

## Weekly Bulletin – This Week in Childcare: 20<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024

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### DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:

**\*TODAY\*** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024 @ 5pm:

Deadline for 2024 Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary Applications

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

Deadline for return of Children and Young People's Plan Consultation submissions.

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024 @5pm**

AIM level 1 LINC Coordinator deadline for new graduates to receive funding backdated to the start of the programme year or the LINC Coordinators start date.

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### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

#### Equal Start

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) announced the first group of early learning and childcare settings to receive a funding boost through the Equal Start scheme. Click here for the [press release](#) by Minister O'Gorman. Equal Start is a new, DEIS-style funding model. It provides a set of universal and targeted measures to support access to, and full participation in, early learning and childcare for children and their families who experience disadvantage.

- 621 early learning and childcare settings have accepted the Equal Start priority designation to date.
- These settings been objectively identified as operating in the context of the highest levels of concentrated disadvantage.

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#### NCS Policy Guidelines Update

Some changes have been made to the policy guidelines to clarify existing rules for providers and parents. A summary of the changes is detailed in the announcement section on Hive.

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## AIM Level 1 (Linc Coordinator)



The AIM Level 1 application process has now opened on Early Years Hive for services with new graduates of the Leadership for Inclusion (LINC) programme. A 'new graduate' refers to any person graduating in October 2024. Applications received by **5pm on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024** will be awarded the additional capitation from the Inclusion Co-Ordinator's employment start date relevant to the 2024/25 programme year. Applicants are encouraged to apply early, as any applications received after this date will not be backdated.

Applications must be submitted via the Early Years Hive. Applicant guidelines can be found [here](#).

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## Compliance Framework Guidance

The DCEDIY circulated the Compliance Framework Guidance document this week outlining the levels of support. The document and FAQ are available in English and Irish:

[FINAL DCEDIY Compliance Framework Overview IRISH \(Final\)](#)

[FINAL DCEDIY Compliance Framework Overview \(Final\)](#)

[FINAL DCEDIY Compliance Framework FAQs IRISH \(Final\)](#)

[FINAL DCEDIY Compliance Framework FAQs \(Final\)](#)

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## Financial Management Tool Year 3

DCEDIY has now made available the Financial Management Tool **Year 3** Trial Balance (2024/2025) and associated documentation. The Financial Management Tool Year 3 is available for download from the [Hive](#) for service providers who wish to use it.



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## 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 or email [pamela@kerrycountychildcare.com](mailto:pamela@kerrycountychildcare.com). Applicant Guidelines can be found on the Hive> Resources> Programme Documents> Guidelines on Fee Management

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## Minister O’Gorman publishes new regulations for childminding

Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Roderic O’Gorman, announced the publication of the new Childminding Regulations, which will come into effect on 30<sup>th</sup> September. For further information please click [here](#).

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## Pre-Registration Training for Childminders

Kerry County Childcare Committee are delighted to announce the commencement of the Pre-Registration Training for childminders. This training will support participants to understand the new childminding regulations and will provide all the information required to register with Tusla (see leaflet attached). This is a FREE training course and takes approximately 7 hours to complete. For further information please contact Amy on 066 7181582 or email amy@kerrycountychildcare.com

If these training dates don't suit you, please contact Amy and we will add your name to a waiting list for the next training course.

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**PRE-REGISTRATION TRAINING FOR CHILDMINDERS**

**Childcare Committee County Kerry**  
Comite Cúram Leanaí Chiarraí Teo

**Information on:**

- Being a childminder
- Understanding new childminding regulations
- Documents required for Tusla registration

**TRAINING DATES**

11TH OF NOVEMBER - ONLINE  
7-9PM (SESSION ONE)

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16TH OF NOVEMBER  
9.30AM - 3PM (SESSION TWO & THREE)  
VENUE - KERRY COUNTY CHILDCARE OFFICE

**THIS TRAINING IS FREE AND REFRESHMENTS WILL BE PROVIDED**

Contact: Amy  
0877885114  
Email: amy@kerrycountychildcare.com

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## 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 eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com for application forms and guidance.

Please note the closing date for complete applications is **today 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024.**

## Happy Talk

Happy Talk for September is attached. The topic this month is Learning Language - Let's Talk Happy Talk!

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# Happy Talk

## Learning Language - Let's Talk Happy Talk!

Just talk. It's as simple as that. Talk to your tiny baby, sing to them, make funny sounds and use baby talk!

Talk to your toddler, sign with them, describe what they are doing when they are doing it, give them lots of attention when they try new words.

Talk to your child, sing with them, and help them tell stories, ask for things, and tell jokes!

And when you talk, be silly and make mistakes! Your child will connect with you, while they correct you! 'Don't be silly Mammy! That's not an elephant, it's my hat!'

And talk. Just talk. It's as simple as that. This is the main message of Happy Talk; the more you talk to your child, the more language / talking you will hear from them.

Over the next few months we will give you some tips to help with this wonderful skill; Happy Talking, Happy Talkers!





### September 2024

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| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

For further information visit: [www.hse.ie/happytalk](http://www.hse.ie/happytalk)



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# Happy Talk

## September 2024

### Rhyme

#### Round and Round the Garden and Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Let's Remember Together! Do you remember when you were a child? Did you know these rhymes, or similar ones? Did you have actions for them?

For Round and Round the Garden: Trace your finger around your child's palm (Round and Round), and then

jump up their arm to tickle them under there!

For Row, Row, Row the Boat: Hold hands, while sitting opposite each other, and rock forward and back to row the boat!

Have fun with all the animals you might meet down the stream.

Check out the lyrics on the first pages of this calendar.






### Rhyme Time Voices and Games

#### Songs and Rhymes; Did You Know?

Did you know tiny babies can tell the difference between their parent's voices and strangers voices? Did you know that by 4 months babies will recognise songs and rhymes? Did you know that babies, toddlers and children learn new words, learn sounds in words, and learn to tell stories, by listening to and singing songs and rhymes. And the best fact yet: did you know that by singing and saying rhymes with your tiny baby, your toddler or your child, increases the bond between you, and brings you closer together. Awwwwwww! So cute!

We use rhymes all the time in Happy Talk, we hope you will too!

### Mindful Moment

#### Elephant Breathing Mindful Moment'

Let's have some fun while we learn to take a minute to concentrate on our bodies and our breathing, and nothing else for a minute!

Stand with your feet wide apart and your arms dangling in front of your body like an elephant's trunk. Notice the weight of your "trunk" as it dangles in front. Notice the strength in your legs and back that keeps you from toppling over. As you breathe in deeply through your nose, raise your arms up high above your head. Notice how the muscles in your tummy are working to keep your trunk high in the air.

Then slowly swing your arms down again as you breathe out through your mouth. Repeat this 5 times, or more!

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## 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](#)