

This Week in Childcare Weekly Bulletin



Issue 34: 24th – 28th August 2026

Dear Colleagues

These are the announcements for the 24th – 28th 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!



3 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.

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

Bookings: Email: Kathryn@kerrycountychildcare.com

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

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](#).



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](#).



National Beep Beep Day 2026

National Beep Beep Day will take place on Friday, 9th October, during Irish Road Safety Week.

In early September, their online ordering facility will be open through www.rsa.ie.

It is important that childcare providers place their orders for RSA Beep Beep Day packs without delay to have them in time for National Beep Beep Day. Note, this online ordering facility will strictly not open until early September and no requests for campaign material will be accepted before that time.

Preschools can order high visibility vests this year as well as Simon and Friends booklets and posters all of which are invaluable when practising basic road safety skills with the children.

Should you have any queries or difficulties, please feel free to email education@rsa.ie.



Barnardo's Training

Barnardo's have launched a range of free early years practice development webinars. Click [here](#) for further information.



Free online CPD Webinars

Kerry CCC and Child & Adolescent Psychotherapist Hayley Rice are excited to host two online webinars for ELC and SAC Educators.

Participants may book onto one or both webinars.

One form per participant

Details on the webinars are below:

Supporting Big Emotions - Online

Sept 4th 2026

19.00 – 21.00

This practical session will explore what's happening beneath children's big emotions and how we can support regulation, connection and sensory needs.

Join the session and go away with:

- A clearer understanding of what's happening in the nervous system during big emotions
- Greater confidence in recognising regulation and dysregulation
- An understanding of how sensory needs can influence emotions and behaviour
- An introduction to the eight sensory systems and why they matter
- Practical sensory and movement-based strategies to support regulation
- Simple ways to create environments that help children feel safe, regulated and ready to engage

Understanding and Responding to Behaviour - Online

8th Oct 2026

19.00 – 21.00

Explore how we can look beneath behaviour, respond rather than react, and support children with clear, relational and developmentally appropriate boundaries.

Join the session and go away with:

- A better understanding of what children may be communicating through their behaviour
- Practical tools for responding rather than reacting in challenging moments
- Greater confidence in setting and holding clear, appropriate boundaries
- Strategies for moving from punishment towards teaching and skill-building
- Relational approaches that balance connection with accountability
- Practical language and responses you can use in everyday situations

Bookings: [Hayley Rice Webinars – Fill in form](#)

Childcare Committee
County Kerry
Cuideirín Clárú Leanaí Oibríoch

CPD Webinars
for ELC, SAC Educators and Childminders

Join Child & Adolescent Psychotherapist Hayley Rice for two practical online webinars:

Supporting Big Emotions
Sept 24th 2026
19.00 – 21.00
This practical session will explore what's happening beneath children's big emotions and how we can support regulation, connection and sensory needs.

Understanding and Responding to Behaviour
8th Oct 2026
19.00 – 21.00
Explore how we can look beneath behaviour, respond rather than react, and support children with clear, relational and developmentally appropriate boundaries.

Bookings via MS Forms
Participants can book one or both webinars
Please specify webinar/s you are booking and ensure your email address is included to receive the links.

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.

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](#)



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

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