This Week in Childcare Weekly Bulletin

Issue 44: 26th-30th October 2026

Dear Colleagues

These are the announcements for the 26th – 30th October 2026

DEADLINES/IMPORTANT DATES

1st November 2026	November Review and Confirm window opens
2nd November 2026	QIPP Plan closes for programme year 2026/2027

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Kerry CCC Office Closure – Contact Arrangements

Please note that our office will be closed on the following dates to facilitate painting and maintenance.

- Monday 2nd November
- Tuesday 3rd November
- Monday 9th November
- Tuesday 10th November

Staff will be working remotely and you can contact us as normal on our office line 066 7181582 and your call will be directed to the relevant member of staff. Alternatively individual staff members can be contacted via email or on their mobile numbers.

November Review and Confirm window

The November Review and Confirm window will open from 1st - 14th November 2026.

Partner Services can complete their Review and Confirm with two options available:

Review and Confirm with Changes

Review and Confirm without Changes

As per the announcements posted on 19th and 22nd October, Partner Services are reminded of the importance of reviewing and ensuring that their Service Profile and Core Funding application information, which is used to calculate Core Funding allocations for Core Funding Programme Year 5 (2026/2027), is accurate and up to date. A guidance video, created by the Department of Children, Disability and Equality's (DCDE), is available HERE to support Partner Services.

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.

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.

Be Winter Ready

Be Winter Ready page provides important details for services on being prepared, keeping informed of weather updates and advisories and decision making on possible service closures.

Please be aware that an application for Force Majeure, including evidence of the requirement to close, must be submitted to Pobal in the event of a service closure within 5 working days.

You can find the application form here, and it must be submitted by a Request on the Early Years Hive, selecting the following dropdown options:

- Request programme type: User Account Management
- Request type: Force Majeure
- Request type detail: Standard Force Majeure

Guidance on Maintaining a Core Funding Application and Service Profile for Programme Year 5

In advance of the commencement of Core Funding Compliance Inspections 2026/2027, the Department of Children, Disability and Equality (DCDE) has developed a document on Maintaining a Core Funding Application and Service Profile for Programme Year 5.

This guidance is a support and reminder for Partner Services to keep their Core Funding Application and Service Profile data up to date to comply with the Terms and Conditions of the Agreement for the provision of Core Funding in Programme Year 5 (2026/2027). The document can be found here.

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 7 Training Session

You are invited to attend an AIM Level 7 end-to-end process training session. The sessions will be held on 5th and 9th November 2026. Join the Early Years Trainers to explore the full AIM Level 7 process and journey through AIM Level 7 scenarios.

In this training session, you will explore the AIM Level 7:

End-to-End Process, Capitations & Allocations, Child-Need & Service-Need Reviews, AIM Level 7 Scenarios

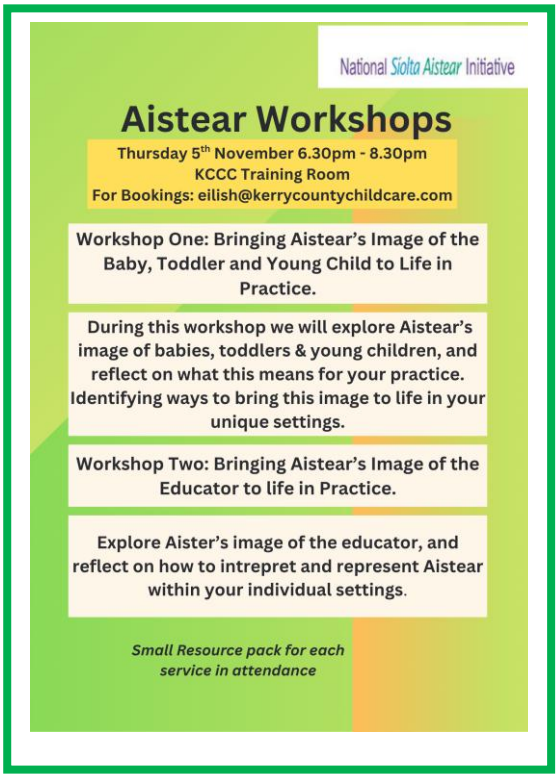
Webinar Registration Links:

AIM Level 7 End to End Process Training - Session 1: 5 November 2026,10:30 am

AIM Level 7 End to End Process Training - Session 2: 5 November 2026, 6:30 pm

AIM Level 7 End to End Process Training - Session 3: 9 November 2026, 2:30 pm

New Aistear Workshops - Kerry County Childcare Committee





Thursday 5th November 18.30 – 20.30 ***4 places remaining***

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 19th November 18.30 – 20.30 ****6 places remaining****

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 Max 3 per service

Christmas Network and Natural Wreath Making Workshop Invitation

We are delighted to invite you and your staff team to an ELC, SAC and Childminders informal social Christmas networking event and Natural Wreath Making Workshop with Mauras Cottage Flowers.
https://www.maurascottageflowers.ie/

This will be an excellent opportunity to meet with colleagues and friends in the sector.
The event will take place in the **Meadowlands Hotel on Thursday 3rd December 2026, commencing 6.30pm.** Refreshments and finger food will be provided.

Places are limited, so initially we will be taking bookings for 4 people per service, but if you would like to add more names, we will be operating a waiting list.



Can you please book your place before Thursday 26th November 2026, remembering to provide details of any dietary requirements.

Bookings: eilish@kerrycountychildcare.com

Webinars for Early Years Educators

1. ***Science in STEAM - Getting Started with Ideas for Science Week 2026 for Early Childhood Educators & Junior/Senior Infant Teachers & SNAs 4.11.26***

   This webinar will provide practical ideas and inspiration to help early childhood educators and infant teachers foster curiosity, exploration, and scientific thinking in meaningful and age-appropriate ways.

   Wednesday 4th November 2026, 7-8 pm, Facilitator: Dr Paula Walshe

   Preschool staff registration link only:

   https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN__5M1SbLFSpKjQ-QTb5iWww

2. ***Exploring AI and AI Literacy with Our Youngest Learners for Early Childhood Educators & junior/Senior Infant Teachers & SNAs 18.11.26***

   This webinar explores how early childhood educators and infant teachers can begin introducing age-appropriate concepts of AI and AI literacy, helping young children develop the skills to engage with emerging technologies thoughtfully, critically, and responsibly.

   Wednesday 18th November 2026, 7-8 pm, Facilitator: Dr Paula Walshe

   Preschool staff registration link only:

   https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wsr7Uu3NR3Kii84rPQiEUw

Happy Halloween!

Kind regards,

Kerry County Childcare Committee



Childcare Committee
County Kerry
Coiste Cúram Leanaí Chiarraí





