

Weekly Bulletin – This Week in Childcare: 8th - 12th September 2025

Dear Colleagues

These are the deadlines, information, and announcements for the week of 8th - 12th September 2025.

DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:

15 th September 2025	The Learner Fund Bursary for Graduates and Childminders Opens
30 th September 2025	QIPP Report final deadline

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The Learner Fund Bursary for Graduates and Childminders



The Learner Fund Bursary will open for applications for Graduates and Childminders on 15th September 2025. This year, changes to eligibility and selection criteria of the Learner Fund Bursary will be introduced to align the scheme rules with those of the Nurturing Skills Learner Fund (NSLF). The Learner Fund Bursary amount for 2025 will remain set at €1000 however where the demand for Learner Fund exceeds funding allocations successful applicants will be selected based on the new eligibility and selections criteria. The rules have been amended to reflect an alignment with the NSLF scheme in relation to the eligibility criteria (and the selection criteria in case of excess demand).

Please see attached the application forms for graduates and childminders. For more information, including the rules for the above schemes, please visit the following page on the new Nurturing Skills website: [Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary 2025 | Nurturing Skills](#)

QIPP Report Template 2024/2025



The final deadline for completing the QIPP end of year report is Tuesday 30 September 2025. Services who have not yet submitted their report can so do so via www.cfcrrs.ie. A guidance video is available [here](#). Contact Rachel for further support: rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com

Staff Funding Additional Contribution

This new funding allocation will be released if and when the new Employment Regulation Orders (ERO) are agreed. Further details will be released when the new EROs are agreed.



Online Parent Statement

An issue was identified when printing the 2025/2026 Parent Statement for Partner Services, impacting the Fee Table information from a non-ECCE only Fee Table. This issue is now rectified so services can print the full Parent Statement.



Embracing the Outdoors in the Updated Aistear: CPD Opportunity

Kerry CCC are excited to provide the opportunity for ELC and SAC Educators to attend a free seminar with Dr. Sharon Skehill on the topic of “Embracing the Outdoors in the Updated Aistear”.

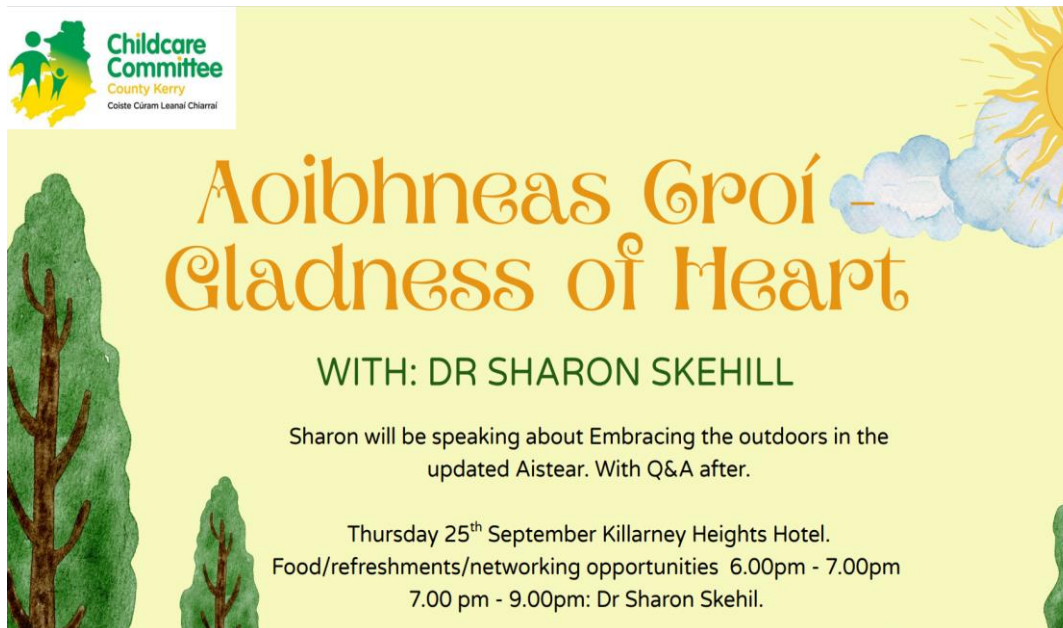
Event Details:

- Date: Thursday 25th September 2025
- Venue: The Killarney Heights Hotel (V93 XKR4)
- Schedule: 6.00pm – 7.00 pm: Registration, food, refreshments and networking opportunity.
7.00pm – 9.00 pm: “Embracing the Outdoors in the Updated Aistear” Dr. Sharon Skehill including Q&A session.

Dr. Sharon Skehill is an Early Years Educator and Researcher at her full daycare outdoor service in Galway. She has been working with babies, toddlers and young children for over 20 years and is a passionate advocate for early childhood education and care. Sharon has been working with the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) as an Education Officer updating Aistear, the early childhood curriculum framework, taking a lead role in the consultation, development and dissemination of the Framework.

We have attached a flyer for you to share with your staff team.

If you are interested in attending, please email eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com and provide the name/s and email address for staff who wish to attend. Places are limited so please book before Thursday 18th September 2025.



Tusla Registration Renewal

All Early Years Services are required to renew registration every 3 years.



The registration date can be found on the current Tusla certificate or checked on the [Early Years Register](#) or the [School Age Register](#).

Please note the following key points:

- Applications must be submitted no later than 2 months before your current certification expires.
- 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 [here](#).

NCS Compliance Session

Pobal are undertaking NCS Compliance sessions covering the following:



- What is a compliance inspection.
- Preparing for a compliance inspection.

- What's new for 2025/2026 programme call.
- The inspection process including the checks conducted, compliance report and rectification actions.

Please register in advance for the session using the link. Each session will cover the same material.

- [Session 1: Monday 15 September 2025 at 2:30pm to 3:30pm](#)
- [Session 2: Tuesday 16 September 2025 at 10:30am to 11:30am](#)
- [Session 3: Tuesday 16 September 2025 at 6:30pm to 7:30pm](#)

National Beep Beep Day

National Beep Beep Day will take place on Friday 10th October 2025. In early September services will be able to order RSA Beep Beep Day packs through www.rsa.ie .

Children First Awareness Week

This year's Children First Awareness Week will take place 15th to 21st September 2025 with the core message "We Are Children First". The aim of Children First Awareness Week is to raise awareness of Children First and remind wider society, including organisations working with children and young people and the wider public, of our collective responsibility to keep them safe in our communities. The campaign supports the implementation of the *Children First Act 2015 and the Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children 2017*, reinforcing the shared responsibility to protect children across all sectors of Irish society.

This year's campaign will focus on parents, guardians, and other responsible adults as the key target audience. The campaign messaging will aim to help parents and guardians to understand what they should expect from organisations working with children on safeguarding matters, including questions to ask on safeguarding policies, reporting procedures, and respectful, supportive engagement. It seeks to equip adults with the knowledge and confidence to ask appropriate questions of organisations about safeguarding matters.

How You Can Support

- Check your setting policies and procedures are up to date and that parents are aware of them.
- Staff have completed relevant training –
 - o [Tusla's Always Children First eLearning Programme](#)
 - o [Tusla's Mandated Person eLearning Module](#)
 - o [Tusla's Designated Liaison Persons \(DLP\) eLearning Module Part A \(This training is not relevant to Childminders\)](#). Or contact your local City and County Childcare Committee.
- Support the social media campaign. If you see any social media posts helping raise awareness of Children First, please share with your team and parents.

Early Learning and Care and School-Age Childcare including childminding resources

Further child safeguarding resources, including information on developing your Child Safeguarding Statement, policies and procedures can be found in the [Child Safeguarding Resource Document: Guidance for Early Learning and Care and School Age Childcare Services in Ireland](#) and on the National Child Safeguarding Programme website <https://chidsafeguardingelc.ie/>

Updated Aistear Workshop - *Additional Session Added**

Kerry CCC are holding a workshop on the updated Aistear framework.



This information packed session will explore the updated language, concepts, principles, guidance for good practice and learning goals in Aistear the Early Childhood Curriculum Framework (2024).

This Session will take place in Kerry County Childcare offices on the following date: **Thursday 2nd October 6.30pm – 9.00pm.**

We appreciate that some people will be coming straight from work, refreshments will be provided on arrival.

Booking Criteria:

- This training is open to Managers/Room leaders/Educators & Tusla registered Childminders in ELC settings.
- Booking is on a first come, first served basis.
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For bookings please email: Eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com

Training for Childminders

Always Children First – Child Safeguarding Awareness for Childminders

Monday 22nd September 6.30pm – 9.30 pm, Kerry CCC office

Wednesday 24th September 6.30pm – 9.30pm, Kerry CCC office

Both sessions must be attended to gain certification

Basic First Aid for Childminders

Saturday 27th September 9.30am – 4.30pm, Torc Hotel Killarney

For bookings contact Amy: amy@kerrycountychildcare.com

Kerry County Childcare Committee Website and Facebook Page



[Website Jobs Board](#) – Local Jobs Board for Kerry

If you would like to place an advert on our Jobs Board please email
elish@kerrycountychildcare.com.

We invite you to visit our website [here](#) and like and follow our Facebook page [here](#) for lots of updates and relevant information.

Kind Regards,

Kerry County Childcare Committee