

Dear Early Childhood Care and Educator/Service Provider,

Please see below our bulletin for the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) sector in County Roscommon with relevant information for you regarding deadlines, training and updates.

As always, we welcome any feedback on our communication with you and if you need to have something clarified or discussed in more detail, then please contact a member of our staff team through email or on our main number at 094 9622540.

Please keep updated through our new website www.roscommonchildcare.ie and on our face book page at <https://www.facebook.com/roscommonchildcare/> where we will continue to post relevant information for our sector as the central local information hub for the ECCE sector in County Roscommon.

We aim to as wide an audience as possible and would be grateful if you could distribute this to each member of your staff teams and place on your bulletin/information board for sharing of information. We hope you enjoy this bulletin and find it informative and beneficial.

Kind Regards,

Irene Cafferky, Manager and Roscommon CCC Staff Team Carmel, Sinead, Aine & Martina Roscommon County Childcare Committee

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UPCOMING DEADLINES OF IMPORTANCE

15th January 2018 – Túsla Quality and Regulatory Framework Consultation Closes

The consultation with the sector on the new guidelines for the Childcare Regulations closes on this date. See below for more information.

2nd February 2018 – CCS Appeals Window Closes

All CCS registration appeals must be completed by this date. Please see below for further details.

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Continuing Professional Development Training/Workshops

Dates for Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Charter Guidelines Training 2018

Roscommon County Childcare Committee are hosting 2 training courses on the implementation of the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Charter and Guidelines for the Early Childhood Care and Education Sector for County Roscommon.

By completing this training it will support the Inclusion Officer appointed within your service or if a one of your staff is participating on the LINC programme. Support will be given by RCCC to ensure your Inclusion policy is in line with the Early Childhood Care and Education Charter and Preschool Regulations 2016 to meet the individual needs of your service when the training is completed. If you can send two staff of this training it would be very beneficial to your service. The training consists of one full day training from 2pm to 8.30pm and three evening session there after which runs from 6.30pm to 9.30pm.

The training will focus on the following areas

- **Section 1:** Understanding Diversity, Equality and Inclusion
- **Section 2:** What is a Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Approach?
- **Section 3:** Diversity, Equality and Inclusion - Physical Environment
- **Section 4:** Diversity, Equality and Inclusion - Supporting Families

The dates for the training are outlined below

Training course 1-you must attend all dates to receive certification

Venue Roscommon County Childcare Committee Offices Knock Road Castlereagh Co. Roscommon	
Monday 29 th January 2018	2pm -8.30pm
Monday 5 th February 2018	6.30pm- 9.30pm
Monday 12 th February 2018	6.30pm- 9.30pm
Monday 19 th February 2018	6.30pm- 9.30pm
Venue Roscommon County Childcare Committee Offices Knock Road Castlereagh Co. Roscommon	
Monday 9 th April 2018	2pm -8.30pm
Monday 16 th April 2018	6.30pm- 9.30pm
Monday 23 rd April 2018	6.30pm- 9.30pm
Monday 30 th April 2018	6.30pm- 9.30pm

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis

To book your place please e mail carmel.dunne@roscommonchildcare.ie with your name, service name and your preference for course 1 or 2.

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Information Updates

Roscommon County Childcare Committee's Jobs Board



To further support childcare services in the recruitment of staff a new jobs board is now available on [Roscommon CCC website](#). It will enable childcare service to manually post job vacancies on Roscommon CCC website.

ECCE registrations

When you are registering a child on ECCE who was previously registered under another programme you will need the child's PPSN. Unfortunately, the unique ID number from another programme such as CCS/P cannot be used to import personal information to a new programme.

Capital Grants 2018 briefing notes

Pobal have produced guidance notes on applying for capital grants in 2018. It is expected that the process will open in February. The guidelines set out:

- the timeline for the grants
- the application process
- how to get a DCYA ref number
- what is required in relation to planning
- overview of the strands available

The guidelines are available on PIP, and we have attached a copy for your convenience.

The Children First Act and Mandated Reporting



From December 11, 2017 Early Years Services including staff, service owners, board of management and volunteers will have new legal obligations under the Children First Act 2015.

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The following resources contain information on the new requirements:

1) [Children First National Guidance for the Protection & Welfare of Children](#). The new Guidance includes information on the new legal requirements and contains important information for professionals working with children and organisations providing services to children. Everyone working in an early years' service should read and be familiar with the new guidance document. This Guidance will operate from Dec 11, 2017. Any previous guidance should be disposed of from this date.

2) [Questions and Answers – Early Years Services and the Children First Act, 2015](#).

CCS 2017 Registrations and Appeals

This applies to CCS registrations only, not to CCSP.

All 2017 CCS registrations have been approved and the bands awarded, there is a notice on PIP to this effect. Pobal are asking services to review the bands that have been awarded to families. Where there are documents already attached to a registration that prove eligibility for a different band, Pobal are currently reviewing these. Pobal will let you know via the comment section or registration request if the band stays as is or has been changed. Services do not need to appeal these registrations until they have received a response from Pobal.

If the registration is still provisional it may be due to:

- A PPSN not validated
 - Overlapping registration dates
 - Initial checks have not been able to confirm eligibility and a band could not be awarded.
- Pobal will review any attached documents. Attach any documentation you have as soon as possible if you haven't already done so.

If you wish to appeal the band awarded, you must supply the correct eligibility documentation. You have until 2 February to complete an appeal.

Túsla Quality and Regulatory Framework Consultation

The Early Year's Inspectorate is now inviting all interested parties to give their feedback on this draft of the QRF. The purpose of this consultation is

a) To provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to give their views

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- b) To understand any potential concerns or challenges emerging
- c) To identify potential training and other needs arising.

For more information and an invitation to participate and give feedback via an online survey on the Túsla Early Years Inspectorate Draft Quality and Regulatory Framework (QRF) click on the following [link](#).

The consultation is open from 30th November to the 15th of January 2018.

Consultation on ECCE level 7&8 award criteria

The Dept. of Education and skills wishes to consult as widely as possible on their draft criteria and guidelines for level 7 & 8 degree programmes. There is a recognition that the ECCE sector is constantly developing and that the roles open to early years professionals are very varied. There is also recognition of the variable content in degree courses being offered. These guidelines are aimed at preparing early years professionals for the different aspects of their careers but also to bring consistency to the course content. The draft guidelines have been attached for your convenience.

Submissions can be made here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HVYGWSV>

The closing date for submission is Wednesday 28 February. If you prefer you can send your submission to earlychildhood@education.gov.ie

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