

This Week in Childcare Weekly Bulletin



Issue 33: 17th – 21st August 2026

Dear Colleagues

These are the announcements for the 17th – 21st August 2026



DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES

31st August 2026 Closing date for Core Funding August Review and Confirm Window

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Having Fun with Irish Rhymes – No Irish required!

5 spaces remaining



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.

Bookings: Email: Kathryn@kerrycountychildcare.com

Childcare Committee
County Kerry
Coiste Cúram Leanaí Chiarraí Teo

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

Bróga Nua 1
Áine Ní Shúilleabháin

Core Funding August Review and Confirm Window

The August Review and Confirm window is open from 1st August to 31st August 2026. Please see the [Review and Confirm how to video](#) for more information.



Application changes for year 4 Core Funding 2025-2026

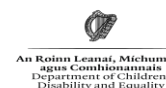
A gentle reminder to all Partner Services that Core Funding Programme Year 4 (2025/2026) closes on 31st August 2026. **Partner Services will have until 4 pm on 30th September 2026** to submit Application Changes as required to ensure their application information is correct. Please see these [helpful Videos](#) on the Hive for further information on how to apply application changes and update due dates.



Fee Increase Assessment/Sustainability Review 2026

The Department has announced a new Fee Increase Assessment (FIA) process, known as the Sustainability Review 2026/2027. Eligible Partner Services will be contacted by their local CCC.

Eligible Partner Services charging very low fees may apply for approval to increase up to an approved level once they have been contacted by their CCC. Further information will be available shortly.



Preliminary Payments for ECCE

Preliminary Payment ECCE: 21st, 28th August & 4th September 2026

If you activate your funding agreement after these dates, you can still receive a preliminary payment. It will be included in a later payment run.

CCSP Saver Programme 2026

The Community Childcare Subvention Plus (CCSP) Saver Programme is now open for the 2026/2027 programme year. [Guidance](#) and [documentation](#) are available on the Early Years Portal.

AIM Level 7 Confirmation Form

Service providers who have submitted an AIM Level 4 application and indicated that they wish to avail of AIM Level 7 support for the 2026/2027 programme call, and who have received their notification for the preliminary support award, must submit this confirmation form to avail of the support. Where there are active ECCE and NCS registrations for a child, support for all registered hours will be awarded automatically following the submission of the AIM Level 7 confirmation form. Therefore, if a service provider does not require all supports awarded to a child (i.e. NCS hours), a request must be submitted on the Early Years Hive advising of this. More information is available in the announcement dated 13th August.



Core Funding Staff Funding Annual Contribution

Update issued on 17th August regarding Staff Funding Additional Contribution can be accessed [here](#). FAQ in relation to the Joint Labour Committee process and Employment Regulations Orders available [here](#).



Exciting Ways to Teach Nature

Killarney National Park Education Centre are facilitating two afternoon sessions on the topic of “Exciting Ways to Teach Nature”. These sessions will focus on practical skills and hands-on learning that you can bring back and share with the children in your services, they will be both engaging and highly beneficial.

The sessions will take place on Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th 1.30pm – 4.30pm approx. You can attend just one, or both, sessions.

Meeting At The Old School House Killarney National Park.

Please wear walking shoes/runners & long trousers & dress appropriately for the weather!!!!

If you are interested in booking a place, please email rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com



Exciting Ways to Teach Nature

Killarney National Park Education Centre are facilitating two afternoon sessions on the topic of “Exciting Ways to Teach Nature”.

The sessions will focus on practical skills and hands-on learning that you can bring back and share with the children in your services, they will be both engaging and highly beneficial.

Please wear walking shoes/runners & long trousers & dress appropriately for the weather!!!!

You can book one, or both, sessions – spaces are limited

Tuesday 25th August & Wednesday 26th August 2026

1.30pm – 4.30pm approx.

Meeting At The Old School House Killarney National Park

Bookings: elish@kerrycountychildcare.com



Early Years Documentary

A new documentary celebrating the impact of pre-school education in Ireland will be shown on Virgin Media at 12 pm on Saturday 29th August. The documentary is a wonderful opportunity to highlight the important work that takes place every day and the difference it makes in the lives of children and families.

An introduction to Aistear Síolta and the Practice Guide

An updated ‘Introduction to Aistear, Síolta and the Aistear Síolta Practice Guide’ professional development module is now available online. This module has been updated to reflect changes to Aistear in 2024. The e-learning module is self-paced, and educators can sign up via the Nurturing Skills website. Further information available [here](#).



Children First Training for Members of Boards, Committees, Employers and Owners

Tusla have developed a 60-minute eLearning module to provide information and understanding of their role, essential governance and oversight. The module can be accessed [here](#). It is also recommended that these personnel complete the [Tusla Childrens First eLearning programme](#).



Barnardo's Training

Barnardo's have launched a range of free early years practice development webinars.

Click [here](#) for further information.

The logo for Barnardo's, featuring the word "Barnardos" in a serif font with a small graphic of three figures above the 'o's.

Transitions from preschool to primary school information sessions

The National Parent Council are offering free online information sessions on Monday 24 August at 10am & 7:30pm to book click [here](#).

Online Focus Group on review of the initial implementation of childminding regulations

Are you a childminder or parent? Our online childminding focus groups will provide an opportunity for childminders and parents to share their views and experiences.



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

The Department of Children, Disability and Equality (DCDE) is inviting childminders and parents to share their experiences and perspectives on the implementation of the new childminding regulations. Feedback gathered through these focus groups will help inform the ongoing review of the regulations and shape future developments in the childminding sector. This is an opportunity to discuss how the regulations are working in practice, the supports available to childminders, any challenges or barriers to registration and compliance, and suggestions for how the system could be improved to better meet the needs of childminders, children and families.

To have your say and join a focus group, [book your place now](#)

Let's talk childminding, make your voice heard!

Childminders play an important role in the lives of children and families across Ireland. New regulations introduced in 2024 are designed to reflect the home setting in which childminders work, while supporting quality and safeguarding children. The regulations are now being reviewed to get an understanding of how they are working in practice. Your voice matters.



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

Find out more about the review here <https://www.letstalkchildminding.ie/> and share your views by taking part in our survey here [Have your say](#)

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.



**Childcare
Committee
County Kerry**
Coiste Cúram Leanaí Chiarraí

Kind regards,

Kerry County Childcare Committee