



**List of services in Co. Roscommon who are participating in ECCE, CCS and CETS schemes**

Name	Address	ECCE	CCS	CETS
<b>Athlone Electoral District</b>				
Kids Klub Creche	Monksland Village, Athlone	X		X
Early Days Playschool	Cloonakilla, Bealnamulla	X		
Eileen's Preschool	Falty, Oldtown	X		
Wonder Years	Cornafulla Athlone	X		X
Réiltíní Roxboro Pre-school	Roxboro, Derrane	X		X
Kiltoom Playgroup	Carrowloughan, Kiltoom	X		
Little Peoples Place	Clonark, Cornafulla	X		X
Hopes & Dreams	Ballyforan, Ballinasloe	X	X	
Right Start Montessori	Curraghmore, Kiltoom	X		
Monksland Afterschool Activity Club	Monksland, Athlone		X	X
Millmount Childcare	Sí an Choiste, Old Tuam Road	X		X
Grovelands Childcare	Corran Riada, IDA Business Park	X		X
<b>Ballaghaderreen Electoral district</b>				
Frenchpark Districts Childcare Limited	Frenchpark, Co Roscommon	X	X	X
Early Learners	Ballaghaderreen Childcare Centre Ltd, Convent Road	X	X	
Tir Na N-og Preschool	Ishlawn, Ballaghaderreen	X		
Siamsa Resource Centre	The Demense, Frenchpark			
Toddle-In Community Playgroup	Community Centre, Loughglynn	X	X	X
Lisacul Childcare Company (Brightsparks)	Community Centre, Lisacul	X	X	
Boyle Social Services Preschool	The Crescent, Boyle	X		
Arigna Community Playgroup Co. Ltd	Arigna Community Hall, Arigna	X	X	
Kilronan Community Playgroup	Ballyfarnon, Boyle	X	X	
The Playhouse Creche & Playschool	No. 7 The Wells, Cortober	X		X
Croghan Fairy Bush	Croghan, Boyle	X	X	X
Tangier Tots	Tangier, Boyle	X		X
Family Life Centre	Knocknashee, Boyle			
<b>Boyle Electoral District</b>				
Castlerea Community Playschool Ltd	St Patrick's Street, Castlerea	X	X	
Jack & Jill Playgroup	Ballinlough, Castlerea	X	X	
Country Kids	Killinerty, Oran	X		X
Nursery Thymes Community Playschool	Cloonfad National School, Cloonfad	X	X	

Name	Address	ECCE	CCS	CETS
Cuddles & Care	Cloonfad, Ballyhaunis	X		X
Happy Feet Playschool	Anita Flynn, Lisboy	X		
<b>Roscommon Electoral District</b>				
Roscommon Community Playgroup	Henry Street, Roscommon	X	X	
Linda Madden's Pre-School	12 Antogher Road, Roscommon	X		
ABC Preschool	Antogher Road, Roscommon	X		
Greenfields Childcare & Montessori	Lisnamult Community Centre, Lisnamult	X	X	X
All Stars Creche	READ Centre, Lisnamult	X	X	X
Cam Community Preschool	Brideswell, Cam	X	X	
Little Rascals	Geraldines Montessori & Preschool, Brideswell, Cooley	X		
St John's Preschool	Lecarrow, Co Roscommon	X	X	X
Ballagh Montessori Preschool	Culleen Hall, Knockcroghery	X		
Little Rascals	Galway Road, Roscommon	X		
Tir Na N-og	Lanesboro Road, Roscommon	X		X
Lean Ar Aghaidh	Brother's of Charity, Roxboro			
Rinn Dún Montessori	Leacarrow	X		
First Steps Montessori	The Glebe, Athleague	X		X
<b>Strokestown Electoral District</b>				
Hollyhocks Creche	Cloonslanour, Strokestown	X		X
Busy Bees Childcare Service	Therese Rogers, Corskeagh	X		X
Happy Days Pre-school	Cloonfad, Rooskey	X		
Chatterlands Playschool & Creche	Palace Walk, Elphin	X		X
Cuan Bhríde Childcare Centre	Kilbride, Fourmilehouse	X	X	X
Slatta Community Playgroup	Slatta, Kilglass	X		
Tulsk Community Childcare Ltd	St Fidelmas Childcare Centre, Corbally	X	X	X
Nurtures Best Crèche	Main Street, Tarmonbarry	X		X
Strokestown Community Playschool	Strokestown, Co Roscommon	X	X	X
Elphin Childcare Limited	Social Centre, New Line Rd, Elphin	X	X	
Buttercups Community Playschool Ltd	Lock Road, Tarmonbarry	X	X	X
Ardcarne Playschool	Cootehall NS	X	X	X

**Parents' Newsletter  
Autumn 2011**



**Date for your diary...**

Minister for Children & Youth Affairs, Frances Fitzgerald will be the guest speaker at our Annual Childcare Celebration Night. Date: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> Oct, 2011. Venue: Abbey Hotel, Roscommon Town. Places must be pre-booked. Booking forms will soon be available on our website [www.roscommonchildcare.ie](http://www.roscommonchildcare.ie). Or phone us on 094 9622540



Roscommon County Childcare Committee (RCCC) are committed to providing information and support to Parents as well as to childcare services, childminders, parent & toddler groups, and other agencies. We are delighted to have this publication especially for parents. The following is outlined in this issue

1. ECCE- Free Preschool Year
2. CCS- Community Childcare Scheme
3. CETS- Childcare, Education & Training Scheme.
4. Childminding
5. Parent and Toddler groups
6. Choosing Quality Childcare for your child

RCCC also offer advice and support on all issues relating to Early Childhood Education and Care from their office in Knock Road, Castlerea. Roscommon County Childcare Committee trust you find this information beneficial and if you have any queries in relation to early childhood education & care, parent and toddler groups, childminders or if you wish to see articles on a particular subject in the next parents newsletter please e mail [info@roscommonchildcare.ie](mailto:info@roscommonchildcare.ie) or contact the office on 094 9622540.

**RCCC CELEBRATING  
10 YEARS IN BUSINESS ...  
SUPPORTING THE EARLY  
CHILDHOOD CARE  
& EDUCATION SECTOR**

This publication is intended as an information guide only. Although every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of all information published, Roscommon County Childcare Committee cannot accept any liability or responsibility for any errors or omissions. Roscommon County Childcare Committee will bear no liability or responsibility, direct or indirect, for use or misuse, of any information in this publication.

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## Parent and Toddler Group Grants 2011

Roscommon County Childcare Committee worked directly with the Health Service Executive by pooling resources for the provision of the Parent & Toddler Groups' grants in 2011. The grant scheme for Parent & Toddler Groups is operated on a flexible basis to respond to the local needs of the groups in accordance with agreed national criteria, and an approved local assessment process by Roscommon County Childcare Committee. Parent & Toddler grants for 2011 are still available from Roscommon County Childcare Committee. If your group has not applied for a grant in 2011 please contact Roscommon County Childcare Committee. If you wish to join a parent and toddler group please contact RCCC. on 094 9622540 Or e-mail cmao@roscommonchildcare.ie

### Tips on choosing a Quality Childcare Service

There are six main types of childcare a parent can choose from:

1. Sessional services
2. Part-time day care
3. Full-day care
4. Pre-school services in a drop-in centre (and pre-school services in a temporary drop-in service)
5. Childminding service
6. School age childcare

### General questions you should ask in all services?

- \* What type of daily curriculum is in place?
- \* Is there a key person allocated to your child?
- \* What is the weekly menu like?  
(Does the service provide food or must you provide your own?)
- \* Is the food preparation area clean & hygienic, do staff wear clean protective clothing during food preparation?
- \* Is there a designated sleep area?
- \* Is there a safe and clean area for nappy changing?
- \* What type of observation policy is in place?
- \* Can you view the policy and procedure handbook and the health and safety statement?
- \* Can you check references, qualifications and Garda clearance forms of the person/s caring for your child?
- \* What happens when your child is sick?
- \* Do you have to pay for days that your child does not attend the service

### The building and equipment?

- \* Is the building in good repair?
- \* Is there enough space indoors for your child to play freely and safely? (Is there room for messy play?)
- \* Is there a safe/secure out door play area with suitable equipment?
- \* Is there a designated sleep area? (How are the sleep rooms monitored – are they well ventilated?)
- \* Is there an adequate security system in place to prevent visitors from entering freely or without permission?
- \* Is the food being prepared in a clean/safe environment?
- \* Is there adequate fire safety equipment and a first aid kit?
- \* Are windows and doors secure and fitted with safety locks?
- \* Are there locks on cupboards and are all toxic materials stored out of reach?
- \* Is there a good variety of toys/equipment to suit the ages & abilities of all children? (Are the toys/equipment in good repair?)
- \* Are the art materials used non toxic?

## Publications for Parents

The following publications are available either on Roscommon County Childcare Committee's website [www.roscommonchildcare.ie](http://www.roscommonchildcare.ie) or from our office on Knock Road, Castlerea 094 9622540.

- Leaflet on Parent & Toddler Groups in Co. Roscommon (RCCC)
- A Parents Guide to the Free Pre-school Year Early Childhood Care & Education (RCCC)
- A Parents Guide to the Community Childcare Subvention Scheme (RCCC)
- A Parents Guide to the Childcare Employment & Training Support scheme (RCCC)
- A Parents Guide to Choosing Quality Childcare (RCCC)
- Choosing a Childminder (RCCC)
- A Parent's Guide to the Child Care (Pre-school Services) Regulations 2006 (Barnardos)
- A Parent's Guide to Cyber Bullying (Barnardos)
- Learning Together: A Parent's Guide to Early Childhood Learning (Barnardos)
- Partners in Learning: A Parent's Guide to Partnership in Childcare (Barnardos)
- The Barnardos series of Parenting positively which includes;
  - o Coping with Death
  - o Coping with domestic violence
  - o Coping with separation
  - o Parenting skills
  - o Coping with bullying
- Benefits of Pre-School for Your Child and Making the Move to Primary School (Clare CCC) available in 16 different languages.
- Information and Prompts for Parental Declaration Forms for the Early Childhood Care & Education (ECCE) Scheme and Community Childcare Subvention Scheme (CCS) (Clare CCC) available in different languages.
- Parent's Information Leaflet for ECCE Scheme (Cork CCC) available in a number of languages
- What Happens at Pre-School (various CCCS)
- Promoting Active Play for Children and Parents (HSE West)
- Parents Information leaflet on CCS Scheme
- Aistear Leaflet for parents
- Tip-sheet on play for Parents of babies
- Tip-sheet on play for Parents of toddlers
- Tip-sheet on play for Parents of young children
- A Parents guide to homework (Seven Seas, HALIBORANGE)
- Children First National Guidelines for the Welfare and Protection of Children (DCYA)

For further information on any of the articles in this newsletter please contact  
Roscommon County Childcare Committee  
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## Roscommon County Childcare Committee

### Continue to Offer Advice to Parents / Guardians on Accessing Quality Childcare to Match Their Family Needs.

### Free Preschool Year in Early Education (ECCE): Children aged between 3 years 3 months and 4 years 7 months

In order for you as a parent to access this scheme in September 2011, your child(ren) must be born between 2nd February 2007 and 30th June 2008. This scheme is available in both private and community childcare services.

If your child is attending a sessional service s/he will avail of the scheme over 3 hours per day, five days a week for 38 weeks per year. As the childcare service will receive a grant, you as a parent do not have to pay any fee.

If your child is attending a full or part-time day care service, s/he has the opportunity to attend for 2 hours 15 minutes per day, five days a week for 50 weeks per year. As the childcare service will receive a grant of €48.50, this is reduced from your full / part time fees.

Childcare services may offer optional extras which you are not obliged to avail of. This does not affect the child's entitlement to a place on the Early Childhood Care Education scheme. For a list of optional extras that may be charged for and those that may not be charged for under the Free Preschool scheme or any other queries in relation to this scheme, please contact Roscommon County Childcare Committee 094 9622540 or check our website on [www.roscommonchildcare.ie](http://www.roscommonchildcare.ie)

In early September, parents will complete a parent declaration form that they will receive from their childcare service. Childcare services use this information to submit an electronic form to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs.

### The Community Childcare Subvention Scheme (CCS): Babies to end of Primary school

This scheme is designed for Parents who are in receipt of a social welfare benefit or who hold a medical / GP visit card. In October, parents who are eligible to avail of this scheme will complete a parent declaration form available from your childcare service. Parents will receive a reduction in their childcare costs based on the fee policy set out by the childcare service and approved by Roscommon County Childcare Committee. This scheme is also available in afterschool services within community services. Childcare services use the parent declaration form to submit an electronic form to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. Roscommon County Childcare Committee offer childcare services support to complete this process.

### The Childcare Employment and Training Scheme (CETS): Babies to end of Primary school

This scheme is designed to support the childcare needs of parents/guardians who are participating in training and educational courses operated by FÁS and the VEC. It is open to both private and community full time childcare services and

afterschool services. It is available to parents whose children are in childcare and primary school.

Parents / guardians, when you receive a letter from FÁS / VEC offering you a training place, inform them if you have childcare requirements. If your course is eligible for the Childcare Employment and Training scheme, they will provide you with a letter stating such, and a list of childcare services who are participating in the Childcare Employment and Training scheme. Contact a childcare service to reserve a Childcare Employment and Training place or Roscommon County Childcare Committee who will support you in finding a childcare service. When you begin your FÁS / VEC course, you will receive a 2nd letter confirming your start / end dates for courses. Give this letter to the childcare service.



### Parents Guide to choosing a childminder

People offering a professional childminding service are not allowed care for more than 5 children from 0-6 years at any one time. Childminder's caring for more than 3 preschool children are obliged by law to notify the Health Service Executive of their service and are

subject to the 2006 preschool regulations.

Childminders who care for up to 3 preschool children can voluntary notify their childminding service to Roscommon County Childcare Committee, and this is highly recommended under The National Guidelines for Childminders 2008.

Once your childminder is notified to the Health Service Executive or voluntary notified to Roscommon County Childcare Committee, you, as a parent can be reassured your childminder is a professional who communicates with Roscommon County Childcare Committee. Access to the home by other people is limited while your children are in the childminding service, and that the home is smoke free. Notification also ensures the childminder has the following which is essential for working with young children.

- Garda Clearance
- Child Protection training
- Insurance
- Policies and Procedures
- Record keeping
- Networking opportunities
- Knowledge of child development and developmental milestones
- Access to advice, training and support from Roscommon County Childcare Committee.

The number of children a childminder can care for is limited, so that each child receives relevant and age appropriate care suitable to their developmental needs.

For further information on any of the above or to source a notified childminder in your area, please contact Roscommon County Childcare Committee on 094 9622540 or e mail [cmao@roscommonchildcare.ie](mailto:cmao@roscommonchildcare.ie)

