OurKidsCode
FAMILY CODING CLUBS

Information for new families

OurKidsCode is a research project based in Trinity College Dublin and funded by Science Foundation Ireland and the Department of Rural and Community Development.

We are building a network and community of **free family coding clubs** across Ireland.

We support families, of **primary age children**, to run their own club where parents and children enjoy doing creative coding projects together.

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Register for a Taster Workshop:

When an OurKidsCode club is starting, in your area, we will invite you to **register** for a **free Taster Workshop** so you can experience a club environment. **No previous coding or computing experience is necessary.**

If enough families are interested in continuing, we will run other workshops and explore setting up a free OurKidsCode club. **There is no commitment at this stage** - we just want you to enjoy the Taster.

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To find out more: visit **ourkidscode.ie** or email **contact@ourkidscode.**

What is an OurKidsCode club?

- **Family-run** and **cooperative.** Member families meet regularly to do **coding & crafting** projects together.

- **Not a drop and go activity!** Parents and kids work together in a family team.

- A **safe environment** for parents and kids to be **creative**, playful, informed, engaged, curious and **empowered** in their use of technology.

- **Social**, enjoyable and a great way to get to know local families with shared interests.

- **An expert free zone! No technical experience necessary!**

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What does OurKidsCode aim to do?

- Increase **parental involvement** and promote greater **diversity** in computer education

- Provide **STEAM** (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) opportunities for families with primary aged children, particularly in rural communities

- Increase **confidence** in coding in a child centered, fun and relaxed way.

Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin

Science Foundation Ireland
SFI For what's next

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

NPC primary
Supporting Parents
Supporting Children

Dream Space™

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6 Key points about OurKidsCode

1. OurKidsCode is not a drop off activity.

- Parent or legal guardians **must** participate with their child for the entirety of every MeetUp.

- Parents are solely **responsible** for their children during the MeetUp.

- Other family members or child minders **cannot** substitute for parents under any circumstances.

2. OurKidsCode is a whole-family activity

- **Parents and children** take an active role in doing projects together.

- Club MeetUps are **not** classes or school!

- Clubs should encourage a **relaxed, safe and fun** environment where families can enjoy creating together.

3. OurKidsCode clubs are cooperative

- All participants, **children especially**, are encouraged to take an active part in organising and running MeetUps, helping others, sharing their ideas and choosing projects.

4. Registration with OurKidsCode

- All families **must** be registered with OurKidsCode before attending any MeetUp or workshop.

- This applies to **all** families, including when a family joins in later, and even if a family are only attending one session as guests of the club.

5. Check In, Reaction and Evaluation

- OurKidsCode is free for families to participate, but we are **a research project** and data is essential to our growth and success.

- Families take responsibility for ensuring that the check in and reaction forms are done at **every** MeetUp.

- **Check In** shows us how active clubs are – we can plan to support.

- **Reaction** and **Evaluation** forms help us improve what we do.

6. OurKidsCode 6-Step MeetUps

- Each MeetUp should follow the same steps as developed by OurKidsCode: **Set Up, Warm Up, Create, Share, Reflect & Plan.**