

Weekly Bulletin – This Week in Childcare 8th – 12th December 2025

Dear Colleagues

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

DEADLINES

12th December 2025 Aim Level 7 Review and Confirm

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Vacant Capacity Survey



A countywide vacant capacity survey is now taking place. The survey is designed to gain valuable information that will be used to inform Kerry County Councils Local Community and Economic Plan 2025 – 2030 and Kerry CYPSC’s strategic plan. Thanks to those of you who have already completed the survey.

The survey, which should take approximately *2 minutes of your time (less if you have no vacancies)* aims to capture the following data:

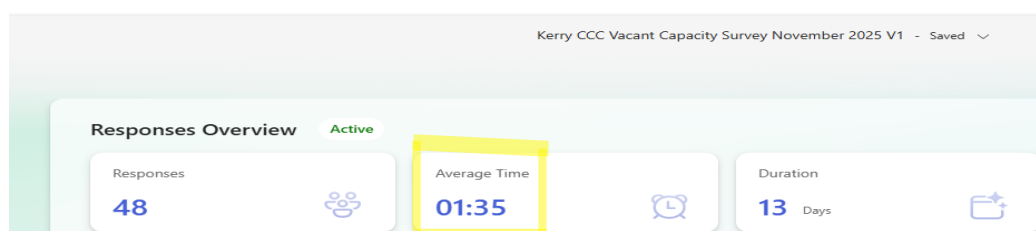
- The number of vacant places you have currently available. A vacant place means immediate availability (staffed) for five days per week.
- The age category of these vacancies.

We would be grateful if you could take the time to complete the survey, ***even if you are operating at full capacity and have no vacancies, we would appreciate you making a return*** as we are keen to provide an accurate reflection of childcare availability in Kerry.

We are asking if you can complete the online survey by the close of business on Monday 15th December.

This is the link to Microsoft forms template for you to complete: [Kerry CCC Vacant Capacity Survey November 2025 V1](#)

If you would prefer to complete the survey over the phone please call Eilish on 066 71 81582.



Force Majeure

In the event of a service closure due to Storm Bram, a Force Majeure application and evidence of the requirement to close must be submitted on HIVE within 5 working days of the closure. The application form can be found [HERE](#) and must be submitted via a Request on Hive

Closures & Changes

Pobal have updated the online process of how to report some changes of circumstance, including change of address, change of ownership, change of legal structure & exit from one or more programmes. Both Service Provider closure and Organisation closure can also be reported online. More information can be found in the links below:



[Webinar recording](#)

[Early Years Hive resources](#)

NCS maintenance- End of Year 2025

It may be necessary to make important changes for the NCS on HIVE as the year comes to an end.



NCS Calendar:

All service closures must be marked on your NCS calendar, closures must be marked as subsidised or not. Retrospective changes cannot be made to the NCS calendar



NCS Weekly Returns:

Weekly reporting requirements remain in place during the Christmas and New Year period.

NCS Bridging Payments:

Services closed for one full week or two consecutive weeks and at least one of the days in this period is designated as a subsidised closure, will be given the option to request a bridging provision of the closed week(s) on the NCS Return one week before closure.

Grace Period:

Services who missed the opportunity to avail of a bridging payment can apply for a grace period payment if they are unable to submit an NCS return due to closure.

Further details on these processes can be found in the Announcement Section.

Primary School Survey

Dept. of Education and Youth's Primary School Survey is due to close on December 16. The survey can be accessed [here](#)

AIM Level 7 Review and Confirm

The closing date for submitting an AIM Level 7 Review and Confirm application for the 2025/2026 programme call is 12 December 2025. If a child at your service had an approved AIM Level 7 application during the 2024/2025 programme call, you must submit an AIM Level 7 Review and Confirm application by 12 December 2025. All applications must be submitted through Early Years Hive. You can find a guide for submitting an AIM Level 7 Review and Confirm application [here](#).



Kerry County Childcare Committee Website and Facebook Page

Follow our Facebook page [here](#) and visit our [Childcare Providers Information](#) and [Childcare Providers Training](#) sections of our website for information updates.



Kind regards

Kerry County Childcare Committee