

This Week in Childcare Weekly Bulletin



Issue 37: 7th – 11th September 2026

Dear Colleagues

These are the announcements for the 7th– 11th September 2026



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Fee Table and Parent Statement Approvals Process 2026/2027



The Fee Table & Parent Statement Approval Process has begun for 2026/27. Pamela will be in contact with you once she has reviewed the fee table & parent statement for your service. This new process is more complex than approval processes we have completed in previous years. Every effort is being made to review fee tables and parent statements promptly, your patience will be greatly appreciated over the coming weeks and months. Further information on the approvals process can be found in the DCDE announcement, attached.

Core Funding Partner Service Funding Agreement



Partner Services have 21 days after submitting a Core Funding Application Module to activate the Core Funding Partner Service Funding Agreement 2026 or the Application Module will be cancelled and will need to be re-submitted. Partner Services, who do not accept their Core Funding Partner Service Funding Agreement 2026, on or before 6 September, will not receive the full 52 weeks of allocations, as Core Funding allocations will be representative of an entitlement from the first Monday for the first allocation week of the programme year, or the Monday of the week the Funding Agreement is accepted, whichever is later. This also applies to Service Providers who are also eligible for Equal Start Staffing Supports for the start of the 26/27 Programme year.

NCS Compliance Inspections 2026/27



As the new NCS year begins, Pobal have confirmed that NCS on-site inspections will continue to take place. Pobal recommends collating a Compliance File which can be readily available to the Visiting Officer on arrival. NCS Compliance 2026/2027 training will be held 15 and 16 September. Registration Links below:

[Session 1: Tuesday, 15 September, 10:30 am](#)

[Session 2: Tuesday, 15 September, 6:30 pm](#)

[Session 3: Wednesday, 16 September, 2:30 pm](#)

Free online CPD Webinars

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

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](#)



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.



Bia Blasta

If you are an existing Bia Blasta service or are a new Bia Blasta service who has received an invite from DCDE to participate, please review the Announcement on Hive dated 31st August 2026 to check the next steps needed to ensure funding is allocated.

Equal Start



Equal Start Staffing Supports programme year 2026/2027 is now open and will operate from 1st September 2026 to 31st August 2027.

Services eligible for Equal Start Staffing Supports will have received a notification on the Early Years Hive. Further information on Equal start can be found [here](#).

2026 Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Forum

The 2026 Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Forum takes place in Croke Park, Dublin on 17th November 2026. Information on the forum and links to register your interest in attending can be found [here](#)

AIM Level 7 Redesign

As part of the redesign of AIM Level 7 programme, an announcement has been shared on HIVE compiling all relevant information. To access this information please see announcement on HIVE dated 10th September 2026.



Tusla Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice



Tusla have published a Regulatory Notice regarding First Aid Requirements in pre-school services. This notice applies only to pre-school services not to School Age of Childminding services. [Click here for notice.](#)

Road Safety Week

Takes place 05th – 12th October 2026. The RSA has helpful information and resources available via their [webpage](#). Packs for national Beep Beep Day are available to order, please note stocks are limited.



Nurturing Skills

This website is your central hub to find information on how the Government is supporting your profession, how you can advance your skills, how you can plan your career and how you can enter the profession. You will find information on Career development, Qualifications, the learning hub with learning programmes and an array or resources to support your further development, support practice, and personal growth. You can access the nurturing skills webpage [here](#).

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](#)

Focus Group on review of the initial implementation of childminding regulations

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](#)

In-person Focus Group 3 – Clayton Silver Springs, Cork City, Tuesday, September 15th 2026 from 19:00 – 20:30 - [Link](#)

CPD Webinar for Lead Educators, Assistant Managers and Managers

Childcare Committee
County Kerry
Coliste Cúram Leanaí Chiarraí

CPD Webinar
for Lead Educators, Assistant Managers and Managers

Leadership – Communicating with Clarity and Confidence

Tuesday 6th October 2026
7.00pm – 9.00pm

Join Maureen McOwen (Soft Skills Success) for this online interactive workshop aimed at developing your leadership skills and providing practical tips on communicating effectively with colleagues, parents, team members, Board members and other key stakeholders.

Limited spaces available

Bookings:
eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com
066 7181582

Kerry CCC and Maureen McOwen (Soft Skills for Success) are excited to host this online webinar for Lead Educators, Deputy Manager and Managers.

Limited Spaces Available

Bookings: eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com

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.



Kind regards,

Kerry County Childcare Committee