Roscommon County Childcare Committee CLG

RCCC Bulletin: Edition 9

16th March 2018

Roscommon County Childcare Committee
Knock Road, Castlerea, Co. Roscommon
Tel: 094 96 22540
E-mail: info@roscommonchildcare.ie
Website: www.roscommonchildcare.ie

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 reach 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 TRAINING AND ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

National Síolta awareness raising workshops

Roscommon CCC are hosting a number of national Siolta awareness raising workshops in the coming weeks. We would like to remind childcare services that engagement with Aistear and Siolta is recommended in your ECCE contract and capital funding 2018 also refers to Aistear and Siolta. Following the feedback from services we are offering the following dates. Please let us know your preference.

Standards	Date &Time	Venue
Interactions partnerships workshop Standard 1: Rights of the Child Standard 3: Parents and Families Standard 4: Consultation Standard 5: Interactions	Friday 6th April 10am- 12.30pm Tuesday 10th April 2pm – 4.30pm	Roscommon CCC offices
Environments/curriculum workshop Standard 2: Environments Standard 6: Play Standard 7: Curriculum	Friday 6th April 1pm- 3.30pm Tuesday 17th April 2pm – 4.30pm	Roscommon CCC offices
Management workshop Standard 4: Consultation Standard 8: Planning & Evaluation Standard 9: Health & Welfare Standard 10: Organisation Standard 11: Professional Practice Standard 12: Communication Standard 15: Legislation & Regulation	Friday 20th April 2pm – 5pm 6pm- 9pm	Roscommon CCC offices
Transitions Standard 13: Transitions Standard 14: Identity & Belonging Standard 16: Community Involvement	Tuesday 24th April 2 pm- 4.30pm 6pm-9pm	Roscommon CCC offices

Please email carmel.dunne@roscommonchildcare.ie or contact 094 9622540 to book your place at these workshops.

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Data Protection Training

Is your service ready for The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) that will come into force on the **25th May 2018**, replacing the existing data protection framework under the EU Data Protection Directive.

Data protection training will take place on **Tuesday 10th April 2018 from 6.30pm**. This training event will be conducted by Canavan and Byrne and a fee will be charged upon booking.

Date: 10th April 2018.
Venue: RCCC Offices.
Time: 6.30-8.30pm
Cost: €25
Trainers: Canavan and Byrne.

The training evening will give attendees a solid understanding of data protection and will give practical advice on how to implement good practice in for delivery of childcare services.
Key objectives will include:

- To understand data protection principles.
- Understand how data protection applies to the delivery of childcare services.
- To be able to avoid the common mistakes that put data at risk.

The content outlined in this workshop will benefit managers, support teams and anyone involved in designing or managing service delivery and implementing policy.
Please **contact our offices on 094 96 22540** to book your place on this training event as there is a limited number of places. Please note this training event is pendant on numbers booked.

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Access and Inclusion Model (AIM)

Access and Inclusion Packs

Roscommon CCC have been working closely with the DCYA to deliver the Diversity Equality and Inclusion Guidelines training and to provide parents and service providers with information and signposting on the Access and Inclusion Model.

The DCYA are currently assembling access and inclusion packs for early childhood services. Roscommon CCC have provided the DCYA with the relevant information regarding services who have participated in the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion training. It is expected that these inclusion packs worth approximately €500 will be distributed to childcare over the coming weeks.

A further development under the Access and Inclusion model is a new programme of specialised training for Early Years Practitioners will be rolled out in 2018. The first round of training is Hanen Teacher Talk, which is a certified 3 day course which will be delivered by Better Start Early Years Specialists. Better Start are collaborating with Teacher Education Centres around the country to ensure local delivery of training. A new programme of specialised training for Early Years Practitioners will be rolled out as part of the AIM programme. The first round of training is Hanen Teacher Talk, which is a certified 3 day course which will be delivered by Better Start Early Years Specialists. Better Start are collaborating with Teacher Education Centres around the country to ensure local delivery of training.
The first round of training will begin in March and April 2018 in Cork, Dublin, Kildare, Leitrim, Limerick and Wexford and will take place on one Saturday per month. ECCE services in receipt of AIM targeted support (Levels 4-7) will be invited to apply. Further training courses will be available throughout 2018. Information on Hanen training for Early Years Practitioners in County Roscommon will follow over the next few weeks.
For further information please contact Roscommon CCC on 094 9622540 or e mail carmel.dunne@roscommonchildcare.ie.
More information is available on RCCC website: http://www.roscommonchildcare.ie/better-start-aim-hanen-teacher-talk-training-programmes/

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Information Updates

Applications are now opened for Leadership and INClusion (LINC) programme

Following our LINC programme information evening on Monday March 12th, the application process for students interested in partaking in the LINC Programme for the 2018/2019 academic year has commenced. The Leadership for Inclusion in the Early Years Programme (LINC), is a level 6 Special Purpose Award (Higher Education). The programme is designed to enhance inclusion of children with additional needs in early year's settings through the development of the role of Inclusion Co-Ordinator (INCO). The programme was introduced as part of the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) in 2016. You may be aware that settings employing a LINC-qualified INCO are entitled to receive additional capitation as part of the ECCE programme. Further information on LINC is available at www.lincprogramme.ie as well as on Roscommon CCC website: http://www.roscommonchildcare.ie/applications-now-open-linc-programme/.

Free Inclusion Training for Childcare 09.03.2018

Minister Zappone announces up to 1,200 free places on leadership for inclusion programme

"Investing in childcare personnel delivers quality accessible services for children, parents and families"

Up to 1,200 free training places are being made available to pre-school practitioners to ensure their free pre-school services are inclusive and accessible to children with disabilities, according to the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Dr Katherine Zappone. Applications will open on 12 March 2018 for the third intake onto the Leadership for Inclusion (LINC) higher education programme for pre-school practitioners which will commence this September. The LINC programme is funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and is delivered by a consortium, led by Mary Immaculate College, Limerick together with Froebel Department of Primary and Early Childhood Education, Maynooth University and Early Childhood Ireland. Minister Zappone welcomed the announcement of the third intake onto the LINC Programme, noting that: 'Since the introduction of AIM we have made great strides to ensure children with disabilities can participate in free pre-school education alongside their friends. The provision of high quality education and training to upskill pre-school

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practitioners through this award winning Programme has been central to our success. Since this Programme was first launched, approximately 750 graduates have taken on the role of Inclusion Coordinator in their setting, a further 850 students are expected to graduate later this year and up to 1,200 places will be offered for new enrolments." The LINC Programme contains online and classroom based sessions in order to ensure a flexible and quality learning experience, enabling pre-school practitioners in full-time employment to attend this important continuing professional development (CPD) programme. According to Mr Fintan Breen, LINC National Programme Coordinator 'pre-school practitioners have engaged enthusiastically with this Programme over the last two years and we are delighted with the impact that LINC is having on children, families and communities. Across the country, almost 750 graduates from the first intake are now performing a new leadership role of Inclusion Coordinator within their pre-school setting. This attracts an increase of €2 per child per week in the rate of ECCE capitation payable to that setting. The application deadline for the LINC Programme is Thursday, 12 April 2018 and further information on how to apply can be found on www.lincprogramme.ie

See full report on DCYA website: https://www.dcya.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=4611

Mayo County Childcare Committee – Turning Play inside out

Mayo county childcare committee are holding a seminar to promote play. The title of the event is 'Turning play inside out'.
Date: March 24th 2018
Venue: GMIT Castlebar
Please contact Mayo County Childcare Committee for further details on: 094 907010

Leitrim County Childcare Committee – Children's Well-being and Resilience

Leitrim county childcare committee are holding a seminar to promote play. The title of the event is 'Children's well-being and resilience'.
Date: March 24th 2018
Venue: The Bush Hotel Carrick on Shannon.
Please contact Letrim County Childcare Committee for further details on: 071 96 40870.

Seas Suas Survey

Seas Suas, the representative organisation for independent providers of childcare and early education are conducting a survey around the most urgent issues affecting providers. Seas Suas are hoping to get as many responses and give as many people as possible an opportunity to give their input. Survey can be found at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/XH3KHXX

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Early childhood Ireland – Online training for Childminders

Early Childhood Ireland are offering Childminders working in the home with children from 0-6, an opportunity to engage and input into the pilot of a free online training programme. Early Childhood Ireland has been involved in a European project called Child in Mind with four other countries, Italy, Greece, Spain and Slovakia. We are looking for participants to pilot and evaluate an online course developed for Childminders. The overall goal is to address the gap in the availability of educational resources for Childminders.
The pilot training programme will begin on the 9th of April for four weeks. It is a self-paced course and those participating will cover the course content at a time that best suits them however they will have support at scheduled times throughout, where any questions or queries can be answered. This could is a wonderful opportunity to support Childminders in County Roscommon with an accessible training option.
If you have any queries, please check out www.earlychilhoodireland.ie .

Supporting Young Voices – €620,000 Fund announced Young people must have say in decisions by local councils

Statement by Minister Katherine Zappone

Wednesday, 14th March 2018

Dr Katherine Zappone, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, today announced funding to ensure that local councils are listening to young voices in the communities they serve.
The Comhairle na nÓg Development Fund 2018 is making €620,000 available to 31 Local Authorities. Comhairle na nÓg are child and youth councils active in the 31 Local Authority areas of the country. The money must be used to work on young people's topics and to allow local and national decision makers to consult with children and teenagers. Announcing the payment Minister Zappone said "It is the mission of my office to ensure that children and young people are respected as the citizens of today and not just the adults of tomorrow. I regard meaningful participation in decision-making by children and young people as critically important. They must be given a fair say on policies, rules and regulations which impact on their daily lives."
Comhairle na nÓg members are active on a wide range of issues. These include promotion of the Irish language, promotion of alternative sports, sexual health and education, raising awareness of mental health issues, health and fitness for young people, homelessness, LGBTI awareness campaigns and challenging stereotypes.

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Many local agencies consult with their Comhairle na nÓg to get the views of young people on the development of relevant services and policies, such as Local Economic Community Plans (LECPs) and local development strategies, heritage plans, play and recreation policies, policing plans and the location or type of sports facilities in the area. Comhairle na nÓg are also often asked for submissions on local policies or to take part in public consultations.

Please see original report on the DCYA website: https://www.dcya.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=4622

Further flexibility announced to overage exemptions to free pre-school programme pending outcome of consultation process

Roscommon County Childcare Committee are delighted to announce that parents of children with disabilities who are now deciding whether to defer their child's entry into free pre-school will be able to avail of two full years irrespective of any future policy changes, according to the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Dr Katherine Zappone.

Following the decision last December to allow for a consultation process on proposed changes to the rules on overage exemptions in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme, the Minister has now acted to address concerns raised by some parents who are facing imminent choices about their children's education. This means that parents of children born over autumn months (i.e. from September to December) can defer their children's start date from September 2018 (when the child will be between 2 year 8 months and 2 years 11 months) to September 2019 (when the child will be between 3 year 8 months and 3 years 11 months) and continue to avail of 2 full years of the ECCE Programme (or 76 consecutive ECCE weeks). As a consequence, an exemption to the upper age limit in the ECCE Programme will be maintained for this cohort for this period of time. The Minister also advised that details of the consultation process are being finalised and will be published shortly. Roscommon CCC would like to update services that a letter must be provided from a HSE therapist etc. stating that the child needs to remain in pre-school for another year. However, please note that children are only allowed to avail of a maximum of 2 years. Therefore for a child from September 2018 who will be eligible for 2 full pre-school years, they will not be allowed to avail of a third pre-school year. The consultation will take place soon in relation to the overage exemptions, and this may change what is currently in practise.

Original report can be found on the DCYA website.

Please click below for the press release from Ministers Zappone and Burton announcing the details of the consultation process on 'overage exemptions' to the ECCE programme:
http://www.roscommonchildcare.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Press-realese-06.03.2018.pdf .

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