

Speakers' Biographies

Pat Bergin, Director of the Oberstown Children Detention Campus

Pat was appointed Director to the Oberstown Children Detention Campus in June 2017. This followed four years as campus manager of the detention schools pending the establishment of the Oberstown campus. Prior to joining Oberstown, Pat worked with the Health Information and Quality Authority as Inspector Manager with responsibility in managing teams of inspectors who monitored and inspected children services. He also held a role in HIQA as Head of Children Services. Prior to this Pat worked in the HSE between 2001 and 2009 in various roles in Community Care Services. He held the role as Child Care Manager and Deputy General Manager in Waterford Community Care Services. He also managed the High Support Residential Services for Children in Care in this area. He initially became involved in the areas of social care when he worked in the Cork Simon Community, initially as a full time volunteer but then working as Street Worker supporting adults and children sleeping rough in Cork.

Ursula Kilkelly, Chair of the Board of Management of Oberstown

Ursula Kilkelly (BA, LL.M, PhD) is a professor of law and currently Dean of the School of Law at University College Cork. She is also Head of the College of Business and Law.

Ursula is an international children's rights scholar. She has published widely on children's rights, the European Convention on Human Rights and youth justice.

At UCC, Ursula directs the innovative Child Law Clinic, a research initiative which provides student-led research services to lawyers litigating children's issues. In January 2016, the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs appointed Ursula to Chair the Board of Management of Oberstown Children Detention School.

Margaret O'Rourke, Consultant Forensic Clinical Psychologist

Margaret O'Rourke is a Consultant Forensic Clinical Psychologist and Director of Behavioural Science at the School of Medicine, University College Cork. Dr. O'Rourke completed a Masters of Science in Psychological Medicine at Glasgow University and a doctorate in Forensic Clinical Psychology at Surrey University in 1995. She is a founder and Director of Mental Health for the RAMAS Foundation based in the UK, Ireland and Canada. Dr. O'Rourke publishes and presents on a wide range of topics including stress, mental health treatments, risk management, anger management, addictions, trauma, violence reduction and public safety.

Lena Timoney, Deputy Director - Care Services

Lena Timoney is the Deputy Director - Care Services at Oberstown Children Campus, Lena joined the Campus Senior Management Team at Oberstown in August 2016, her area of responsibility is in relation to the provision of care to young people in detention. This role focuses on the development of care practice in Oberstown including: the implementation of the CEHOP framework. Lena joined the Probation Service in 2001, working directly with young people in St Patrick's Institution and thereafter in a community based Young Person's Person's Probation Team. In 2008, Lena took up position as a Senior Probation Officer, initially managing a team of Probation Officers working with adults both in

prison and community based setting. From 2010 to 2016, Lena returned to Young Person's Probation, where she supervised teams of Probation Officers providing a direct service to the Children Courts and to children in Dublin inner city and South Dublin. Lena has a BA in Social Science and an MA in Criminology.

John Smith, Activity Co-Ordinator

John has worked in residential social care for the last 27 years. He was appointed activity coordinator for Trinity House School in 2007 and currently holds this position at Oberstown. The role of the involves managing, developing and coordinating all activities and evening classes at the Oberstown campus. His background is in psychology, counselling, behaviour modification and adventure education. In 2008, he designed and developed an outdoor recreational and educational programme, which used experiential learning for individuals and groups in an Adventure setting. In 2010, this programme was awarded the overall winner of the National Children's Awards for effective practice in Youth Justice.

Ray Murray, Campus Health and Safety Officer

Ray Murray has more than 20 years' experience in occupational health and safety. Ray previously worked with Bord Iascaigh Mara (BIM) with responsibility for managing safety and health for staff working across all activities from vocational training centres, product research and development facilities, manufacturing plants and estate management.

Clare Coyle, Social Care Worker

Clare Coyle BA (Hons) Social Care. Certificate in Critical Incident Stress Management. Clare is a Social Care Worker and has worked in the area since 2010. Clare has worked in a variety of settings in disadvantaged areas, and with young people with challenging behaviour. Clare has been in Oberstown since 2014 and has been part of the change process. Clare is described by the young people as easily approachable, honest and reliable. Her colleagues describe her as energetic and conscientious. Clare considers it important that a positive solution focused approach is central to her work.

Paul McGuinness, Social Care Worker

Paul McGuinness MAPA Instructor, Certificate in Critical Incident Stress Management. Paul has been a Social Care Worker in Oberstown since 1995 and has been working as a trainer and care staff since 1998. At present Paul is a Campus Trainer for staff and Activities Coordinator for young people. Paul is described by the young people as conscientious, considerate and fair. His colleagues describe him as hard working, balanced and supportive. Paul considers it important that he would act as a positive role model in any role he fulfils.

Claire Casey, Restorative Practices Programme Coordinator

Claire Casey has worked in Community Development for over 25 years. She currently works with the Childhood Development Initiative (CDI) in Tallaght and is currently responsible for the implementation of the Restorative Practices Programme. Claire holds a BSc and a postgraduate Diploma in Adult and Community Education and is currently undertaking a Masters in Restorative Practices at the University of Ulster.