

# Weekly Bulletin – This Week in Childcare: 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Dear Colleagues

These are the deadlines, information, and announcements for the week of 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

---

## DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:

<b>6<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>	Access & Inclusion Model (AIM) Level 4, Level 5 and Level 7 standard applications for the 2025/2026 programme are now open
<b>14<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>	May Core Funding Review and Confirm close
<b>27<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>	Annual Early Years Sector Profile 2024/25 is open from 6 <sup>th</sup> May- 27 <sup>th</sup> May 2025

---

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### May Core Funding Review and Confirm

The Review and Confirm for May 2025 can now be completed.

Partner Services with an approved May Review and Confirm record can auto-populate their Application Module for the 2025/2026 Programme Year. This will help reduce administration.



### Mandatory questions added to service profile

The service profile now includes additional questions in the Facility Details and Staff Information sections. All new questions are mandatory; existing staff information needs to be reviewed and updated.

---

## Pathways to Wellbeing – Summer Seminar

Kerry County Childcare Committee are delighted to invite ELC & SAC providers and educators to our free summer seminar “Pathways to Wellbeing for Children & Educators”.

This is taking place in the Rose Hotel, Tralee on Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 from 9am – 4pm.

**Keynote speakers on the day include Dr Mary O’Kane, Edel Lawlor and Dermot Rafter.**

We have attached a flyer with further information, which you might like to share with your staff team.

Places are limited, so we are initially taking bookings of two people from each service with two in reserve should places become available. Bookings will be taken on a first come first served basis.

Bookings for your service can be made via the link: <https://forms.office.com/e/4SjiRyXm3z>

**Kerry County Childcare Committee**  
are delighted to host a  
Summer Seminar:

**Pathways to Wellbeing for Children  
and Educators**



Speakers on the day are:

Dr. Mary O' Kane "The Role of Adventurous Play & Risk Taking".

Edel Lawlor "The Power of Play"

Dermot Rafter "Looking After Ourselves" .

There will be the opportunity for questions and answers at the end of each session.

 **Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

 **9.00am – 16.00pm**

 **The Rose Hotel, Tralee**

Bookings:





---

## Access & Inclusion Model (AIM)

Access & Inclusion Model (AIM) Level 4, Level 5 and Level 7 standard initial and Review & Confirm applications for the 2025/2026 programme year are open now.

AIM Level 7 Plus and Non-term applications for the 2025/26 programme call will open mid-summer. Services are reminded to submit any relevant AIM application at least three months prior to a child's planned start date in ECCE. For further support, please see the [Better Start / AIM - Service Provider Portal](#)



---

## Annual Early Years Sector Profile 2024/25

The Annual Early Years Sector Profile 2024/25 can now be completed.

It is important that the data in your Service Profile is up to date at the time of the Annual Early Years Sector Profile survey. Please make sure your Service Profile has been updated on the Early Years Hive on or after Friday, 2 May. This ensures that the most up to date information is included in the data collected for the survey.

All services are encouraged to complete the survey; however, completing this year's survey within the open window is mandatory for all existing Core Funding Partner Services. Services wishing to



become a Core Funding Partner Service in the future must also complete the survey before submitting their Core Funding application. For more information and support, please go to [AEYSP Survey - Service Provider Portal](#)

## AIM non- term 2024/2025

Please submit your AIM Non-term 2024/2025 applications for the summer months on the Early Years Hive as soon as possible. If you have already submitted the applications and did not include the required summer dates, please submit a ‘change of circumstance’ review to add the relevant dates.



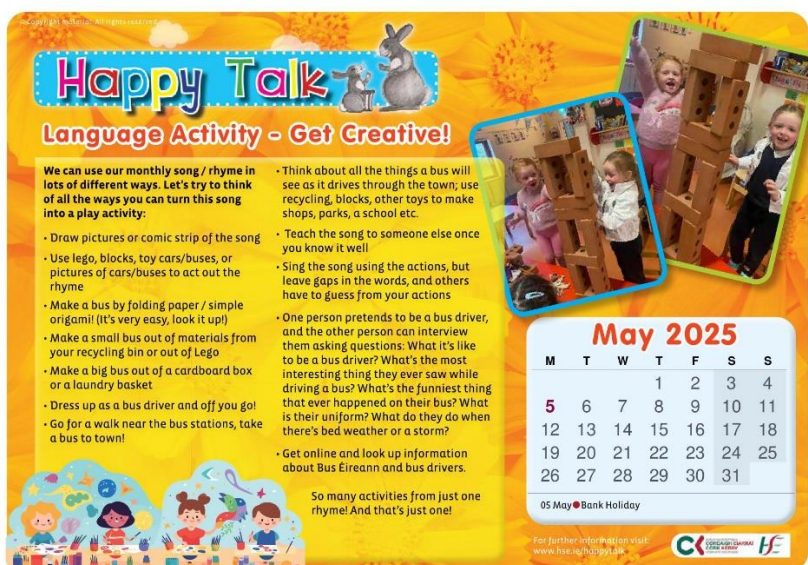
A guide on submitting a change of circumstances review can be found [here](#).

## MMR vaccine and measles awareness

HSE sent out communication on the importance of the MMR vaccine and being measles aware. The letter and poster are attached to this week’s bulletin.

## Happy Talk

Happy Talk for May is attached. This month, the focus is on getting creative with language.



**Happy Talk**  
Language Activity - Get Creative!

We can use our monthly song / rhyme in lots of different ways. Let's try to think of all the ways you can turn this song into a play activity:

- Draw pictures or comic strip of the song
- Use lego, blocks, toy cars/buses, or pictures of cars/buses to act out the rhyme
- Make a bus by folding paper / simple origami! (It's very easy, look it up!)
- Make a small bus out of materials from your recycling bin or out of Lego
- Make a big bus out of a cardboard box or a laundry basket
- Dress up as a bus driver and off you go!
- Go for a walk near the bus stations, take a bus to town!

- Think about all the things a bus will see as it drives through the town, use recycling, blocks, other toys to make shops, parks, a school etc.
- Teach the song to someone else once you know it well!
- Sing the song using the actions, but leave gaps in the words, and others have to guess from your actions
- One person pretends to be a bus driver, and the other person can interview them asking questions: What it's like to be a bus driver? What's the most interesting thing they ever saw while driving a bus? What's the funniest thing that ever happened on their bus? What is their uniform? What do they do when there's bad weather or a storm?
- Get online and look up information about Bus Eireann and bus drivers.

So many activities from just one rhyme! And that's just one!

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

05 May Bank Holiday

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



**Happy Talk**  
May 2025

**Blowing Bubbles Mindful Moment**  
For this activity you can use homemade or bought bubbles. You can use a straw and a cup or a bubble wand.  
Invite the children to focus on taking in a deep, slow breath, and exhaling steadily to blow as many bubbles as they can with one breath. Encourage them to pay close attention to the bubbles as they form, detach, and pop or float away. Invite children to pick one bubble and follow it, looking at it until it bursts. Some children may need to learn how to blow. You can practice this activity for a few days using imaginary bubble and practice blowing real bubbles, to get familiar with deep slow breathing.

**Rhyme Time Voices and Games**  
One of our favourite things to do in Happy Talk is to build the rhymes we already know by adding new lines / verses (see Row, Row, Row Your Boat in September). Can you come up with more things that happen on a bus?

**Rhyme The Wheels on the Bus**  
The stop bell on the bus goes ding, ding, ding!  
The passengers on the bus say 'Thank you very much!'  
The driver on the bus says 'You're welcome!'  
Mammies on the bus say 'I love you!'  
The Daddies on the bus go tickle, tickle, tickle!

The babies on the bus say  
'Heel! Heel! Heel!'  
Mammies on the bus say  
'Be careful now!'  
Grannies on the bus say  
'Here's a treat!'  
Friends on the bus say  
'You can sit here!'

What else happens on a bus?

---

## My Little Library 2025

My Little Library 2025 information is attached.

Please share it with families using your service.

---

## Pre- Registration Training for Childminders

Kerry County Childcare Committee are offering an online Pre-Registration Training for Childminders.  
(see details below)

This is a mandatory training programme for childminders who wish to register with Tusla. This training will support you to understand the new childminding regulations and will provide you with all the information required to register with Tusla. This is a FREE training course and takes approx. 7 hours to complete. There is no assessment, and you will be issued a certificate upon completion. There is no expiry date for this training certificate.

To register please contact Amy on [amy@kerrycountychildcare.com](mailto:amy@kerrycountychildcare.com)

## PRE-REGISTRATION TRAINING FOR CHILDMINDERS

**Information on:**

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



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

Online

TRAINING DATES

TUESDAY JUNE 10TH 2025  
7PM TO 9PM

SATURDAY JUNE 14TH 2025  
9AM TO 1:30PM

THIS TRAINING IS A REQUIREMENT FOR TUSLA REGISTRATION

**For Bookings contact:**

**Amy on 0877885114**  
amy@kerrycountychildcare.com

## Childminders Network Event

Kerry CCC are hosting a Childminding Network meeting on the 14/05/2025. There will be a Guest speaker from Kerry Local Enterprise Office who will provide information on Mentoring and Training and Financial Planning Supports available to Childminders. For bookings please contact [amy@kerrycountychildcare.com](mailto:amy@kerrycountychildcare.com)



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

## Childminding Network Event

Meet other childminders and obtain information on Financial Planning and Mentoring and Training

Kerry Local Enterprise Office will be here on the night to give information on business supports available and training for Childminders

Mentoring & Training

Financial Planning

📅 Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025
🕒 Time: 7.30pm

RSVP - AMY 087 7885114

📍 Location  
Kerry County Childcare Committee Office, Tralee

**Opportunity to meet other childminders, share information and get ideas.**




## Kerry County Childcare Committee Website and Facebook Page

Have you visited the [Providers Information section](#) on our website? Updates and information are posted regularly.



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 ManagementInfectiousDisease.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