



Newsletter

Fingal County Childcare Committee

September 2021

Volume 36 Number 36

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

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- **Linda Sammon, Finance Officer**
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- **Adrienne Doyle, Operations Manager**
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FCCC Training

- **Better Start Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) Online information session for providers**

Fingal County Childcare Committee has always focused on ensuring that early year's providers in Fingal are kept informed of matters that influence high quality provision and practice for the sector.

The Better Start Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) which was unveiled in June 2016 is a model of supports designed to ensure that children with disabilities can access the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme. Its goal is to empower service providers to deliver an inclusive pre-school experience, ensuring that every child can fully participate in the ECCE programme and reap the benefits of quality early years care and education.

FCCC will be hosting 3 online sessions throughout Fingal to ensure that early year's settings are confident when applying through this process. The online session will be specifically for services who:

- Are newly opened
- Will be engaging with AIM for the first time
- Have had a change of staff
- Wish to obtain a recap of AIM

There are only 20 places per online session, places are limited to 1 place per service and are allocated on a first come first served basis. Please note that FCCC are encouraging services to attend training with the development officers in their geographical area.

Many thanks - FCCC Team

DATE	TIME	VENUE
Tuesday 19 th October 2021	7.00-9.00pm	Dublin 15 and surrounding areas with your development officer for this area Nicola McKernan <u>Click the Eventbrite Link below to book your place at this session</u> https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/better-startaim-online-information-session-for-ey-providers-d15-tickets-180894439137
20 th October 2021	3.00-5.00pm	Balbriggan and surrounding areas with your development officers for this area Jacinta Cooke & Eimear Furlong . <u>Click the Eventbrite Link below to book your place at this session</u> https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/better-startaim-online-information-session-for-ey-providers-balbriggan-tickets-180911700767

21 st October 2021	5.00-7.00pm	<p>Swords and surrounding areas with your development officer for this area Mairéad Tucker</p> <p><u>Click the Eventbrite Link below to book your place at this session</u></p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/better-startaim-online-information-session-for-ey-providers-swords-tickets-180916475047</p>
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- **'Importance of Anti-Bias Practice and Leadership in Early Years Settings' Webinar with Ann Halligan**

FCCC are delighted to announce that Ann Halligan will facilitate the following online Webinar on the **'Importance of Anti-Bias Practice and Leadership in Early Years Settings'** for Early Years Providers in Fingal.

Date: Tuesday 5th October 2021
Time: 6pm – 8pm
Venue: Online via Microsoft Teams

In this workshop we will examine why Anti-Bias practice is important and the consequences for children and families if we do not engage with it. We will discuss implementing an Anti-Bias approach in early years services and this workshop will also look at some strategies and practical tools for leading and supporting an Anti-Bias early years team to work together implement the approach.

To book your place on this trying please click the following link to register
<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/the-importance-of-anti-bias-practice-and-leadership-in-early-years-settings-tickets-169947430339>

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the FCCC Team.

- **Communicating with Our Children, Parent Webinar with Dr Mary O’Kane**

Fingal County Childcare Committee are delighted to announce two online Parent Webinar’s with Dr Mary O’Kane on ‘Communicating with our Childcare’ (*same Webinar so you only need attend one*). Booking is essential so choose one of the dates below and click on the Eventbrite Link to register your place at the Webinar.

DATE: Tuesday 12th October 2021

TIME: 7-9pm

VENUE: Online

EVENT BRITE LINK:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/communicating-with-our-children-parent-webinar-with-dr-mary-okane-1210-tickets-178625893857>

DATE: Thursday 14th October 2021

TIME: 7-9pm

VENUE: Online

EVENT BRITE LINK:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/communicating-with-our-children-parent-webinar-with-dr-mary-okane-1410-tickets-178658370997>

Parenting is more enjoyable when a positive parent-child relationship is established. Whether you are parenting a toddler or a teenager, good communication is the key to building self-esteem and mutual respect. If we develop good communication at a young age our children will come to us and tell us [about](#) their worries throughout their childhood. In this Webinar Dr Mary O’Kane gives very practical advice on how to improve our family communication skills.

Places are limited and booking is essential for this Parent Webinar via Eventbrite.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to call the FCCC Team on (01) 4851727 or email info@fingalcountychildcare.ie

Many thanks - FCCC Team

PIP/HIVE Announcements

- **Changes to the public health management of Covid-19 cases and close contacts in children aged 12 years and younger – 24/09/21**

Dear Provider,

We are writing to you today regarding a Press Release issued this afternoon by the Department of Health regarding changes to the public health management of Covid-19 cases and close contacts in children aged 12 years and younger.

These changes are therefore relevant to the Early Learning and Care and School-Age Childcare sector and come into effect on Monday 27th September 2021. The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) will provide more detailed sector-specific guidance and any necessary clarifications over the coming days in advance of the change.

Kind regards,

Early Years Communications Team

Early Years Division

Please see relevant information links below.

- <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/d8eb5-changes-to-covid-19-testing-and-contact-tracing-for-children-3months-to-under-13-years-and-inclusive-of-all-children-attending-primary-school/>
- [https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/childcareguidance/Isolation%20quick%20guide%20under%2013s.pdf](https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/childcareguidance/Isolation%20q uick%20guide%20under%2013s.pdf)

ATTENTION: Fingal County Childcare Committee have sought clarification after several queries were received in relation to notifying Tusla of a positive Covid 19 case in an Early years' service. **Providers still need to notify Tusla if they have a positive case in their service.** Please visit the following link for a suite of documents with guidance for providers during the Covid-19 pandemic which also includes the Tusla notification form.

<https://www.tusla.ie/services/preschool-services/update-for-early-years-service-providers-on-covid-19/>

- **COVID-19 Operating Support Payment (COSP) - Verification Checks - 02/09/2021**

Dear Service Provider,

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) has provided supports to the Early Learning and Care (ELC) and School Age Care (SAC) sector in recognition of the particular challenges and difficulties facing providers.

One such support was the COVID-19 Operating Support Payment (COSP). The purpose of this payment was to support Early Learning and Care (ELC) and School Age Childcare (SAC) services for the period 1 February to 28 March 2021.

As with all funding, the Department is required to ensure that the funding claimed was used for the purposes intended. The Department and Pobal will soon be undertaking verification checks against the criteria of the COSP for a sample of services funded. These checks will verify participating services' compliance with the COSP and will be carried out remotely in line with public health advice. The verification desk checks are expected to commence shortly and you will be notified in advance if your service is selected.

You are requested to review all of the materials carefully to ensure that you have met requirements of the COSP.

The Department and Pobal would like to thank you for your ongoing work and cooperation during this challenging time.

The Pobal Compliance Team.

- **Special Circumstances Process for CCSP, ECCE & NCS 2021/22 – 10/09/2021**

Dear Service Provider,

In certain exceptional circumstances, a service may apply to retain a child's funding under NCS/ECCE/the CCSP Saver Programme beyond the standard 4 weeks non-attendance allowed under the scheme/programme rules.

Service Providers wishing to apply for Special Circumstances to retain a registration beyond 4 weeks of continuous absence up until 6 weeks, are required to complete an Exemption Request for Continuous Absence due to Special Circumstances declaration form, downloadable from the Programme Documents section of the Early Years Hive (for ECCE and NCS) and PIP Resources (for CCSP Saver). Please also find the form attached [here](#).

One form will be applicable to NCS, ECCE and CCSP for applying for a continuous absence exemption. The form is to be signed by both the service provider and the parent/guardian.

Please ensure to include the applicable reasons for the child's absence and clearly specify absence dates. Once complete, please attach the declaration form to the child's registration on Hive/PIP for Pobal to process.

Please note absences extending beyond 6 weeks to a maximum of 12 weeks, will require Pobal to seek acceptable proof of special circumstances. Acceptable proofs may include a letter or medical certificate which can be uploaded onto the system by the provider.

Declaration form Checklist:

- ü Signed by parent/guardian
- ü Signed by service provider
- ü Special Circumstances reason indicated (tick box)
- ü Absence period/dates specified
- ü Attach to child's registration on PIP/Hive
- ü Provide additional proof medical letter/certificate (If absence extends beyond 6 weeks).

Regards,

The Early Years Team

- **Preliminary Payments to ELC Providers in RECEIPT of Higher Capitation in 2020/2021:**

Dear Service Provider,

The second Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) payment will issue at the end of this week Friday 17 September 2021 with a pay until date of 15 October 2021 and will be based on Registrations, Higher Capitation and AIM Level 1 approvals

To allow services more time to make an application for Higher Capitation the following will apply:-

- Services that have applied and been approved Higher Capitation will be paid based on their Higher Capitation approval and registrations
- Services that have not applied but were approved last year will not be paid any additional funding until an application has been received and approved for this programme call.
- Services that have applied and have not yet been approved but received Higher Capitation last year will be paid an additional 4 weeks based on their HC last year ; the exception will be services that have not made any ECCE registrations
- First time applicants, or services that have applied in previous years but were not approved and have applied again this year will not be paid any preliminary amounts

No further preliminary payments will be made to services beyond week ending 15 October 2021.

Future payments will be based on ECCE registrations and Higher Capitation approval.

Future payments will be adjusted to take account of any under/overpayment.

Regards,

The Early Years Team

- **AIM Level 1 – Leadership for Inclusion Coordinator (LINC) Application Process now open for new graduates – 16/09/2021**

Dear Service Provider,

The application process for the increased Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) capitation **has now opened for new graduates** i.e. those who are graduating in October 2021. This is funded by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY), in recognition of the leadership and mentoring role that will be delivered by the Inclusion Co-ordinator, during the 2021/2022 pre-school year. The process for existing graduates (those who graduated in previous years) was launched earlier in the summer.

All applicants are encouraged to submit their application as soon as possible. Applications received by **5pm on Friday 29 October 2021** will be awarded the additional capitation from the Inclusion Co-ordinator's start date for the programme year. **Applicants are encouraged to apply early, as any applications received after this date will not be backdated.**

Applications must be submitted electronically via the Early Years HIVE portal. Applicant guidelines can be found [here](#).

Should you have any queries in relation to the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) please contact the Early Years Provider Centre by raising a Request on HIVE as follows:

Request Category: Application.

Request Type Detail: How To.

Request Programme: AIM Level 1.

Regards,

The Early Years Team

- **REMINDER - Managing Changes for AIM LEVEL 7 – 17/09/2021**

Dear Service Provider,

Pobal would like to issue a reminder that any changes to the setting or attendance of a child approved for AIM level 7 funding should be reported to Pobal within 10 working days of the change taking place. Please see below for more information on examples of such changes and the correct method for reporting them to Pobal:

- 1) Change of Sessions/Session Ratios/Attendance/External Supports: These changes can be reflected by completing a Change of Circumstance review on the Early Years Hive. Please click here to see video demonstration.
- 2) Prolonged Absence: If the child has been absent for a period of 4 weeks or more, complete a Prolonged Absence review on the Early Years Hive. Please click here to see video demonstration.
- 3) Absence of AIM Assistant: If the AIM assistant has been absent from the setting for 4 weeks or more, complete a Change in Implementation of Support review. Please click here to see video demonstration.
- 4) EWSS funding being used: If you have been approved for AIM level 7 funding for a child but are opting to use Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme (EWSS) funding in lieu of AIM Level 7 funding, please complete

a service request on the Early Years Hive, entering “EWSS Withdrawal” in the subject line and selecting the following criteria options:

Request Type: Funding
Request Type Detail: Payments Query
Subject: AIM Level 7

In the description of the request, enter all relevant level 7 application IDs, and advise if EWSS has been used since the start of the programme year.

Kind regards,
The Early Years Team



Learner Fund Graduate Bursary 2021 – Deadline for Submission 1st October @5pm

Fingal County Childcare Committee are pleased to announce that the DCEDIY Learner Fund Bursary 2021 opened on Monday the 16th of August.

The Learner Fund Bursary is open to all new graduates of a recognised Early Childhood Education and Care degree programme. Fingal County Childcare Committee will process and appraise Learner Fund Graduate Bursary applications.

To apply for the Graduate or Childminder Learner Fund Bursary 2021, send your completed application forms and supporting documentation.
by email to info@fccc.ie

Please read the Learner Fund Bursary rules carefully to ensure you are eligible to apply. If you would like to speak with a member of our team to discuss your eligibility, please email us info@fccc.ie or call 01 4851727.

The deadline for submission of applications for Learner Fund
1 October 2021: 5pm

Please click on the links below for eligibility rules and application forms:

[Learner Fund Graduate Bursary Rules 2021 for Applicants](#)

[Learner Fund Graduate Bursary 2021 Application Form](#)

[Childminding Bursary Rules 2021](#)

[Childminder Bursary Application Form 2021](#)



Save the date - National Beep Beep Day 2021 will take place on **Friday, 8 October**, during Irish Road Safety Week.

As a result of Covid-19 and associated restrictions with regards to ordering and manufacturing across the world, they have very few of the high visibility vests available this year. But the good news is that they do have adequate stocks of Simon and Friends booklets and posters all of which are invaluable when practising basic road safety skills with the children. They also hope to have all high visibility stocks replenished once again for next year's campaign.

Should you have any queries or difficulties, please feel free to email education@rsa.ie

FAR Reimbursement Fund 2021 - Reminder

This FAR reimbursement is an opportunity for you as a Tusla registered provider to access financial support to meet this regulatory requirement, you are entitled to it so we would strongly encourage you to avail of it.

This is a reminder that the next FAR application submission deadline is Friday 3rd December 2021. The next payment for processed applications will be Friday 17th December 2021.

If you have completed your FAR online and received the first €150, you will need to submit your PHECC certificate, in order to receive the balance of €75.

Please note there will be no extension by the DCEDIY to support funding beyond 31st October 2021.

FAR regulatory requirement extension to November 2021

Please be informed that due to the ongoing pandemic, Tusla has provided an extension to FAR regulatory requirement for all registered Early Learning and Care (ELC), School Age Childcare (SAC) and Childminders (CM) providers.

Tusla will therefore align their regulatory activity with this extension and **only commence inspecting against this requirement from 1st November 2021**. At that time, Tusla will expect at least one person(s) to have successfully undertaken the First Aid Response (FAR) course to be available to children at all times in a service and will inspect services on that basis.

Please see link below for further Tusla communications on this regulatory extension.

<https://www.tusla.ie/services/preschool-services/early-years-pre-school-inspection-services/first-aid-training-in-early-years-services/>

FAR reimbursement extension to 31st October

Due to Covid-19 pandemic public health restrictions, the practical training element of FAR courses were put on hold, as a result Tusla and the Dept of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) have agreed to extend the reimbursement timeframe to meet this regulatory requirement to **31st October 2021**.

To support services to meet their regulatory requirement the DCEDIY has extended and altered the FAR Reimbursement Fund which will fund one FAR first aid training place per registered ELC, SAC and CM, to a maximum of €225 per full course or €175 per refresher course.

Key Points to remember in completing a FAR Reimbursement Application to FCCC

- Please read the Reimbursement Application form for eligibility criteria and dates for application submittal and payment schedules - this can be requested from FCCC.
- Training must be completed by 31st October 2021
- Completed FAR Reimbursement application form must be accompanied by a PHECC accredited FAR certificate and a copy of training payment receipt

Timeframe for applications:

	Quarter 4
Application closing date (for payment in that quarter)	December 3rd 2021
Payment dates	10 th December 2021

TUSLA



Early Years Re-registration webinar 17th August recording

You can access the Early Years Re-registration webinar on Wednesday 17th August 2021 along with the PowerPoint presentation are now available on our website along with the webinars we hosted in March on the link below.

<https://www.tusla.ie/services/preschool-services/elearning-webinars-and-resources/webinars/>

We are working on an accompanying Q&A document

Thank you as always for your ongoing support

Regards

Grant Landon

Regulatory Practice Development Manager

Children's Services Regulation

Updates to Tusla website

Early Years Inspectorate Questions and Answers Document

<https://www.tusla.ie/services/preschool-services/elearning-webinars-and-resources/qa-documents/>

Guide to Inspection in Early Years Services

https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/EYI_Guide_to_Early_Years_Inspections_FINAL.docx_.pdf

Pedagogical principles of the Tusla Early Years Inspection process

https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/EYI_Underpinning_Pedagogical_Principles_FINAL.PDF

Supporting Quality Early Years Provision Through Registration, Inspection and Enforcement

https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/EYI_Supporting_Quality_Early_Years_Provision_FINAL.PDF

Guidance for providers of early years services operating outdoors (we have already asked how services will complete the registration process/CIC to indicate they are providing completely outdoor provision).

https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/EYI_Guidance_for_providers_operating_outdoors_FINAL.pdf

Update to Tusla arrangements following HSE cyberattack

- Early Learning and Care (ELC) and School Aged Care (SAC) childcare providers must be registered with Tusla, the Child and Family Agency as a prescribed early years' service. A childcare provider who provides both early learning and care and school age childcare must have a valid Tusla registration for both service types.

We are aware that for some services your ability to verify registrations and complete certain processes with Tusla has been impacted by the recent attack on the HSE IT system.

For this reason, the following arrangements have been put in place.

- Service Providers without a Tusla certificate can use other evidence of registration with Tusla to on-board and to sign funding agreements. E.g., Email confirmation of registration from Tusla.
- Service Providers not registered for either ELC or SAC with Tusla will not be permitted to on-board.

Full time services with ELC Tusla certification whose service offering includes school aged childcare, but who have not yet been registered as an SAC provider will **as an exceptional and temporary measure** be allowed to sign funding agreements and to register children. Please note that proof of Tusla SAC registration will be requested later in the year once the current system issues are resolved. Any service providers that cannot provide a certificate at this point will be required to deregister all school aged children from their services and funding will cease for these children on all schemes.

Providers will be given 4 weeks notice of the requirement to de-register. Providers are strongly advised to pursue the registration process with Tusla to ensure this measure is not required.


- Service Providers that are registered with Tusla but have not yet received this confirmation or proof of registration due to the IT shutdown should contact the Early Years Provider Centre in Pobal on 01-5117222 or by raising a service request through the Early Years Hive and selecting the category “User Account Management” and the sub-category “Tusla”.
- New service providers or services that have gone through a change of circumstances can continue to apply to Tusla for registration, however as the Tusla portal is unavailable, a form will be made available on the Tusla website in the coming weeks. For re-registrations Tusla will contact providers directly and ask them to submit relevant documentation by post or email. **These services will be unable to on-board until the Tusla process is complete.**

Tusla is updating its Early Years' Inspectorate website. New resources added recently include webinars with Q&A documents and eLearning coming soon.

For more information, please click on the link below.

<https://www.tusla.ie/services/preschool-services/elearning-webinars-and-resources/>




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

**National Covid-19 Support
Helpline for ELC and SAC providers**

If you are a childcare provider and/or a childminder and need out of hours support in relation to a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19 in your childcare service please contact
1800 940341

This support line is available only
**Saturdays/Sundays and Bank holidays
from 10am - 1pm and 1.30pm - 4pm**

 Coronavirus
COVID-19
Public Health
Advice

Covid Case Support Helplines

There are two helplines available to services who have a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19 in their service.

1. The HSE have a helpline to advise service providers if they have been informed of a Covid-19 case in a child or a staff member. The number is 01 511 9777 It is open Monday –Friday 8.30 – 4.30 and 10 –4.30 Saturdays, Sundays, and Bank Holidays.
2. For those services who need support on engaging with the relevant authorities due to a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19, there is an out of hours helpline. The number is 1800 940 341. The service will be available Saturday, Sunday, and Bank Holidays from 10.00 –13.00 and 13.30 –16.00.



HPSC have updated a number of guidance documentation – please visit HPSC website to review the updated HPSC documents:

[Childcare Guidance - Health Protection Surveillance Centre \(hpsc.ie\)](https://www.hpsc.ie)

Please note there are 4 updated documents:

1. Infection Prevention & Control Guidance's for Early Learning and School Age Childcare Services – updated 31/8/21
2. Isolation Quick guide: adults / children from their 13th birthday – 14/9/21
3. **UNDER REVIEW** – Isolation quick guide – applying to those aged greater than 3 months up to the 13th birthday – 9/9/21
4. Covid Assessment & Testing pathway for children (3 months – 13th birthday) – 15/9/21



Tusla Parenting E-learning Course's

The new online course for parents developed by the Tusla National Parenting Working group in collaboration with parents is called “Relationships are key”. It provides parents with reassurance, guidance and expert advice and the course aims to support parents and all carers to form stronger and more

positive relationships with their young children. Parents are invited to work through the course in their own time and at their own pace. They can pick and choose topics that are of interest to them or are more relevant to them at a particular time.

<https://www.tusla.ie/services/family-community-support/parenting-information/parenting-information-fsa>

Better Start



8pm.

Join Better Start to hear about the Quality Development Service and how Better Start can work with your setting to provide quality outcomes for children. The sessions will introduce the Better Start Quality Development Service and the professional development options that are available to Early Learning and Care settings.

- **This online event will take place 5th of October 7pm-**

https://teams.microsoft.com/registration/NISurpepn0iw4a4oPO1H9w,kmY_BxAP3E2DPSILzGiTlg,TLqR170gzku1d4aVMh2-5A,WOCqRgL57kaH-KI_98RpTg,co-OUkcOb0CbCIdOy2ET-g,VphildWJn0KSLMqZZtrzag?mode=read&tenantId=aeae5436-a997-489f-b0e1-ae283ced47f7

- **This online event will take place Tuesday 19th of October 7pm-8pm.**

https://teams.microsoft.com/registration/NISurpepn0iw4a4oPO1H9w,Ylr6WlcskEWwY8kNE7VEzw,_0a9wWVyQEKqLPTfmeMPsA,RGdxD_z5lk6WNcwclgJgog,McOpMp9oUESjLJolxNrQaw,5Abrq2AW_UaSINOVXeWpRw?mode=read&tenantId=aeae5436-a997-489f-b0e1-ae283ced47f7

- **Quality Practice Query**

If you have a specific query about practice, your setting can contact Better Start for information and advice.

You might be interested in looking at promoting play, how to get the most out of your indoor or outdoor learning environment, seeking advice on partnership with parents, transitions or other pillars of practice. One of our team will respond to your practice queries, providing information, advice and guidance to you based on Síolta and Aistear and government policy such as First 5. Our team will get in touch by phone or email.

How to send a query request to Better Start:

Email your query to quality@betterstart.ie

Include your DCEDIY service reference number and setting name in the subject line.

One of our team will then get in touch with you by phone or email to answer your query.

Childminding Section

Save the date – Next Fingal Virtual Childminding Network meeting.




Fingal Virtual
Childminding Network

Are you a childminder or interested in becoming a
childminder?

Fingal CCC invite you to attend a virtual
network event to meet and chat with
childminders in your area

(via Microsoft Teams)



Thursday 21st October 2021
7-9pm

For further information please contact
info@fingalcountychildcare.ie (01) 4851727

Learner Fund Bursary 2021 – Deadline 1st October @5pm



Fingal County Childcare Committee are pleased to announce that the DCEDIY Learner Fund Bursary 2021 opened on Monday the 16th of August.

To apply for the Childminder Learner Fund Bursary 2021, send your completed application forms and supporting documentation.

by email to info@fccc.ie

Please read the Learner Fund Bursary rules carefully to ensure you are eligible to apply. If you would like to speak with a member of our team to discuss your eligibility, please email us info@fccc.ie or call 01 4851727.

The deadline for submission of applications for Learner Fund

1 October 2021: 5pm

Please click on the links below for eligibility rules and application form:

[Childminding Bursary Rules 2021](#)

[Childminder Bursary Application Form 2021](#)



A Whole-of-Government Strategy for
Babies, Young Children and their Families
2019-2028

The First 5 website contains a number of resources that have been developed to guide and assist childminders for the reopening and operation of their service(s) during COVID-19. There are also a number

of useful resources, activities, videos in the pre-school at home hub which can be adapted to suit a childminding setting. For more information on First 5 click [here](#)

DCEDIY are constantly reviewing and updating the First5 website to ensure that the most up to date information is available to the Early Years & School Age sector <https://first5.gov.ie/guidance>

If you are a childminder, thinking of becoming a childminder or require any support or advice in relation to your childminding service you can contact the development team at Fingal CCC by calling our main office on (01) 4851727 or the development officer in your area:

- Mairéad Tucker, Lead Development Officer Swords and Surrounding Areas Ph: 087 7477553 or Email: mairread@fingalcountychildcare.ie
- Jacinta Cooke, Development Officer, Balbriggan and Surrounding Areas Ph: 087-7722228 or Email jacinta@fingalcountychildcare.ie
- Eimear Furlong, Development Officer, Balbriggan and Surrounding Areas 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



Resources for Parents



AIM Supports



How to apply

The goal of AIM is to create a more inclusive preschool environment so all children, regardless of ability, can benefit from quality early learning & care. The newly designed AIM website gives parents information on the AIM programme, supports offered, and how to apply.

The link below will bring you to the website:

AIM Website: Parents Section



COSAINT LEANAÍ - NATIONAL CHILD SAFEGUARDING PROGRAMME – EARLY LEARNING AND CARE

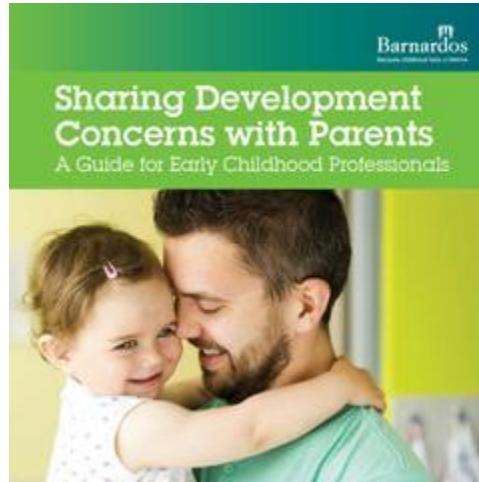
www.childsafeguardelc.ie

As you are all aware there is an embargo on training for the foundation level Children's First. During this embargo you can encourage staff to avail of the following:

- Encourage staff who haven't completed the Tusla eLearning Programme in the last 3 years to do so <https://www.tusla.ie/children-first/children-first-e-learning-programme/>
- Encourage staff to access the Children First Revision Webinar <http://childsafeguardingelc.ie/early-learning-care-services/>
- Encourage staff to access additional webinars on the National Child Safeguarding Programme website <http://childsafeguardingelc.ie/early-learning-care-services>
- Encourage staff to review and refresh their knowledge by accessing Info Blasts on various topics <http://childsafeguardingelc.ie/category/english/>
- Encourage staff to refresh their knowledge of their own organisation's Child Safeguarding Policy
- Review and update your Child Safeguarding documentation using the resources available at <http://childsafeguardingelc.ie/resources-publications/> and on Tulsa's website <https://www.tusla.ie/services/child-protection-welfare/> ;

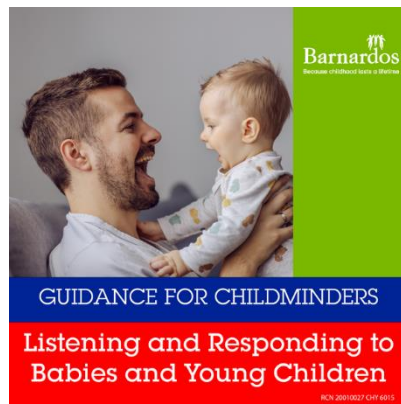
Barnardos Resources and Online Training Webinars

- **New Barnardos Publications**



- **Sharing Development Concerns with Parents: A Guide for Early Childhood Professionals**

This resource offers guidance to early years professionals about how to approach difficult conversations with parents relating to concerns you have about a possible developmental delay, a sensory or learning related issue, or a behavioural or emotional issue for a child. The booklet also outlines how you can work with parents to plan steps for the family to get practical and emotional support.



- **Guidance for Childminders: Listening and Responding to Babies and Young Children**

We are continuing to expand our series of resources for children. The latest in the series provides information and guidance for childminders on listening and responding well to babies and young children up to the age of three.

Barnardos Training Webinars

- **Webinar - Trauma Informed Practice in Early Learning and Care, 13th October 2021**

This webinar is suitable for those working in Early Childhood Care and Education who are interested in learning about adverse childhood experiences and what we can do to foster children's resilience.

<https://www.barnardos.ie/learning-development/training/training-events-courses/2021/october/training-webinar-trauma-informed-practice-in-early-learning-and-care-13th-october-2021>

- **Webinar: Understanding the Impact of Trauma on Child Development, 20th October 2021**

This aim of this webinar is to introduce participants to the concepts of Child Development and Childhood Trauma. Participants will explore how trauma impacts a child's developing brain and their overall development and will offer an introduction to how individuals respond to trauma. This training will support participants to become trauma sensitive to the children and families they encounter in their work practices and explore simple strategies that can support children who experience different types of situational trauma.

<https://www.barnardos.ie/learning-development/training/training-events-courses/2021/october/understanding-the-impact-of-trauma-on-child-development-20th-october-2021>

Service Closures

We have been asked what the process is for services, if for whatever reason, they have decided not to re-open in September 2021.

The steps are as follows:

- Inform FCCC via email to info@fingalcountychildcare.ie
- Complete the Cessation of Services form for Tusla
- Inform Pobal & make any necessary changes to registrations on the HIVE.

FCCC will link in with individual services once the notification has been received.



FINGAL COUNTY CHILDCARE COMMITTEE – WEBSITE

FCCC website is updated daily with a broad range of information that is relevant to the early years and school age sectors in Fingal. Under LATEST NEWS you will find DCYA Updates, PIP Announcements, On-line Training, Information for parents and other topics that FCCC believes would be of interest to you, your staff, and your parents.

It is of particular importance is that providers regularly read and understand the most up to date FAQ's and PIP Announcements and if clarifications are required, please contact FCCC at (01) 4851727 or contact a staff member from the list on Page 1 above.

