

This Week in Childcare Weekly Bulletin



Issue 30: 27th – 31st July 2026

Dear Colleagues

These are the announcements for the 27th – 31st July 2026



DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES

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| 31st July 2026 | QIPP end of year report (***today***) |
| 14th August 2026 | Closing date for AIM non-term application for 2025/26 |
| 1st – 31st August 2026 | Core Funding August Review and Confirm Window |

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Fee Increase Assessment/Sustainability Review 2026

The Department has announced a new Fee Increase Assessment (FIA) process, known as the Sustainability Review 2026/2027. Partner Services charging very low fees may apply for approval to increase up to an approved level. Applications will open during Autumn 2026 for a limited cohort of eligible services. The process has been designed to balance the need to protect affordability for parents with the need to support the financial sustainability of services charging the lowest fees in the sector.

Eligible Partner Services will be contacted by their local CCC. The full press release can be accessed [here](#).



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

Core Funding August Review and Confirm Window

The August Review and Confirm window will open from 1st August to 31st August 2026. Partner Services who have submitted their 2026/2027 Core Funding application on or before 31st August must complete the August Review and Confirm to allow Core Funding payments to commence.

If a Partner Service does not complete the Review and Confirm process within the required timeframe, Core Funding payments will be placed on hold until such a time as the process is completed. Failure to complete the Review and Confirm may result in a Core Funding application being declined.

Partner Services who submit their original 2026/2027 Core Funding application on or before 31st August, will have their Base Rate capped at their approved August Review and Confirm Base Rate value.



AIM Non-term Application for 2025/26

Services who have submitted an AIM L7 Standard Application for 25/26 and want to avail of non-term support for the summer period, are asked to submit any AIM non-term applications before Friday 14th August 2026. Further information is available in the Announcement section of HIVE.



New NCS Co-payment Functionality Training Invite

The new NCS co-payment functionality is due to be available from today 31st July 2026. The recording and slides of the training webinar held on 23rd July are available [here](#). A repeat of this online training is scheduled for Thursday 27th August. A link to register your attendance will be available in the Announcement section of EY Hive in the coming weeks. Resources to support providers when submitting NCS claims using this new co-payment functionality will also be made available on the EY Hive in due course.



AIM Level 7 Reviews

The review functionality for AIM Level 7 2026/27 applications is not yet available on the EY Hive. As a temporary measure until this functionality becomes available, reviews will be processed manually through the Requests page on the EY Hive. The AIM Level 7 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is available [here](#). An animation video which explains AIM Level Support Levels is also available for providers [here](#).



Having Fun with Irish Rhymes – No Irish required!

Kerry CCC are excited to host this interactive workshop with Áine Ní Shúilleabháin author of Bróga Nua.



Would you like to improve your confidence using Irish, and introduce more Irish into your setting? We invite early years and school aged educators, and Childminders to join us to discover simple tips and practical examples of having fun with Irish.

Remember no Irish is required to participate in this workshop!

Workshop details

Date: 10th September 2026

Time: 18.30pm - 20.00pm

Location: Kerry County Childcare Committee Office V92 DA22

Bookings limited to 2 per service.

However, you have the option to request additional staff to be placed on a waiting list, and we will allocate extra spaces if they become available. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Each service will receive a resource pack upon completion of the workshop.



Having Fun with Irish Rhymes

Kerry CCC are excited to host this interactive workshop with Áine Ní Shúilleabháin author of *Bróga Nua*. Join us to discover simple tips and practical examples on having fun with Irish in your setting.

No Irish required!

 **Thursday 10th September 2026**

 **6.30pm – 8.00pm.**

 **Kerry County Childcare Office**



Free to all ELC and SAC Educators and Childminders
Booking essential, limited spaces available

Bookings: info@kerrycountychildcare.com
066 71 81 582



Aistear in Practice

Aistear in Practice is a series of online mentoring sessions developed by Better Start to support reflection on practice linked to Aistear, with a focus on quality inclusive experiences for all children. The series will take place throughout August and September and will include three sessions covering The Key Person Approach, Babies, Toddlers and Young Children's Schemas and Emergent & Inquiry-Based Curriculum. Further information and link to register can be found [here](#).



Free Vacancy Advertising - Kerry CCC – Jobsboard

You can advertise your vacancies for free on our [Jobsboard](#).

E-mail Kathryn (kathryn@kerrycountychildccare.com) with the details and we will post the position for you. We can also design your advert if required.

We post regular links to the Jobsboard from our Facebook page (1.5K followers) and from our new Instagram account.

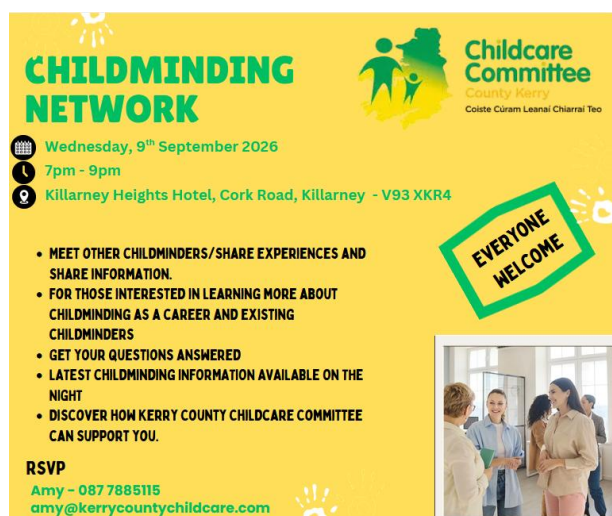


Folic Acid

The Department of Health are examining the potential benefits of the addition of folic acid to flour, to help reduce the number of babies who are born with neural tube defects. The Department is carrying out a public consultation to get views on this proposal. The results of this consultation will help inform Government future policy decisions. If you wish to contribute to the consultation, please click on this [link](#).

Childminders Network Meeting – 9th September 2026

Open to all existing Childminders and those considering Childminding as a career.



CHILDMINDING NETWORK

Childcare Committee
County Kerry
Coiste Cúram Leanaí Chiarraí Teo

Wednesday, 9th September 2026
7pm - 9pm
Killarney Heights Hotel, Cork Road, Killarney - V93 XKR4

EVERYONE WELCOME

- MEET OTHER CHILDMINDERS/SHARE EXPERIENCES AND SHARE INFORMATION.
- FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT CHILDMINDING AS A CAREER AND EXISTING CHILDMINDERS
- GET YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED
- LATEST CHILDMINDING INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE NIGHT
- DISCOVER HOW KERRY COUNTY CHILDCARE COMMITTEE CAN SUPPORT YOU.

RSVP
Amy - 087 7885115
amy@kerrycountychildcare.com



For further information or an informal chat about what is involved please contact Amy on 087 7885115

Childminders Online Webinar – Understanding Young Childrens Behaviour



FREE ONLINE WEBINAR

Understanding Young Children's Behaviour

The aim of this workshop is to support Childminders in understanding the factors that influence children's behaviour and to see behaviour as communication

WEBINAR DETAILS

Thursday 13th August 2026
18:30-20:30
Online
For more information: aoife.roche@clarechildcare.ie

HOW TO BOOK:

BOOK VIA EVENTBRITE



HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/19909703990327
AFF=ODDTDTCREATOR

Barnardos 

Kerry County Childcare Committee

We invite you to follow our Instagram page [here](#), visit our website [here](#) and like and follow our [Facebook](#) page for updates and relevant content.

Enjoy the Bank Holiday weekend!

Kind regards,

Kerry County Childcare Committee

