

Weekly Bulletin – This Week in Childcare: 13th – 17th January 2025

Dear Colleagues

These are the deadlines, information, and announcements for the week of 13th -17th January 2025.

DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:

27th January 2025 @12 noon

Deadline for Building Blocks Extension Grant Scheme

1st February 2025

New Garda Vetting Procedures come into effect

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Building Blocks Extension Grant Scheme

The application process for the Building Blocks Extension Grant Scheme is now open and will close for applications on **27th January 2025 at 12pm**. Information on the Scheme can be found [HERE](#) with detailed application templates, applicant guidelines and FAQ's available [HERE](#) in the resources section on the Hive.

New Garda Vetting Procedures

New Garda Vetting procedures for ELC and SAC services are coming into effect on February 1st. The following changes will take effect:

- Early Childhood Ireland (ECI) will manage Garda Vetting services for all ELC & SAC employees. Membership with ECI is not a requirement to avail of vetting services.
- Tusla will manage Garda Vetting services for registered providers including Chairpersons of Boards of Management and Childminders.
- As part of these changes, Barnardos will no longer provide vetting services.

More detailed information on the new Garda Vetting procedures can be found on the gov.ie website [HERE](#).

Core Funding Financial Management Tool Update

An updated version of the Financial Management Tool (FMT) for 2024/25 is now available on the Early Years Hive [HERE](#). The FMT was developed by The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) as an optional support for services that do not have their own accountancy software packages. It can be used to prepare a trial balance, which Core Funding Partner Services will be required to submit to fulfil their financial reporting obligation after the end of the 2024/25 programme year.



The FMT can be used on an ongoing basis to record financial information and make this report easier to generate when it is due for submission. Using the FMT can help an organisation to make informed and timely financial decisions and take corrective actions where needed. Guidance documents are available on Hive. Please contact Pamela (pamela@kerrycountychildcare.com) for support with queries.

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.

Covid Case Advice

Please see below links to relevant information: [Preventing the spread of covid 19 in school or childcare - HSE](#) & [Pre School Management Infectious Disease.pdf](#)

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](#)

Kind Regards,

Kerry County Childcare Committee