



Chris Finnegan's participatory arts practice explores play as a vital force of imagination, being and empowerment for young people.

This multi-year participatory arts project was developed in response to Cork Child Friendly City's city-wide consultation, to give form to the voices of Cork's young citizens.

A Cork Midsummer Festival production, funded by the Arts Council's Arts in Early Learning and Childcare Scheme, Arts in Education Portal Documentation Award 2026 and Cork City Council through Creative Communities Scheme.

Lead Artist: **Chris Finnegan**
 Producer: **Susan Holland**
 Accessibility Support: **Donna O'Keeney**
 Design Consolidation: **Olan Wyrnn**
 Graphic Design: **Jason O'Gorman**

Community Partners:
Múin Afterschool Blackpool, Blarney and Ballincollig; St. Vincent's Primary School; The Crann Centre

Host Venue Partners:
Cork City Library; Cork City Opera House; St Peters; The Everyman; The Lord Mayor's Pavilion



PlaySpaces is a city-wide trail of child-only play pods and cosy dens across Cork City, designed by kids for kids.

We asked children from Cork what their city would look like if they were in charge. They wanted to play!

PlaySpaces trail leads families on an exploration of secret hideaways and imaginative play installations developed in collaboration with children from across Cork City. Curl up with a book in your own reading pod at Cork City Library, people-watch from a treehouse in Cork Opera House, or let your imagination run wild at the Everyman Theatre.

An exhibition at Sample-Studios Gallery at The Lord Mayor's Pavilion in Fitzgerald's Park will take you behind-the-scenes, sharing insights into the child-led design process.

Remember, these are child-only zones where adults can peek in, but kids rule!



Access Information



Cork City Play Trail

Designed by Kids for Kids
 12 June – 22 August*

CORK CITY LIBRARY
 CORK OPERA HOUSE
 ST PETERS
 THE EVERYMAN
 THE LORD MAYOR'S PAVILION

12-5pm, Monday – Saturday*

* The Lord Mayor's Pavilion 6-28 June, Tues-Sat 11-5pm
 Check venue websites in case closed for events

