

Weekly Bulletin – This Week in Childcare: 29th September – 3rd October 2025

Dear Colleagues

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

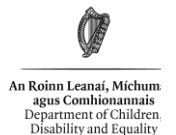
DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:

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| 17 October 2025 | Deadline for the Learner Fund Bursary for Graduates and Childminders |
| 23 October 2025 | AIM L1 application deadline to receive payments from employee start date for 25/26 programme. |

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Immersion Education Webinar

The Department have launched a series of webinars with an emphasis and focus on using and promoting the use of Irish language in Early learning and Care settings. The first webinar takes place on Tuesday 7 October 2025 from 7pm-8pm. Click [here](#) register.



Tapaigh an deis chun freastal ar sheimineár gréasáin trí Ghaeilge dírithe ar an tumoideachas. Seimineár gréasáin d'oideoirí luathbhlianta ag obair i suíomh foghlaim agus cúram na luathóige ag díriú ar an Tumoideachas, deiseanna dea-chleachtais agus an tábhacht a bhaineann le sealbhú teanga na bpáistí a chothú. Déan cuairt ar [Seimineár gréasáin d'oideoirí luathbhlianta ag obair i suíomh foghlaim | Nurturing Skills](#) agus chláraigh anois.

DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:

AIM Level 1 Application Reminder

AIM Level 1 applications for existing graduates opened on the Early Years Hive on Tuesday, 22nd July 2025. New graduates (i.e. graduating in October 2025) can apply when final exam results have been notified by Mary Immaculate College. The AIM Level 1 application supports the increased ECCE capitation, funded by DCDE in recognition of the leadership and mentoring role which is delivered by the Inclusion Co-ordinator during the



2025/2026 pre-school year. AIM Level 1 is an annual application process. Applications received by 5pm on Thursday 23 October 2025 will be awarded the additional capitation from the Inclusion Co-ordinator's employment start date relevant to the 2025/2026 programme year. AIM Level 1 application guidelines can be found [here](#). For further support please contact Pamela: pamela@kerrycountychildcare.com.

Pobal Compliance Inspections



On-site compliance inspections for ECCE (including AIM level 1 & Aim level 7), CCSP and Core Funding will commence shortly. Pobal will deliver webinars on the 13th & 16th October 2025 that cover compliance processes, invitations can be found in the Announcements section of the Early Years Hive. The Pobal Compliance team have uploaded programme compliance support documents which are available under each relevant section [here](#).

Diversity, Equality & Inclusion Training

Kerry CCC are delivering DEI training for any staff in Services who haven't previously participated in the training. If Services who have participated would like to send other staff members, you are welcome to do so. Childminders are also invited to this training. Places will be on a first come first served basis.



Session 1 & 2: Saturday 11th October 2025; 10am – 4.30pm; Kerry CCC office

Sessions 3: Tuesday 14th October 2025, 7.00-9.30pm ONLINE

Session 4: Tuesday 21st October 2025, 6.30-9.30pm, Kerry CCC Office

****All 3 dates must be attended to receive certificate of attendance****

Diversity, equality, and inclusion are fundamental characteristics of quality early learning and care and school age-childcare provision. Many of you have selected this as part of your Quality and Inclusive Practice Plan (QIPP) or could link to Equal Start.

Programme Aim:

The aim of the training programme is to support educators to engage with the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Guidelines. The training aims to foster awareness about Diversity, Equality and Inclusion and to encourage and support those working in the sector to actively advocate for inclusion for all children and their families within the setting.

This training is designed to support and empower you to explore, understand and develop inclusive practices for the benefit of all children, and their families. The training is designed to complement the work of Síolta and Aistear and will offer practical examples of Inclusion in practice. In addition, the training will equip you with practical tools to develop your own Inclusion policy for your service.

DEI Feedback 2025:

“All the staff got involved with DEI training in May 2025 it was one of the most enjoyable and interesting courses to date and I would highly recommend everyone that plans to go into childcare should complete this course it made all the staff reflect on their actions or what we could do better to improve the quality of our setting when it comes to equality”

“I have completed Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Programme with Kerry County Childcare and received my certification I am now dedicated to embracing and celebrating differences. This initiative is integral to shaping a culture of respect and equity within our Montessori, ensuring that all stakeholders—children, parents, and staff—experience an environment where diversity is not only acknowledged but cherished”.

“Myself and my staff team thoroughly enjoyed this training and the journey it took us on, we really understood the diversity of ALL children in our service and greatly appreciated the follow up support received with our Inclusion policy and embedding diversity, equity and inclusion in our service and the starting point the resource box gave us”.

Bookings: please email Kathryn - kathryn@kerrycountychildcare.com.

There is no charge for this training. Please feel free to contact Kathryn if you have any queries.

Also, larger services can avail of the option of Diversity, Equality & Inclusion training as a full staff team, or services can come together as a cluster group for training in their localities – please talk to Kathryn if you want to discuss this training option.

****Each service will receive a DEI resource pack to support their work in this area****

Please note: If your Service has participated in this training in programme years 2022 to 2024 you will have already received this resource pack.



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
kathryn@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