provide support / clinical interventions at primary care level.

Service Name	Services Offered
Text About it	The service provides immediate support for people going through mental health or emotional crisis. Text Hello to 50808 any time day or night
MyMind.org	Online and in-person counselling provider MyMind.org provides counselling and psychotherapy.
Turn2Me	Online counselling provider Turn2Me provides counselling and psychotherapy.
Pieta	Provide Telephone and text-based support as well as counselling for people who are suicidal or engaging in self-harm. A person can Freephone 1800 247 247 every day 24 hours a day or Text HELP to 51444 - standard message rates apply
Aware	Support adults with depression and mood related conditions by offering free evidence-based programmes based on the principles of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) in their local communities

As well as the services provided by and on behalf of the HSE, private mental health supports are also available.

Service Name	Services Offered
<p>The Irish Council for Psychotherapy</p>	<p>Has more than 1,500 psychotherapists registered. It represents a range of disciplines and approaches including Cognitive and Behavioural, Couple and Family, Humanistic and Integrative and Psychoanalytic Therapies.</p> <p>https://www.psychotherapyCouncil.ie/find/</p>
<p>The Irish Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy</p>	<p>The largest Counselling and Psychotherapy Association in Ireland representing over 5,000 members. It provides a link between those who are looking for Counselling/Psychotherapy and those who provide Counselling/Psychotherapy.</p> <p>The IACP provide a free comprehensive online directory of all accredited IACP Counsellors/Psychotherapists in Ireland, see link below. They list accredited Counsellors/Psychotherapists in every county in Ireland</p> <p>The IACP also offer a Telephone Information Service providing information on all areas relating to Counselling and Psychotherapy: 01 230 3536, 9:30 am to 1 pm, Monday to Friday.</p> <p>https://iacp.ie/page/therapists?co=6&cat=11</p>
<p>The Psychological Society of Ireland</p>	<p>The professional body for psychology and psychologists in the Republic of Ireland. It represents approximately 4,600 members.</p> <p>https://www.psychologicalsociety.ie/pd/</p>