

Roscommon CCC Weekly Bulletin for ELC and SAC services in County Roscommon



Supporting
parents &
families & the
ELC and SAC
sector

Roscommon County Childcare Committee Details

If you have any questions or queries, contact a member of the team

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Roscommon CCC Resources

Roscommon CCC has uploaded a variety of useful resources for services and parents on our resource page on our [website. www.roscommonchildcare.ie](http://www.roscommonchildcare.ie)

In this edition

Tip of the week-Roscommon CCC updates

Covid Case Support helplines -Deadlines Important Dates

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SAC survey- FAR training bursary

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DCEDIY & Important notices/Deadlines

Extension to EWSS-HSE cyber-attack update

Updating Aistear information

RCCC workshops fee policies & NCS & ECCE pre contracting.

Grandfathering declaration

NCS Survey Update-Aim

Isolation guidance-Ask the Team.

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TIP. Please check the Hive comments and Notifications regularly, as Pobal will use this channel to contact you.

Roscommon CCC updates

In this week's bulletin you will find the most recent announcements from DCYA and the PIP Portal. Please note the information in these bulletins is based on official communications from DCYA and Pobal as well as notices on PIP. However, information is subject to change from week to week so please check our most recent bulletin for the most up to date information. Do not forget this bulletin should not replace checking PIP & HIVE- it is merely a reminder of important deadlines and information.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

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.

DEADLINES/IMPORTANT DATES:

Friday 4 June 2021

- Programme support payment (PSP) applications open (see below for details)

Friday 11 June

- Closing date for the annual sector profile survey (see below for details)

Friday 18 June 2021

- Outdoor grant applications open (see below for details)

Friday 25 June 2021

- PSP applications close



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Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth

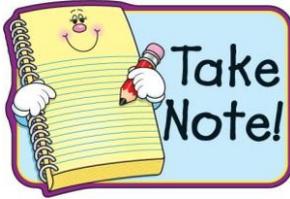
**National Covid-19 Support
Helpline for ELC and SAC providers**

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

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PSP application announced on PIP for 2021-2022-The Programme Support Payments (PSP) will open for applications on the Early Years Hive from Friday, 4th June until Friday, 25th June 2021.

Click [here](#) to see full announcement!

Annual Early Years' Service Profile 2020/2021 reminder

On behalf of Pobal and the DCEDIY, we would like to thank all those who have started or submitted a Service Profile or Income and Costs Survey.

This is a reminder that the deadline for completing both surveys is **Friday 11 June 2021**.

You can access the surveys by going to [My Account > Surveys](#) on the Early Years Hive.

Please see the announcement posted on 28 May for more information and you will also find a guideline document available under the 'Annual Early Years' Service Profile' heading in the [Useful Links](#) section of Hive.

If you experience any difficulties accessing or completing either survey, please log a request through the Early Years Hive using the following categories:

- **Request type:** EY Service Profile
- **Request type details:** EY Service Profile
- **Request Programme:** EY Service Profile.

Outdoor Enhancement Grant

Further to the [recent announcement](#) by the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, Roderic O'Gorman, T.D., on the Summer of Play initiative and the inclusion of an Outdoor Enhancement Capital Grant 2021 for ELC and SAC services please be advised of the following;

1. The online application process for the Outdoor Enhancement Capital Grant 2021 will open on Hive on **18 June 2021**.
2. To be eligible, applicants must have been contracted with DCEDIY to provide Early Learning and Care and or School Age Childcare Programmes on the 3 May 2021 and have a minimum of one child registered in respect of one or more of the DCEDIY registration-based schemes.
3. The amount of grant available is pre-determined and calculated based on the number of individual children registered with the service as of 3 May 2021.

Number of children registered	Grant Allocation
1-49	€1,000
50-100	€2,000
101+	€2,500

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- The timeframe for eligible expenditure under the grant is from **1 June 2021 - 31 December 2021**.
- Detailed applicant guidelines demonstrating how to apply, and the terms and conditions of funding will be published on Hive in advance of the application process opening.

School aged childcare survey

Surveys are like buses, none for ages and then three come at once. We are sorry that the school aged childcare survey coincided with the sector profile and the income and costs surveys and that some of you have experienced technical difficulties. The Sonra system is a bit like survey monkey, the system is designed to issue, remind, and record responses to questionnaires. Unfortunately, we have never used Sonra to send a questionnaire to services before, so we were a little unsure ourselves on how it would work.

Details of the questions and the reasons for the survey are in the attached document.

If you are having technical difficulties, please don't hesitate to contact us.

FAR training bursary

Tusla have confirmed that the regulatory requirement to have at least one person FAR trained available to children at all times in each service has been extended to 1 November 2021.

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/>

Due to this extension, the DCEDIY have agreed to extend the FAR reimbursement scheme to 31st October. Please see the attached application form for full details of the scheme and payment dates.

Please remember the following:

- Only **one** payment can be made per service.
- The training must have been completed by 31 October 2021. Training completed after that date is not eligible for a payment under the scheme.
- Completed FAR Reimbursement application form must be accompanied by a PHECC accredited FAR certificate and a copy of training payment receipt.



Tusla online DLP & Mandated Person Briefing Sessions Postponed Indefinitely

Tusla have informed Roscommon CCC that unfortunately, due to the nature of the current situation regarding the recent cyber-attack on their IT systems, they have no option but to postpone the Tusla online DLP & mandated persons briefing sessions indefinitely. As you will have heard through the media, there has been no indication as to when IT services will resume. Roscommon CCC will keep you updated on further developments.



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All the important programme readiness dates will be on the Hive announcements calendar which can be found here <https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/announcementscalendar/>
Before any of the other tasks can be completed, your PAU must log on to the hive and do the following:

- Confirm Organisation details
- Confirm Service provider details.
- Confirm PAU
- Confirm Portal users
- Confirm Bank account (ECCE and NCS only)
- Confirm TUSLA registration
- Create a 2021/22 Service calendar
- Create a 2021/22 Fees list
- Activate the Funding Agreement*

*For NCS and ECCE, services are required to create their 2021/22 service calendar and fees list before they can activate the NCS 2021 funding agreement.

NCS and ECCE are both administered on the Hive. The readiness tasks and guides on how to complete them can all be found in the Resources - Help and Support section of the Hive, which can be found here: <https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/how-to-guides/>



The **CCSP saver programme remains on PIP.

The **TEC saver** Programme will merge with the CCSP Saver Programme at the end of this programme year. The remaining TEC participants will be registered as CCSP (TEC Final Year) savers on the CCSP programme for 2021/2022. CCSP (TEC Final Year) Savers will automatically be approved for a Band A subsidy on their registration for the remainder of the 2021/2022 programme year.

Extension of EWSS

It has been confirmed that the Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme will continue until 31 December 2021. The exemption from the turnover test, that was arranged for childcare services by the DCEDIY, will continue until the end of Quarter 3. The Quarter 4 arrangements will not be decided until September.

HSE Cyber Attack Public Health Update

Things are returning to normal with regard to the reporting of Covid-19 cases. If a positive case is identified within your service, excel sheets are being sent on to you for completion of the close



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contacts. Close contacts will be given appointments to attend for testing they are no longer being asked to attend the walk-in testing centres without an appointment. This is very important from a Public Health perspective, so all the results are linked to your facility.

Apparently Public Health are still seeing cases who have attended services despite displaying symptoms. You are being asked to exclude anyone who is symptomatic and recommend that they discuss their symptoms with their GP.

You should only call the HSE helpline if you have a suspected or confirmed case. The attached FAQ document should answer any other general Covid-19 queries.

Updating Aistear

NCCA is beginning the process of updating Aistear and the first phase is a consultation.

All the details are on the NCCA website here: <https://ncca.ie/en/early-childhood/early-childhood-education-developments/updating-aistear/>

There you will find the links to the survey, the paper setting out the rationale and process for the update, and details on registering for the online consultation seminars being held in the Autumn/Winter.



Fee policies & Calendars workshops



Date	Time
Monday 14 th June	2pm-3pm
Monday 14 th June	7pm-8pm
Thursday 17 th June	7pm-8pm

These will be a virtual online event & will cover the following:

ECCE fees list & optional extras

CCSP fees list & optional extras

If you wish to attend, please send an email to carmel.dunne@roscommonchildcare.ie with session preference.

Workshop Name	Date	Time
Information session on Hive portal	9 th June	10am- 11pm.
Information session on Hive portal	22 nd June	7pm 8pm

These will be a virtual online event & will cover the following:

- Tabs on hive Portal
- AIM
- ECCE & NCS enhancements on Hive
- Calendars
- Q&A

If you wish to attend, please send an email to sinead.mcquaid@roscommonchildcare.ie with session preference.

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NCS survey update

The NCS survey has been updated with an additional question. The survey should take less than 10 minutes to complete and will be used to inform the review of the programme.

The survey can be found at:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/NCS-Provider-Survey>



AIM information on Disability Advice and Support



Below are links to websites and documents where you can find quality information about supporting children with disabilities accessing pre-school and beyond. You will also find information on schemes and grants specifically for disabilities.

<http://nda.ie/> (National Disability Authority)

<https://ncse.ie/> (National Council for Special Education)

<https://www.hse.ie/childdisability> (HSE advice for supporting children with disabilities.)

[Toilet Training For Children With Additional Needs \(PDF\)](#) (HSE)

For further information please visit

www.aim.gov.ie

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Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

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 Coronavirus COVID-19 Public Health Advice

Covid-19 isolation guidelines

There has been an increase in queries to the national Covid support helpline in relation to the isolation of children who are suspected/confirmed to have Covid-19 or are close contacts. Attached are the quick guides to the isolation of adults and children over 13 and for children under the age of 13.

The Covid-19 guidance for childcare settings can be found at:

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/childcareguidance/>



The transition to school remains especially difficult again this year because of Covid conditions. Attached to this email are some transitions resources that have been developed for parents. This year the NCCA have also developed an additional parents' template for children starting in ECCE. Services are being asked to print them for the parents of children starting school, to help them to support the children with the transition.

Please contact us if you have any difficulties accessing the resources. Equally we would love to hear of ways you have used them with parents.

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The Mó Scéal templates linked below have been developed for parents to fill in to share information for their child's new pre-school or primary school.

Links to Mó Scéal templates in English:

- Moving to Pre-School: <http://bit.ly/MoScealPreSchool>
- Moving to Primary School: <http://bit.ly/MoScealPrimarySchool>

Links to Mó Scéal templates in Irish:

- Ag aistriú ar an réamhscoil: <http://bit.ly/MoScealReamhscoil>
- Ag aistriú go dtí an bhunscoil: <http://bit.ly/MoScealBhunscoil>

These NPC resources have been developed to support parents and children through the transition from their early years' service to primary school.

If you require any assistance with printing the attached documents, please contact your assigned CDO or email info@roscommonchildcare.ie. Also a webinar is being hosted this evening at 7pm Transition from Preschool to Primary School, services can Register via: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mSkd2zvcQWuGgim3V0UI5w.



ASK THE TEAM



Q. What is the closing date for PSP 2021-2022:

A. The Programme Support Payments (PSP) will open for applications on the Early Years Hive from Friday, 4th June until Friday, 25th June 2021.

