

Weekly Bulletin – This Week in Childcare 9th - 13th September 2024



DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:

Friday 27th September 2024 @ 5pm:

Deadline for 2024 Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary Applications

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2024 Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary

The Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary 2024 offers a bursary to early years educators and registered childminders, who are working in the sector, and have obtained a recognised Level 7/8/9 award. There is also a bursary available for registered childminders who have completed a Level 5 or 6 award. Please contact info@kerrycountychildcare.com for application forms and guidance.

NCS Compliance Inspections – 2024/2025

As the new NCS programme call 2024/2025 has commenced, NCS on-site inspections by Pobal will continue in childcare services. The compliance process will involve a series of standardised checks to confirm adherence with programme rules, contract conditions and relevant legislation as set out by the Department of Children Equality Disability Integration & Youth (DCEDIY).



NB: NCS inspections require 12 months of records available and accessible for review.

With the commencement of the NCS 2024/25 inspection cycle, the Pobal Compliance team have updated the relevant NCS compliance support documents which are available on the Hive under the Resources section. These documents are listed in the links below

[Accessing the NCS Compliance Report on Hive](#)

[NCS Compliance Checklist for Approved Providers 2024-25](#)

[NCS Compliance Guide for Approved Providers 2024-25](#)

[NCS Post Inspection Rectification Actions for Approved Providers 2024-25](#)

Training has been scheduled for the following dates and times:

- Monday 16 September 2024 at 10am and 6.30pm
- Tuesday 17 September 2024 at 2.30pm.

The training will cover NCS compliance checks for 2024/2025.

Please see below the links to register with Go to Webinar.

NCS Compliance 2024/2025 Session 1, 16 September at 10am

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2622163050745530713>

NCS Compliance 2024/2025 Session 2, 16 September at 6.30pm

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1847694547930917982>

NCS Compliance 2024/2025 Session 3, 17 September at 2.30pm

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4081515147478797149>

Financial Management Tool Year 2

The Financial Management Tool for Core Funding Year 2 (2023/2024) is now available for download from Hive for Partner Services that wish to use it as a support.

This is under the new heading Financial Management Tool Year 2 (2023/2024), link below:

[Core Funding – Documents - Service Provider Portal \(ncs.gov.ie\)](#)



Aim level 7 Plus and Non-Term Applications

The AIM Level 7 Plus and Non-Term application process recently opened on the Early Years Hive. Below are links to the webinar recording, slides from the webinar and a questions and answers document (Q &A) from the training sessions.



- [AIM Expansion Webinar Recording](#)
- [Slides from the webinar](#)
- [Q & A document from webinar](#)

If you have any queries about the AIM programme, please contact the Early Years Provider Centre (EYPC) by raising a Request on Hive using the following categories:
Programme: AIM Level 7 >Request type: Application >Request type detail: How To

Fee Increase Assessment and Approval Process

To submit an expression of interest in the Fee Increase Assessment and Approval Process, Partner Services can contact pamela@kerrycountychildcare.com.

Applicant Guidelines can be found on the Hive > Resources > Programme Documents > Guidelines on Fee Management

Covid Case Advice

Please see below links to relevant information:

[Preventing the spread of covid 19 in school or childcare - HSE](#)

[Management of Infectious Disease in Childcare Facilities and Other Childcare Settings \(2012\)](#)

General Covid-19 queries: Contact HSE on 1800 700 700 between 8 am and 8 pm Monday to Friday and 9 am - 5 pm Saturday and Sunday / [HSE Covid 19](#)

Kerry County Childcare Committee Website and Facebook Page

We invite you to visit our website [here](#) and like and follow our Facebook page [here](#) for lots of updates and relevant information.