



Dear Parent / Guardian,

Cardiac screening can help identify underlying heart conditions that can lead to Sudden Adult Death Syndrome (SADS). In the coming weeks – with the support of the **Dillon Quirke Foundation** – Nenagh Éire Óg GAA Club is offering young people from our community the opportunity to participate in cardiac screening.

You will have heard lots about the Dillon Quirke Foundation over the last year through various events and fundraisers. The Foundation is now able to begin carrying out its main aim: to fund cardiac screening for young people (aged 12-18) involved in sport.

The Dillon Quirke Foundation will be visiting the grounds of Nenagh Éire Óg GAA club **from 9.30am on Saturday, 2nd December** to provide cardiac screening for 45 young people. The Foundation is funding a comprehensive, doctor-led cardiac screening service, with Advanced Medical Services (AMS) providing the screening, and you will have the opportunity to have your child screened.

Please read the below information carefully and register your child for screening by clicking here: [Nenagh Éire Óg - Cardiac Screening - Booking Link](#)

We firmly believe that every child deserves access to this lifesaving screening, regardless of socioeconomic circumstances. As such, we are delighted to offer the screening service to your child at **no cost**. If making a donation isn't possible for you at this time, please don't worry. Your child having access to this screening is what matters most to us, and we encourage you to book, regardless of making a financial contribution.

Finally, the Foundation wants to thank you for the support you have given over the last year. Thanks to the generous donations and help of the local community here in Nenagh and further afield – the Dillon Quirke Foundation can begin to really honour Dillon's legacy and carry out this important work.

Kind regards,

Tom Gleeson, Chairperson, Nenagh Éire Óg
Tom Boland, Chairperson, Nenagh Éire Óg Camogie

About the Dillon Quirke Foundation

The Dillon Quirke Foundation was set up in honour of Dillon Quirke who collapsed during a hurling match and died of Sudden Adult Death Syndrome (SADS) on 5th August 2022 in Semple Stadium, Thurles. The Foundation was subsequently established by Dillon's family – his parents, Dan and Hazel, and his sisters, Shannon and Kellie – with the aim of funding widespread cardiac screening for young people (aged 12-18) involved in sport. Dillon's family want to prevent other families from going through what they have experienced and, in the process, save lives.

Sudden Adult Death Syndrome (SADS) takes an average of 100 young lives in Ireland every year. With your help, the Foundation's aim is to raise awareness and save lives through a cardiac screening programme.

The screening programme, delivered by Advanced Medical Services and funded by the Dillon Quirke Foundation, will perform cardiac screening in sports clubs nationwide with the aim of reducing the incidence of Sudden Adult Death Syndrome. Research has shown that cardiac screening can significantly reduce the incidence of SADS.

Since Dillon's passing, fundraising initiatives for the Foundation have included the sale of branded jerseys and numerous community and sporting events throughout the country. These activities have raised in excess of €800,000 to go towards the roll-out of the cardiac screening programme.

The Dillon Quirke Foundation is a registered charity. Visit DillonQuirkeFoundation.com for more information.

SCREENING INFORMATION

The Dillon Quirke Foundation will be visiting the grounds of Nenagh Éire Óg GAA club **from 9.30am on Saturday, 2nd December**. The Foundation is funding a comprehensive, doctor-led, cardiac screening service, with Advanced Medical Services (AMS) providing the screening.

AMS is Ireland's leading mobile cardiac screening company. The company performs cardiac screening in schools and sports clubs nationwide, ultimately aimed at reducing the incidence of Sudden Adult Death Syndrome (SADS). Approximately two young people (under 35) die each week in Ireland from SADS. Research has shown that cardiac screening can significantly reduce the incidence of SADS. Please see below for further information on cardiac screening.

If you have any questions about the screening process, please contact Seamus Tobin, AMS, stobin@ameds.ie.

HOW TO BOOK

Book your child in for a screening by following the instructions at the link here: [Nenagh Éire Óg - Cardiac Screening - Booking Link](#) or cut and past this link into your browser:

<https://bookings.ameds.ie/booking/from-code?code=nenagheo>

Places are available on a 'first come first served' basis.

WHAT'S INVOLVED?

Parents/guardians can accompany their child throughout the screening, which includes the following steps:

1. A personal and family history questionnaire.
2. A physical examination with a medical doctor.
3. 12-lead electrocardiogram (ECG).

Following the screening, the medical data and ECG are assessed and reported on by a Consultant Cardiologist.

- You will be able to access your results via email notification.
- Participants will be able to login and review their patient friendly report within 10 working days of the screening taking place.
- In the event of a cardiac abnormality being identified, AMS will send a copy of results to the participant's nominated GP.
- In the event of a significant abnormality, where it may be unsafe for the participant to train / play, AMS will contact the participant's parent / guardian by telephone and inform them of their results and advise them to follow up with their GP. AMS will send the results to the participant's parent / guardian and their nominated GP on the same day.

WHY CARDIAC SCREENING?

- Incidents of Sudden Adult Death Syndrome (SADS) are higher in Ireland than many other European countries: up to 100 young people in Ireland die each year from SADS.
- The European Society of Cardiology and the International Olympic Committee recommend cardiac screening every two years for people involved in competitive sport. The GAA's Medical, Scientific and Welfare Committee and World Rugby have also recommended cardiac screening for young players. However, there is currently no comprehensive nationwide screening programme for young people. The Dillon Quirke Foundation – in partnership with AMS – is working to address this gap.
- In Italy, cardiac screening has been mandatory for those involved in competitive sport for the past 25 years. This has reduced deaths from SADS by 89% over that period.
- AMS's cardiac screening service is based on the recommendations of the above-named organisations.

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- As a registered charity without government funding, the Dillon Quirke Foundation relies on the generosity of our community of supporters to make sure that we can sustain this invaluable service for young people nationwide. So, if you are in the position to do so, we welcome voluntary contributions towards your child's screening. Donations at any level are greatly appreciated and play a vital role in our ability to bring this lifesaving screening to young people all across Ireland.
- The Dillon Quirke Foundation is funding this service, and it can be accessed for free. The average cost for cardiac screening for a child is €100

QUERIES AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Advanced Medical Services (AMS):

Seamus Tobin; stobin@ameds.ie

info@ameds.ie, [0818 333 120](tel:0818333120) | [021 4297686](tel:0214297686)

Logistics:

Nenagh Éire Óg GAA Club will be managing the logistics for the screening on Saturday, 2nd December 2023. For further information, please contact: Críona 086-1718779, criona.tynan@gmail.com

Dillon Quirke Foundation:

info@dillonquirkefoundation.com

Donations: you can donate to the Dillon Quirke Foundation by visiting the charity's GoFundMe page <https://www.gofundme.com/f/d4vp55-dillon-quirke-foundation>.

Statement from the Dillon Quirke Foundation:

We would like to sincerely thank you for your support for the Foundation. It is helping us realise our goal of funding widespread cardiac screenings for young people across Ireland. The sole intention of creating the Foundation in Dillon's name is to save lives and, in turn, honour his legacy and life. Our aim is that – over time – every young person in this country will have the chance to participate in cardiac screening.