

This Week in Childcare Weekly Bulletin



Issue 8:2026 Week:23rd- 27th February 2026

Dear Colleagues

These are the announcements for the 23rd – 27th February 2026

DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY 2026



Key Dates

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 Childminding Development Grant - Applications Open. Closes 15/4/2026	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Portal opens for year 3 Core Funding Trial Balance	28 Closes 31/03/2026

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**Barnardos Webinar – Understanding Young Childrens Behaviour
in Early Learning and Care**



****Reminder**** Webinar takes place on:

Date: 3rd March 2026

Time: 18.30pm – 20.30pm

Venue: Online



Core Funding Financial Reporting Requirements for 2024/25



Programme Year

All Partner Services who received Core Funding during the 2024/25 Programme Year are required to engage an accountant to submit a full Trial Balance for Year 3 of Core Funding. The [CFCRRS portal](#) will open from **Friday 27th February 2026** and will close on 31/03/2026. Supporting documents are available [here](#).

Training on the Nurturing Skills Learner Fund (NSLF) Registration, Employment Record and Student Application 2026/2027



The sessions will be held on 4th and 5th March 2026, as applications for the NSLF academic year 2026/2027 will open shortly. The training will demonstrate the following:

- What is the Nurturing Skills Learner Fund
- Applicant eligibility criteria
- Registering to the NSLF Portal
- Completing the Employment Record
- Student Application
- Key point recap with the NSLF team

4th March 2026, 6:30 pm: [Session 1 Registration Link](#)

5th March 2026, 10:00 am: [Session 2 Registration Link](#)

The same content will be covered in both sessions. A recording will be made available on the Early Years Hive and the NSLF Student Portal along with the PowerPoint slides once the training has been completed.

For eligibility criteria and information for Continuing Students, see Hive announcement dated 24th February 2026.

Online AIM Information Sessions – Parents and Providers

The Better Start AIM team are hosting two online AIM information sessions, one for Providers and one for Parents. Details for both are outlined below. We would be grateful if you could pass this information on to any parents that you know who might be interested and, if possible, share the attached poster on your Social Media.

AIM Information Sessions for Providers

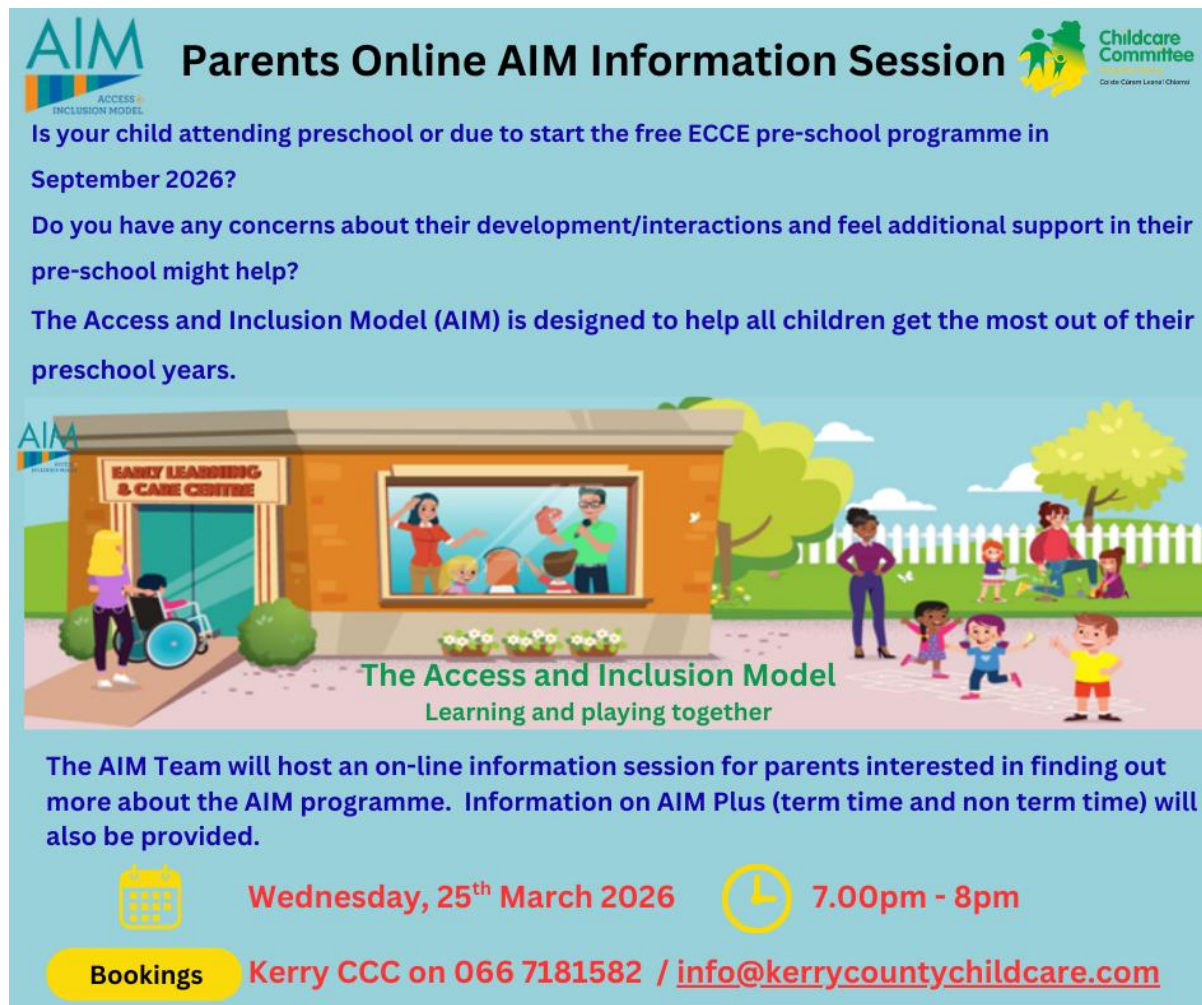
Date: Tuesday 24/03/2026 Time: 19.00 - 20.00


Bookings: eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com

AIM Information Sessions for Parents


Date: Wednesday 25/03/2026 Time: 19.00 - 20.00

Bookings: info@kerrycountychildcare.com or phone on 066 7181582





AIM Parents Online AIM Information Session 

Is your child attending preschool or due to start the free ECCE pre-school programme in September 2026?
Do you have any concerns about their development/interactions and feel additional support in their pre-school might help?
The Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) is designed to help all children get the most out of their preschool years.



The Access and Inclusion Model
Learning and playing together

The AIM Team will host an on-line information session for parents interested in finding out more about the AIM programme. Information on AIM Plus (term time and non term time) will also be provided.

 **Wednesday, 25th March 2026**  **7.00pm - 8pm**

Bookings Kerry CCC on 066 7181582 / info@kerrycountychildcare.com

QIPP Report Template 2025/26 is Open for Completion

The Core Funding Quality and Inclusive Practice Plan (QIPP) Report Template 2025/26 is now open on the Core Funding Contractual Requirements Reporting System Portal <https://www.cfcrrs.ie/>

The deadline for completion of the 2025/26 QIPP Report is **Friday 31 July 2026**.

For support please contact Rachel: 066 7181582 / rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com

Childminding Development Grant 2026

The Childminding Development Grant is open for applications until Wednesday, 15th April 2026.

For further information about the Childminding Development Grant 2026, including the application form, contact Amy: 087 7885114 / amy@kerrycountychildcare.com



**National Action Plan
for Childminding**
2021-2028

The First Five Years and School-Age Childcare Consultation Survey

Minister for Children, Disability and Equality, Norma Foley, today launched a new 12 question survey for parents, early years educators, providers and other stakeholders as part of the National Conversation on Education. The survey seeks views on priorities for early learning and care, school-age childcare and childminding. The online survey can be accessed [here](#).



An Roinn Leanaí, Michuma agus Comhionannais
Department of Children,
Disability and Equality

Free Job Vacancy Advertising on our Website

<https://www.kerrycountychildcare.com/local-jobs-board-for-kerry/>

If you would like to post an advert please contact 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

