

## Weekly Bulletin – This Week in Childcare: 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Dear Colleagues,

These are the deadlines, information, and announcements for the week of 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

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### DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES

#### 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Quality Inclusive Practice Plan (QIPP) to be submitted

#### 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Deadline for Building Blocks Extension Grant Scheme

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### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

#### Building Blocks Extension Grant Scheme

Applicant Guidelines and Application Forms for the scheme as well as a provider training session on the scheme will be available shortly. The closing date for applications is **12 noon, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2025**. For further information please see the **updated** document in the Building Blocks section here:

<https://www.kerrycountychildcare.com/childcare-providers-kerry/childcare-information/>

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### Quality & Inclusive Practice Plan (QIPP)

The Quality & Inclusive Practice Plan (QIPP) is due for submission on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 on [www.cfcrrs.ie](http://www.cfcrrs.ie) The PAU has already received the log in details.



The guidance for completing the QIPP (formally QAP) is on the Core Funding documents page of the Early Years Hive [here](#).

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## Updated Aistear - Aistear: The Early Childhood Curriculum Framework

An updated version of *Aistear: the Early Childhood Curriculum Framework* has been prepared by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) and was published this week. You can access the framework [here](#), The website is available in English and Irish.

Updates include:

- Aistear retains the similar structure of the original Framework.
- The Principles of early learning and development have been reduced from 12 to nine.
- The Themes of Wellbeing, Identity and Belonging, Communicating and Exploring and Thinking have been retained and updated.
- The number of Learning Goals within each Aim of the Themes has been reduced. They remain broad, but observable statements that support babies, toddlers and young children's learning and development.
- Those using the Framework, including parents, childminders and early years educators are referred to as 'educators'.
- There is an acknowledgement of Irish cultural and linguistic history and story. Irish words, phrases and proverbs have been embedded throughout the Framework.

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## New Garda Vetting Procedure

The DCEDIY issued a communication this week on the new Garda Vetting Procedures to take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025. Please follow the link for detailed information. <https://www.kerrycountychildcare.com/childcare-providers-kerry/childcare-information/>

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## Childminding Registration

Tusla have continued to expand the resources and support documentation available on their Childminding webpages [//tusla.ie/early-years-inspectorate/childminding-services](https://tusla.ie/early-years-inspectorate/childminding-services).

To contact Tusla's childminding helpline ring (061) 440600 (option 9) or email [cm.registration@tusla.ie](mailto:cm.registration@tusla.ie) or view their [Frequently Asked Questions](#) section on the website.

Contact [amy@kerrycountychildcare.com](mailto:amy@kerrycountychildcare.com) if you want further information

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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](#)

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## **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.