

This Week in Childcare Weekly Bulletin

Issue 40: 28th Sept – 2nd October 2026



Dear Colleagues

These are the announcements for the 28th Sept – 2nd October



2026

DEADLINES/IMPORTANT DATES

9 th October 2026	Learner Fund Bursary for Graduates and Childminders close
2 nd November 2026	QIPP Plan closes for programme year 2026/2027

FOR YOUR INFORMATION



Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary 2026

The 2026 Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary is now open for applications and will close at 5pm on Friday 9th October 2026. For applications forms email elish@kerrycountychildcare.com. Completed applications must be received within the deadline by Kerry County Childcare Committee, we will then process applications, for appraisal by the DCDE.

2026/2027 Quality and Inclusive Plan (QIP)



The 2026/27 Quality and Inclusive Plan (QIP Plan) template opened on the Core Funding Contractual Requirements Reporting System www.cfcrrs.ie this week. The deadline for submission of the 2026/27 QIP Plan is Monday 2nd November 2026. The 2026/27 QIP Plan guidance document and Technical Guidance Videos can be found [here](#). Rachel is available to support with the submission of QIP's - rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com

AIM Level 7 Review functionality



AIM Level 7 Review functionality is now available on the Early Years Hive. There are two types of reviews available:

1. Child Needs Reviews
2. Service Needs Reviews

Service Providers should submit all Child Needs Reviews and Service Needs Reviews through the Early Years Hive. From 25th September 2026, reviews should no longer be submitted through the Requests page on Early Years Hive. Reviews submitted on or before 24th September 2026 through the Requests page will continue to be worked on. Services do not need to submit duplicate requests.

Where a child does not require AIM Level 7 support during their National Childcare Scheme (NCS) hours, including NCS Wraparound and NCS Only hours, the service is required to submit a Service Need Review. Following the redesign of AIM Level 7, support is now automatically awarded during NCS hours for children with a confirmed NCS claim once their AIM Level 7 Confirmation Form has been confirmed. As a result, the process has changed from an opt-in model to an opt-out model.

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. For further information or support please contact Pamela: pamela@kerrycountychildcare.com



AIM Level 1 Application Process for new Graduates

The AIM Level 1 application process has opened on EY Hive for services with new graduates of the LINC programme. Applications received by **5pm on Thursday 22nd October 2026** will be awarded the additional capitation from the Inclusion Co-Ordinator's employment start date relevant to the 2026/2027 programme year. **Applicants are encouraged to apply early, as any applications received after this date will not be backdated.** Guidance on applications can be found [here](#)



National Síolta Aistear Initiative: Maths Week Webinars

This webinar will explore basic math's concepts in early childhood and support educators to 'use their math's eyes' to find the math's in everything they do. The webinar will take place on 8th October, 7.00pm - 8.30 pm. For more information and to book a place, please go to [National Síolta Aistear Initiative: Maths Week Webinars - Better Start](#)



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](#)

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.



CPD Webinar for Lead Educators, Assistant Managers and Managers ***2 spaces remaining***



Childcare Committee
County Kerry
Coiste 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

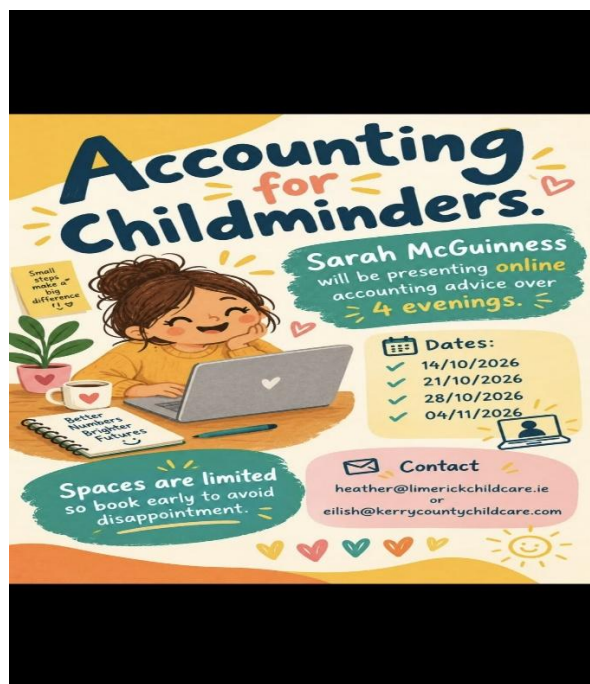
Bookings:
✉ eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com
☎ 066 7181582

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

Accounting for Childminders – Sarah McGuinness



Accounting for Childminders.

Sarah McGuinness will be presenting **online** accounting advice over **4 evenings.**

Dates:
✓ 14/10/2026
✓ 21/10/2026
✓ 28/10/2026
✓ 04/11/2026

Contact
heather@limerickchildcare.ie
or
eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com

Spaces are limited so book early to avoid disappointment.

Online accounting advice for Childminders

The first 2 sessions are 6.45 to 8.45pm (2 hours) and the second 2 are

6.45pm to 9.15pm (2.5 hours).

The last 2 sessions are looking at taxation so more time is needed.

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

