



Volume 1 issue 15

Welcome to our weekly
bulletin.

These are the deadlines,
important dates, and
announcements and new
resources for the week 15th –
19th April 2024.

FCCC staff are available via phone & email (Please see below).

- **Gina Daly, Programme Information Officer**
Ph: 087-1972084 or email gina@fingalcountychildcare.ie

- **Mairead Tucker, Lead Development Officer Swords and Surrounding Areas**
Ph: 087 7477553 Email: mairead@fingalcountychildcare.ie

- **Eimear Furlong, Development Officer, Balbriggan and Surrounding Areas (Currently on Maternity Leave – contact info on 01 4851727/info@fingalcountychildcare.ie)**
Ph: 087-1884191 or email eimear@fingalcountychildcare.ie

- **Nicola McKernan, Development Officer, Dublin 15, and Surrounding Areas**
Ph: 087 6025263 or email nicola@fingalcountychildcare.ie

- **Karen Comiskey- Development Officer (Core Funding Support Lead)**
Ph: 087 4705805 or email Karen@fingalcountychildcare.ie

- **Aoife Ball, AIM Project Officer and Ukrainian Support contact.**
Ph: 087 3429757 Email: aoife@fingalcountychildcare.ie

- **Sarah McKenna, Childminding Development Officer (CMDO)**
Ph: 087-4485558 or email sarah@fingalcountychildcare.ie

- **Helen Campbell, Finance & Office Manager**
Ph: 087 104 5197 or email helen@fingalcountychildcare.ie

- **Linda Sammon, Finance Officer**
Ph: 087-7882688 or email linda@fingalcountychildcare.ie

- **Adrienne Doyle, Operations Manager**
Ph: 087- 9217918 or email adrienne@fingalcountychildcare.ie

Notes from FCCC

The FCCC team will be visiting P&T groups, Libraries and Shopping centres in the Fingal area to provide information, advice and support to Parents and Childminders in relation to all areas of childcare. Keep an eye on our FB page for upcoming dates.

We are in **Swords Library**, Rathbeale Road, Commons West, Swords, Co Dublin on **Tuesday April 23rd from 10.30 - 12.30pm**



Fingal CCC have set up a network group (community of professionals)

Latest news in our Network(copp)

The network is growing each week, and we hosted a great information session in collaboration with Better start around the quality development programme. This evolved from discussions at our last face to face meeting. Lots going on the in the WhatsApp chat around making parent handbooks, inspections and supporting each other. We are looking for new ideas and topics so please feel free to call or email if you have ideas or want to join. Let's keep building on making a supportive network.

The goal of this network is to offer support to each other and share ideas. It will be the role of Fingal CCC to facilitate this group in the beginning. The vision is down the line to hand it over to the network group.

To begin with we hope to be meeting once a month or as the group requests. These meetings can be online, face to face or in each others services.

You all have a wealth of knowledge when it comes to ELC and SAC but it can often be isolating or lonely if you are on your own. This group creates a support network for all who join it.

The topics will vary and will be driven by what the group want to discuss or would like more knowledge on.

We have set up a whatsapp group and plan to meet again in March.

We have planted the seed and would love your help in making this grow



For more information please email: karen@fingalcountychildcare.ie or call : 0874705806



DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:

Friday 26th June 2024

Deadline for submission of Core Funding Financial reporting

For your information

Dear Service Providers,

Nurturing Skills Learner Fund Registration and Employment Record

You and your staff are invited to attend sector training on the [Nurturing Skills Learner Fund \(NSLF\)](#) Registrations and Employment record.

N.B. It is very important for staff to be made aware of this training as the new **Fund** aims to assist early years educators to pursue early learning and care (ELC) qualifications.

The training has been scheduled for **Thursday 25/04/2024**. Please see below the links to register with Go To Webinar.

Nurturing skills Learner Fund Registrations SP1

Thursday 25/04/2024 @ 2:30pm – 4:00pm

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8555610476648473436>

Nurturing skills Learner Fund Registrations SP2

Thursday 25/04/2024 @ 6:30pm – 8:00pm

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5903674192359759966>

As part of this training, we will be demonstrating the following:

- What is the Nurturing Skills Learner Fund (NSLF)
- Registering for the NSLF portal
- Completing your Employment Record

A recording of one of the webinars will be made available on the HIVE along with the PowerPoint slides once the training has been complete.

We kindly ask that questions asked on the day are kept to the topic of the NSLF.

Please ensure all staff are made aware of this training and the relevant times and dates.

Thank you.Pobal



Core Funding Reporting Requirement Year 1

As you are aware Partner Services who signed up for Core Funding Year 1 (Sept 22- Aug 23) must now complete a financial report in respect of that year. This financial report consists of an Income & Expenditure report (template is available on Hive> Resources> Programme Documents> Core Funding documents> Core Funding financial reporting requirement year 1)

The Income & Expenditure report will be submitted on a new portal, which will open in two stages:

- The portal will be open to providers to register and to link with their nominated accountant on or before the **29th of April**.
- The portal will be open on or before the **31st of May** to accept completed Income and Expenditure report templates.
- The deadline for submission of the completed Income & Expenditure report template is **26th June**.

You should have received a letter from DCEDIY with further details.

FCCC Core funding support

If you have any question or need support please contact: Karen Comiskey, Development Officer – Core Funding: Mobile: 0874705806 | Email: karen@fingalcountychildcare.ie

AIM Level 7 Compliance webinars (18/04/24)

Dear Service Provider,

Many thanks to all the service providers for their attendance at the AIM Level 7 Compliance webinars held recently.

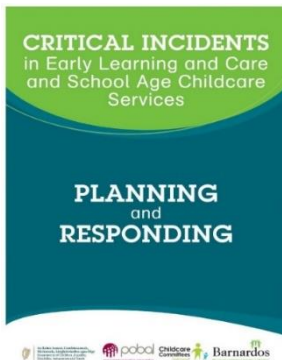
A recording is now available under 'Recorded webinars' in the [Training Videos](#) section on the Hive.

A copy of the PowerPoint slides used during the webinars is available [here](#).

A document containing answers to questions asked during these webinars is currently being developed and will also be available here in due course.

Regards,

The Early Years & Compliance Teams



Critical Incidents in Early Learning and Care and School Age Childcare Services: Planning and Responding

All Early Learning and Care (ELC) and school Age Childcare (SAC) services are required to have a service level Critical Incident Plan as outlined in the Tusla Quality and Regulatory Framework (QRF) and the National Quality Guidelines for School Age Childcare Services. A guide has been developed from previous guidance on critical incidents planning, including the Critical Incident Plan Toolkit and the extensive work of the National Educational Psychological Service (NEPS), to support ELC and SAC services to think about and plan for critical incidents and to have practical supports in place should it be necessary to respond to a critical incident. https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Critical_Incident_Plan_English_Feb2012.pdf



Viral Infections: HSE Guidance for the ELC Sector

Guidance

Measles outbreak

In recent months there has been a rise in cases of measles in parts of the UK and Europe. On 7th February the HSE reported the death of an adult with confirmed measles. This is the first confirmed measles case notified in Ireland in 2024. The HSE is writing to ask for your support in raising awareness among parents, guardians and staff about:

- Watching out for the symptoms of measles
- The importance of the MMR vaccine in protecting children.

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/healthwellbeing/our-priority-programmes/child-health-and-wellbeing/hse-measles-a4-poster.pdf>



Tusla have published a regulatory notice related Services that are found to be Operating Outside of Registration
See Link to this notice : [Booklet](#)



If approval is required for the new academic year starting September 2024, please note the timeframes to submit applications to the Early Years Inspectorate:

- New service applications: 1 June 2024
- Change in circumstances applications: 1 July 2024

[change in circumstances](#)



FINGAL COUNTY
CHILDCARE COMMITTEE
COISTE CÚRAIM LEANAÍCHONTAE FHINE GALL

For Childminders



FINGAL COUNTY
CHILDCARE COMMITTEE
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National Action Plan
for Childminding
2021-2028

PAEDIATRIC FIRST AID FOR CHILDMINDERS

FCCC INVITES CHILDMINDERS
IN THE FINGAL AREA TO
ATTEND PAEDIATRIC FIRST
AID ON THURSDAY 30TH MAY
FROM 6.30-9.30PM

- FREE Training
- Gain a certificate in Paediatric First Aid
- Enter the draw for a free First Aid kit for your childminding Setting
- Meet your CMDO and other Childminders in your area

Venue
Digital Office Centre
Balheary Industrial Park
Balheary Road
Swords
Co.Dublin
Eircode: K67 E5A

Places are limited to
book your place
scan the QR code



An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth



MANAGING YOUR TAX FREE ONLINE WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDMINDERS

Do you find tax returns & bookkeeping stressful ?

Your CCC is here to help!

In collaboration the National Childminding Development team & SM Accounting Solutions have developed bespoke training for childminders free from confusing jargon.



- ✓ **7th May** Accounting Basics 7-9pm
- ✓ **14th May** Financial Records ,Books & Accounts 7-9pm
- ✓ **21st May** Income Taxes 7-9:30pm
- ✓ **28th May** Submitting Your Tax on ROS 7-9:30

Opportunities for Q & A

FREE





Childminding Newsletter

The National Action Plan for Childminding

Spring 2024

Public consultation on the new draft Childminding Regulations

The public consultation on the new draft regulations governing the childminding sector closes at 5pm on Thursday 2nd May.

Don't miss out have your say!

Contact your local City and County Childcare Committee to book your place on a local Focus Group on www.myccc.ie

In the meantime, you can make an individual online submission [here](#)

Your local Childminding Development Officer (CMDO) is available to support you with any queries or concerns you may have. They offer advice, information and provide training opportunities to support your childminding business

Within the new draft Childminding Regulations there are a number of supports offered to childminders assisting them through the registration process and beyond.

Training

A pre-registration training programme will be available to support childminders through the registration process



Childminding Service Handbook

This handbook will be a practical resource containing policies and record keeping templates that you can adapt to suit your individual childminding service



Together we can make a difference

Your insights, experience and suggestions are invaluable!

Your views and opinions will be captured and contribute to the draft childminding regulations

This is your golden opportunity to have your say and shape the future of childminding



National Action Plan for Childminding 2021-2028



Childminding events from around the country



Cavan CCC



Kildare CCC



Cork City CC



Carlow CCC



**Childminders
Brunch**

"Fantastic event enabling childminders to have the opportunity to engage in a relaxed environment sharing valuable relevant knowledge & experience enhancing the role of a childminder"

"Had an absolutely lovely time mixing with other childminders"

"I had a lovely afternoon thank you. It was lovely to chat to Helen and all the childminders, raise to discuss child related topics and exchange stories. I look forward to meeting up again soon"

South Dublin CCC



Kilkenny CCC

Fun Recipe Ideas



Follow the National Action Plan for Childminding on Facebook to keep up to date with all the latest developments! Just click on the Facebook logo to find us!



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

We've launched the public consultation on the draft childminding regulations today.

This is your chance to have your say.



*****Attention All Childminders***Your Voice Counts....**

Join one of FCCC focus group meetings either in person or online and learn more about the proposed draft childminding regulations and have the opportunity to provide invaluable feedback which will help shape the new regulations.

You can have your say anonymously by clicking on the link below.

Please read the easy read regulation summary below and complete this short online survey.

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/aed77959-7825-b278-c220-df264c5b5748>



FINGAL COUNTY
CHILDCARE COMMITTEE
 COISTE CÚRAIM LEANAÍCHONTAE FHINE GALL

Are you childminding or thinking of becoming a childminder in Fingal ?

OUR CHILDMINDING DEVELOPMENT OFFICER SARAH MCKENNA IS HERE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION AND SUPPORT ON:

- ✓ Running a childminding business
- ✓ Accessing Grants/Funding
- ✓ Information sessions
- ✓ Networking with other childminders
- ✓ Training for childminders
- ✓ National Action Plan for Childminding

CONTACT US

087 -4485558

sarah@fingalcountychildcare.ie

Scan the QR code to join our mailing list

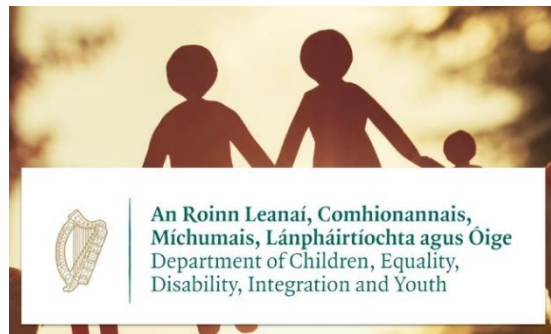


National Action Plan for Childminding 2021-2028

For Parents



Mother Tongues is conducting a survey aimed at parents who are raising bilingual babies and toddlers:
Click to open survey - [Survey](#)



ECCE - Frequently Asked Questions for Parents

Published by [Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth](#)

[FAQ](#)



Supporting Parents - A New Website from DCEDIY/Ag Tacú le Tuismitheoirí - Suíomh Gréasáin Nua ó DCEDIY

Supporting Parents - A new information and advice resource for all stages of parenthood from DCEDIY. Parenting is rewarding and challenging. But, whatever age your child is and no matter how experienced you are, all parents will benefit from a little support and advice. There's lots of information out there. The Supporting Parents initiative is bringing together trusted, high quality resources in one place, to help you navigate your parenting journey

DCEDIY-Supporting Parents
Website

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/e5a96-supporting-parents-a-national-model-of-parenting-support-services/>

www.rollercoaster.ie

We've put together this handy guide to make sure you're asking the right questions!



[How to choose an Early Learning Centre and reduce your costs](#)

FCCC Jobs Board

Fingal CCC have updated their website to include an interactive Jobs Board. This Jobs Board will support early childcare providers to advertise their recruitment needs and to provide parents the opportunity to advertise needs with the aim of linking, early years, childminders, and parents in the Fingal area. The new FCCC Jobs Board facilitates the recruitment of staff into the ELC Sector in Fingal. To advertise a job simply go to our website and click on the jobs board tab. Employers with job vacancies can post a job by clicking on the link above and fill in the required fields. The jobs posted will go live immediately and will be visible on the site for 30 days and will then be archived. **Note - you don't need to set up a log in, just complete the form and click submit.**

Service Closures

We have been asked what the process is for services, if for whatever reason, you have decided not to reopen or closed within the current programme year. The steps are as follows:

- **Inform FCCC via email to info@fingalcountychildcare.ie**
- **Complete the Cessation of Services form for Tusla – click on the link below.**
http://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Cessation_of_Service.pdf
- **Inform Pobal & make any necessary changes to registrations on the HIVE. - Service Closure** If an Approved Provider closes its ELC service, or ceases to provide a DCEDIY childcare programme, notice must be submitted in writing immediately to the local City/County Childcare Committee and the Data Management Team in the Scheme Administrator by raising a service request on the EY HIVE and selecting the Request Programme Type “User Account Management”, then selecting the Category “How to” and the Sub-Category “Closures. FCCC will link in with individual services once the notification has been received.

Facebook

If you are a Facebook user, or would like to set up a Facebook account, we would be most grateful if you could please ‘Like’ our Fingal County Childcare Committee Facebook page, and please feel free to ‘Share’ it too.

We will post regular updates for ELC/ SAC services and Childminders.

Our Facebook page can be found at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/fingalcountychildcare/>

Covid Case Advice

Covid case advice *new information*

Please find below links to information from the HPSC in relation to Covid-19 and information from the HSE for ELC and SAC providers on preventing the spread of Covid-19 and children returning to ELC and SAC settings.

We would be grateful if you could share this information with parents, guardians, and staff.

<https://www.hpsc.ie/news/title-23357-en.html> (updated 11th August 2023)

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/preventing-the-spread/>

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/preventing-the-spread/child-returning-to-school-or-childcare/>

In addition, please find link below to the Management of Infectious Diseases in Childcare Facilities guidance resource.

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/lifestages/childcare/File,13444,en.pdf> Management of Infectious Disease in Childcare Facilities and Other Childcare Settings (2012)

For general Covid-19 queries you can contact HSE on 1800 700 700 between 8am and 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am – 5pm Saturday and Sunday or visit the HSE website <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/>

Should you have any queries on the above, our contact details are 01- 4851727 or info@fingalcountychildcare.ie

Kind Regards, Fingal County Childcare Committee