

# This Week in Childcare Weekly Bulletin

**Issue 42: 12<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> October 2026**



Dear Colleagues

These are the announcements for the 12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2026



## DEADLINES/IMPORTANT DATES

**2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026**

QIPP Plan closes for programme year 2026/2027

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### AIM Level 1 Application Process



Applications for AIM Level 1 for new and existing graduates of the LINC programme received by 5pm on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2026 will be awarded the additional capitation from the Inclusion Co-Ordinator's employment start date relevant to the 2026/2027 programme year. Applications received after this date will not be backdated. Guidance on applications can be found [here](#)

### 2026/2027 Quality and Inclusive Plan (QIP)



The deadline for submission of the 2026/27 QIPP is **Monday 2 November 2026**. The 2026/27 QIPP guidance document and Technical Guidance Videos can be found [here](#).

Rachel is available to support with the submission of QIP's - [rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com](mailto:rachel@kerrycountychildcare.com)

### Mid Term – EY Hive



If your service offers additional care for children over the mid-term break, your calendar and children's registrations should reflect this for the week. You can adjust the hours of attendance if required for the week.

### NCS Refresher Training

Pobal will host an NCS Refresher webinar on 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Click the links to register:

[NCS Refresher Session 1: 21 October, 2:30pm](#)

[NCS Refresher Session 2: 22 October, 10:30am](#)

[NCS refresher Session 3: 22 October, 6:30pm](#)



## 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](mailto:pamela@kerrycountychildcare.com)



## New Aistear Workshops



National *Síolta Aistear* Initiative

### Aistear Workshops

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm - 8.30pm  
KCCC Training Room  
For Bookings: [eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com](mailto:eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com)

**Workshop One: Bringing Aistear's Image of the Baby, Toddler and Young Child to Life in Practice.**

During this workshop we will explore Aistear's image of babies, toddlers & young children, and reflect on what this means for your practice. Identifying ways to bring this image to life in your unique settings.

**Workshop Two: Bringing Aistear's Image of the Educator to life in Practice.**

Explore Aistear's image of the educator, and reflect on how to interpret and represent Aistear within your individual settings.

*Small Resource pack for each service in attendance*

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National *Síolta Aistear* Initiative

### Aistear Workshops

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 6.30pm - 8.30pm  
KCCC Training Room  
For Bookings: [eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com](mailto:eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com)

**Workshop Three: Strengthening Emergent and Enquiry Based Practice.**

Reflect on the importance of and consider how to imbue a rights based, emergent and enquiry based practice in your setting.

**Workshop Four: Exploring education for Sustainable development in Practice.**

Aimed at deepening your understanding of ESD within Aistear and related policy. Supporting educators to recognise and strengthen sustainable practices in their settings.

*Small Resource pack for each service in attendance*

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 18.30 – 20.30**

- 1. Bringing Aistear's Image of the Baby, Toddler and Young Child to Life in Practice &**
- 2. Bringing Aistear's Image of the Educator to Life in Practice**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 18.30 – 20.30**

- 3. Strengthening Emergent and Enquiry based Practice**
- 4. Exploring Education for Sustainable Development in Practice**

Further your knowledge and understanding of the updated Aistear (2024) and explore how the framework can support meaningful learning and development for babies, toddlers, and young children.

These practical workshops will also help services complete their Core Funding Quality and Inclusive Practice Plan for the 2026/27 programme year, as all areas of practice are aligned with the curriculum pillars of the Aistear Síolta Practice Guide.

✉ **Bookings:** [eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com](mailto:eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com)

Max 3 per service

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## Compliance Resources on the Hive

The programme compliance support documents are available on the EY Hive under programme document/[compliance documents](#)

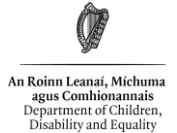


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## National Children's Art Competition – Growing up in Ireland

The DCDE have announced a National Art Competition to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Growing up in Ireland Study. The competition theme is 'Ireland of the Future'. Children aged 4-15 are encouraged to share their hopes, ideas and vision for the future through art. The competition entry form is attached to this email, and the guidance document is available [here](#).

The closing date is 12 noon on *Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026*. Entries can be emailed to [artcompetition@dcde.gov.ie](mailto:artcompetition@dcde.gov.ie)



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## Barnardo's Webinar

### When the Environment Makes Sense: Creating Positive Learning Environments for Under 3's in Early Years



Dr. Geraldine French will present a free webinar on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> October from 7pm-8:30pm. Geraldine will focus on key features of quality provision for children from birth to 3 years. Further information and booking details [here](#)

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## National Childminding Week

National Childminding Week runs from 19<sup>th</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2026. The DCDE will be hosting a series of webinars throughout this week covering a variety of topics. Please see the attached document with all the links to register.



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## 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