

# Weekly Bulletin - This Week in Childcare: 14th July - 18th July 2025

#### **Dear Colleagues**

These are the deadlines, information, and announcements for the week of 14th July – 18th July 2025.

#### **DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:**

22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025 AIM Level 1 applications open

31st July 2025 QIPP Report Template recommended completion date

#### **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

#### AIM Level 1

Applications for existing graduates will open on 22 July for AIM Level 1.

Guidelines on submitting an application can be accessed here.

### QIPP Report Template 2024/2025

The deadline for completing the QIPP end of year report is Thursday, 31 July 2025 on www.cfcrrs.ie. A guidance video is available here or contact Rachel 066 7181582 rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com for support.



# AIM Level Plus and Non-term applications

Please note, additional information is now required when submitting an AIM Level 7 Plus and/or Non-term application for the 2025/2026 programme call. New questions have been added under the 'Session ratio questions' section. See the AIM Hive Guides for support or contact Pamela on 066 7181582 / pamela@kerrycountychildcare.com.

### NCS 2025/26 Funding Agreement

The new National Childcare Scheme (NCS) year begins on 18 August 2025. You must activate the NCS 2025/2026 funding agreement before the current agreement ends to ensure ongoing participation, as claims on NCS CHICKs will be registered across both programme years. Funding cannot be backdated, so please submit this application promptly. For further guidelines, visit Early Years Hive or contact Pamela on 066 7181582 / pamela@kerrycountychildcare.com for support.



CHILDCARE



Tijs An Ghníomhaireacht uns Leanaí agus an Teaghlach

### Late-evening and Weekend School Age Childcare

Under the 2025/2026 Funding Agreement, school-age childcare provided after 7pm on working days and weekend school-age childcare will no longer qualify for NCS subsidies. Exceptions may be granted at the Department's discretion. Contact us on 066 7181582 for details.

#### **Weather Guidance**

The Tusla Early Years Inspectorate has issued comprehensive guidance for early years services to ensure children are kept safe and comfortable both indoors and outdoors in all weathers. The document is available <a href="https://example.com/here.

#### **Tusla Registration Renewal**

All Early Years Services are required to renew registration every three years. The registration date can be found on the current Tusla certificate or checked on the <a href="Early Years">Early Years</a>
Register or the <a href="School Age Register">School Age Register</a>. Please note the following key points:

- Applications must be submitted no later than 2 months before your current certification expires.
- Reregistration can be completed up to 6 months in advance of your expiry date.
- The process requires submission of in-date Garda Vetting for the Registered Provider and the Person in Charge (if different). Current timelines for vetting should be considered.

Failure to reregister in time will result in your removal from the register, and it is an offence to operate an unregistered service. Additional information on re-registration can be found <a href="mailto:here.">here.</a>
Contact Kathryn (<a href="mailto:kathyrn@kerrycountychildcare.com">kerrycountychildcare.com</a>) or Rachel (<a href="mailto:rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com">rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com</a>) for support on 066 718 1582.

### **Updated Garda Vetting**

There is a new Garda Vetting process in place for ELC/SAC services since 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025, and it can take over 2 months to complete. The following now applies:



- TUSLA manage Garda Vetting services for registered providers, including childminders, as
  well as Chairpersons of Boards of Management (where they are the registered provider) and
  board members who have access to children. Further information is available <a href="here.">here.</a>
- Early Childhood Ireland (ECI) manage Garda Vetting services for all employees in ELC and SAC services. For more information, go to the <u>ECI website</u>.
- Barnardos no longer provide vetting services.

If you have any queries on Garda Vetting please contact Kathryn

(kathyrn@kerrycountychildcare.com) or Rachel (rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com) for support on 066 718 1582.



Garda vetting for each staff member must be **renewed every three years**. It is a breach of regulation for staff to continue working with children where their vetting has expired.

# **Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary 2025**

Applications for the Learner Fund Graduate Bursary and the



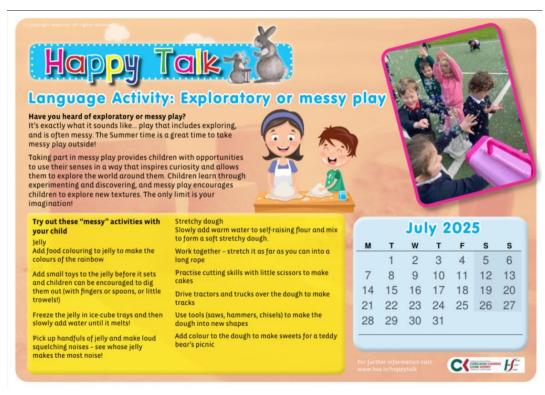
Learner Fund Childminder Bursary will be accepted from 15 September 2025 to 17 October 2025.

More details are available here.



# **Happy Talk**

The July Happy Talk calendar is attached (and below), with this month's focus on messy play.







# **Childminding Pre-Registration Training Course**



Kerry County Childcare Committee are running Pre-Registration Training

Courses for existing and potential childminders. If you are interested in attending the Pre-Registration Training Course on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2025 in Killarney from 9am – 5pm, please email contact Amy on 087 788 5114 / amy@kerrycountychildcare.com to book your place

Pre-Registration training is a mandatory training programme for childminders who wish to register with Tusla. This training will support participants to understand the new childminding regulations and will provide all the information required to register with Tusla.

This is a *FREE* course and takes approximately 7 hours to complete. There is *no assessment*, and participants will receive a *Certificate of Completion*. There is no expiry date on this certificate. For further information contact Amy on 087 7885114 / <a href="mailto:amy@kerrycountychildcare.com">amy@kerrycountychildcare.com</a> or complete the Expression of Interests form <a href="mailto:here">here</a>.



### **Kerry County Childcare Committee Website and Facebook Page**



We invite you to visit our website <u>here</u> and like and follow our Facebook page <u>here</u> for lots of updates and relevant information.