









All updates and our weekly newsletter/bulletin from us to your service will now come from our info@roscommonchildcare.ie address. Your assigned development officer will also keep in regular contact with your service for any support needs.



Visit our website at <a href="https://www.roscommonchildcare.ie/">https://www.roscommonchildcare.ie/</a> Roscommon CCC has uploaded a variety of useful resources for services and parents on our resource page on our website.



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.



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES ON ROSCOMMON CCC WEBSITE

Roscommon CCC Jobs board is updated regularly check it out here: https://www.roscommonchildcare.ie/jobs-board/





# Roscommon CCC Upcoming Tusla Always Children First Training - A FEW PLACES LEFT

Has your Tusla Always Children First Certificate expired? Are you new to your role?

We have another date in the calendar for Tusla Always Children First Foundation Level Training (Child Safeguarding one day programme). Places will be prioritised for services Designated Liaison Persons (DLP) or Deputy Designated Liaison Persons (DLP) however if places are available other staff working directly with children in ELC/SAC services in County Roscommon will be accommodated where possible and/or placed on our waiting list for next programme.

You must have completed the Tusla eLearning Programme to attend the one-day foundation certificate programme and email proof of your eLearning cert to us in Roscommon CCC. https://www.tusla.ie/children-first/children-first-elearning-programme/

Please register your interest with aine.mannion@roscommonchildcare.ie or irene.cafferky@roscommonchildcare.ie

Please outline whether you are an assigned DLP/Deputy DLP within your service. Roscommon CC will then confirm places through attendees' email only.





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Roscommon CCC CF Foundation Training Q4 2022 Delivery Dates		
Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	2.00pm-8.30pm	RCCC Offices, Castlerea, Co. Roscommon



# Deadlines / Important Dates & Information for services w/e 02/09/2022

## **DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:**

Midnight Friday 9th September \*\*\* Deadline Core Funding application & AGREEMENTS\*\*\*

This is the deadline for the Interim Funding and Core Funding to receive payment from 1<sup>st</sup> September.

# Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September

Employment Regulation Orders will commence.

## Friday 30th September

Learner Fund Bursary 2022 closes for applications. Contact <a href="mailto:info@roscommonchildcare.ie">info@roscommonchildcare.ie</a> for application or

https://www.roscommonchildcare.ie/early-years-practitioner-learner-fund-bursary-deadline-30th-september/

## FIRS – Community services

The Finance and Impact returns deadline for August 2022 (Community Services only)

### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### **Core Funding-Advance Interim Funding**

The Employment Regulation Orders for the sector will come into effect next Thursday 15th September. This is also the day that the Core Funding Partner Service Funding Agreement will come into effect and Interim funding will end.

# Key dates for accepting funding agreements

As communicated last week, an extension has been made to the date that providers can accept the funding agreements and still receive backdated Interim Funding payments from 1<sup>st</sup> September. All providers who have accepted the funding agreements before midnight on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September will receive payment in respect of two





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full weeks of Interim Funding (1<sup>st</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> September) and will receive Core Funding payments from the start of Core Funding on 15<sup>th</sup> September. **Funding agreements activated after 9<sup>th</sup> September will receive payment from that point onwards but will not be backdated.** 

### **Application statuses**

To clarify for providers that there are different categories of 'status' that apply to different stages of the Core funding/Interim funding application process.

- Once the Core Funding Partner Service Funding Agreement has been activated the status will change to 'Submitted'.
- The status of your Core Funding Application Module: will also update to reflect either a 'Contracted' or 'Approved' status.
- When Core Funding Application Module has been submitted, funding agreements have been activated and
  are awaiting appraisal it will state contracted. Initial Core Funding payments will be made without
  appraisals. Appraisals are due to commence later this month.
- When your Core Funding Application Module has been submitted, funding agreements have been activated and the Core Funding Application Module has been approved it will have approved status.

### **Core Funding payments**

The first Core Funding payments will issue next week for services that have completed the contracting process by accepting the funding agreements. Payments in respect of the first two weeks of Core Funding (15th September – 28th September) should reach providers' accounts on **Friday 16th September**. Service providers who have completed their Core Funding application module and accepted the funding agreements by close of business on Monday 12th September will also receive payment from Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September.

From 29th September onwards, Core funding payments will generally be monthly.

## Making changes to Core Funding applications (please note this new information)

Originally the FAQ for Core Funding specified that base rate (capacity) allocations would be capped for the duration of the 2022/2023 programme at the amount calculated at the point of the initial application submission year, this is now being revised.





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While it is currently not possible to make these changes, this functionality is under development by Pobal and it will be available in a number of weeks' time. When this functionality is in effect, it will permit applicants to make changes to their Core Funding application. Further notifications will issue to providers once this is available.

Providers will be able to update their application up until 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022 with changes that have an impact of their Core Funding base rate (capacity) value (within the upper limit determined by the Tusla register) becoming effective from the point at which the change is submitted.

The provision to make changes to your Core Funding application, for example due to an increase in capacity arising from a Tusla register update, an increase in the service's operating hours or because of an error or you are in the process of a Change in Circumstance application with Tusla and have delayed your Core Funding application until the Change in Circumstance is approved.

When the changes functionality initially becomes available, a window will be available to providers to record any changes, with changes to values backdated to the date on which they became effective. We hope this development will be of benefit to providers who are in the process of a Change in Circumstance application with Tusla that has yet to be approved and allow them to proceed to complete the application module, accept the funding agreements and update their capacity at a future date.

Once the changes functionality is available, changes in respect of graduate Lead Educators and graduate Managers can be submitted at any point during the year and the graduate premium values will be adjusted accordingly.

# **Employment Regulation Orders for the Early Years Services Sector.**

The Orders will commence on 15 September 2022, providing new minimum hourly rates of pay for various roles in the Early Years Services Sector as follows:

- €13.00 for Early Years Educators/ School-Age Childcare practitioners.
- €14.00 for Early Years Lead Educators / School-Age Childcare co-ordinators.
- €15.50 Graduate Early Years Lead Educators / School-Age Childcare co-ordinators
- €15.70 for Deputy Managers.
- €16.50 for Managers;







• €17.25 for Graduate Managers.

#### **FIRS**

The Finance and Impact returns (FIRs) for August 2022 are available for completion on Pobal Online.

The DCEDIY would like to stress the importance **for all community services** to continue to complete and submit FIRs to Pobal. They act as an informative tool for services in the effective planning of their financial future. Transition Fund payments should be recorded under 'Sustainability Funding' on the Cash Statement and any Interim Funding payments under 'Core Funding' on the Cash Statement.

If you require any assistance in completing the return please complete a service request on the HIVE, selecting the FIRs as the category and sub-category of the request.

## **National Childcare Scheme Compliance Inspections**

Compliance inspections on the National Childcare Scheme (NCS) are continuing at present nationwide. It is advised that services prepare for an unannounced compliance visit by collating relevant information for review e.g. in a Compliance Folder/File which can be made readily available to the Authorised Officer on arrival. In this regard we request that the person in charge on site has access to the Compliance Folder / records in the event of an unannounced visit.

It is important to note, that the compliance inspection will review documents up to 12 months prior to the date of the compliance inspection. It is therefore critical that records for the 2021/22 programme call are also maintained on site.

Relevant support documents which are available on the Hive under the Resources section. These documents are listed below and can also be accessed through the links:

NCS Compliance Service Provider Guide 2022/2023 – a guide on the NCS compliance process

NCS Compliance Service Provider Guide 2022 2023 Cycle Final







• NCS Compliance Checklist 2022/2023 – a checklist to help services to make sure they have all relevant documentation ready for any unannounced compliance visit

NCS Compliance Checklist 2022 2023 Final

### How to create a NCS Calendar

As the new NCS programme year begins, please remember that it is best practice is to have two NCS calendars: **NCS 2022** and **NCS 2023**. With both calendars, you will be able to create full-year NCS registrations. To create an NCS calendar please go to "My Account" then "Service calendar" and click on "Create Calendar."

More information on how to create an NCS calendar can be found find here: <a href="https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/how-to-guides/how-to-guides-ncs/service-calendar/">https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/how-to-guides/how-to-guides-ncs/service-calendar/</a>.

If you have any queries regarding NCS registrations or claims, please create a HIVE Request. That request should contain the **CHICK** number concerned so the issue can be resolved promptly.

### **AIM Rules 2022/2023**

The DCECIY have published the AIM Rules 2022/2023 on the AIM website. The link is as follows:

https://aim.gov.ie/aim-rules-for-2022-2023-programme-year-published/

## **Building Blocks**

Roderic O' Gorman, T.D., Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, has announced a €10m Capital Grant for the Early Learning and Childcare Sector. The Building Blocks - Improvement Grant is part of a wider Building Blocks Capital Programme for Early Learning and Childcare under the National Development Plan. Grants will range from €35,000 to €75,000 across two separate strands: Green Energy and Retrofit. The full press release is attached for your information.

Hanen Teacher Talk B 'Let Language Lead the Way to Literacy' Upcoming Courses! - Better Start

Dear Service Providers,

Better Start is delighted to announce that we will be delivering Hanen Teacher Talk B 'Let Language Lead the Way to Literacy' from September.







Participants must have completed Hanen Teacher Talk A 'Encouraging Language Development in Early Childhood Settings' in order to be eligible for the training.

Please register your interest for this training on the Better Start website. You will need the service reference number of the service you are working in.

Hanen Teacher Talk B 'Let Language Lead the Way to Literacy' Upcoming Courses! - Better Start

# **Covid case advice**

ELC and SAC providers and Childminders that have positive cases and require support can contact the HSE ELC/SAC dedicated helpline on 01 511 9777. For general Covid-19 queries you can contact HSE live on 1800 700 700 or 01 240 8787 or visit the First 5 website (<a href="www.first5.gov.ie">www.first5.gov.ie</a>) for the most up to date information and guidance.

Should you have any queries on any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact us on

info@roscommonchildcare.ie / 094 9622540



## Don't forget to order your Beep Beep Day pack

Beep Beep Day packs will be available to order from 7 September this year.

https://beepbeepday.rsaleadinglights.ie/

Packs include Beep Beep Day vests, posters, and guides.

Stocks are limited but we will do our best for you- <a href="https://www.rsa.ie/road-safety/education/pre-primary?fbclid=lwAR0JYjZR6emkREHJnMaA1ncwkFM8j">https://www.rsa.ie/road-safety/education/pre-primary?fbclid=lwAR0JYjZR6emkREHJnMaA1ncwkFM8j</a> TZpPPNIm8jhG6ampDjo0wxQekTOJ4





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## **Tusla Re-Registration**



# For services who last re-registered with Tusla in 2019 you are required to re-register again.

All the information and documentation are available on the Tusla portal and Tusla website. There is also a recorded webinar for ELC and SAC Registration Renewal available on the Tusla website.

Roscommon CCC team are available to assist & support you with this process- Please contact your development officer for support <a href="mailto:carmel.dunne@roscommonchildcare.ie">carmel.dunne@roscommonchildcare.ie</a> or <a href="mailto:sinead.mcquaid@roscommonchildcare.ie">sinead.mcquaid@roscommonchildcare.ie</a>



## Information for parents-

The Team at Roscommon CCC welcome calls from parents & Guardians. If you are a parent and looking for childcare, we can talk & assist with the government-funded support programmes such as NCS and ECCE. If you have a query or concern regarding your child's experience of early learning or school age childcare, please get in touch. Call us on 094-9622540 or email: info@roscommonchildcare.ie











The National Parents council have developed this leaflet to support children's mental wellbeing.

Good mental health is essential for the well-being of all children. Children's well-being is connected to:

- Feeling good socially This means having good relationships with family and friends which help children grow and develop and reach their potential.
- Feeling good emotionally This means being able to understand, express and manage the way they feel.
- Feeling good physically This means having a healthy body and being able to physically do all the things they want to do.

Click here to view this leaflet.



