



South Dublin County Childcare Committee – News Bulletin w/ending 20th January 2019

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Pobal compliance workshop

When: *Monday 28th January 2019*

Where: *Louis Fitzgerald Hotel*

Time: *4pm to 6pm*

This workshop will offer guidance and information to early year's educators regarding Pobal compliance visits; what's required & how to prepare for an inspection by discussing the requirements for each individual programme.

This programme will provide you with a good understanding of the inspection process and how to organise & prepare the necessary information to ensure the visit is carried out in a timely manner.

Please complete the attached Booking Form as soon as possible as we expect this workshop to book out very fast.

siolta

The National Quality Framework
for Early Childhood Education

Síolta awareness raising workshop & an onsite coaching visit

Standards:

- 1 Rights of the Child
- 3 Parents and Families
- 4 Consultation
- 5 Interactions

Date: **Wednesday 13th February**

Time: **2.00 - 4:30pm**

Venue: **Louis Fitzgerald Hotel, Naas Road**

The Purpose of this workshop:

Raise awareness and understanding of Síolta standards 1, 3, 4 & 5 and how they connect with Aistear
To consider how you are currently implementing these standards and what you may do to further enhance practice
Begin to reflect on practice
Develop action plans

Along with attending this workshops participants receive an onsite coaching visit. Coaching has been included to help practitioners apply what they have learned in the workshops to their own room/setting. The Síolta Aistear mentor will arrange short visits to your room/setting after the workshop to support you with your action planning. During the workshop, each practitioner will complete an Action Planning activity “I could take the following actions to improve how I meet this standard”; this will be the focus of the coaching visit and will require that practitioners are released from their room during these visits. Settings applying should make provisions to allow these meetings to take place. Time and dates will be arranged in advance.

If you would like to attend this workshop please fill in the attached application and email to training@southdublinchildcare.ie

If you have any queries, you can email fiona@southdublinchildcare.ie



[FAR \(First Aid Responder\) Training – Survey Monkey](#)

In September 2018 Minister Zappone announced supports to be made available to early years services, allowing them to engage in First Aid Responder training in line with the CHILD CARE ACT 1991(EARLY YEARS SERVICES) REGULATIONS 2016. Funding is being made available for one staff member per service to engage in FAR training. <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/docs/EN/05-09-2018-Minister-Zappone-announces-supports-for-quality-improvements-in-the-childcare-sector-including-euro-1-2m-First-Aid-training-fund/4902.htm>

Training will be organised through South Dublin CCC for services in our catchment area over the coming months. We are currently in the process of scheduling dates for training and are seeking feedback from providers on the most suitable times. All

feedback received will be used when scheduling the training sessions however we cannot guarantee each services preferred format. To have your say please complete [our survey](#)



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[Afterschool – New Regulations 2019](#)

Registrations will open on 18th February 2019

Stand alone Afterschool Services will be the first cohort of school aged facilities required to complete registration between 18/02/2019 and 18/05/2019.

Afterschool services in existing preschool/crèche facilities already registered with Tusla are required to register before 18/08/2019.

If you intend to open a new service after February 2019, you are required to give a minimum three months' notice period to Tusla.

You will require a completed Tusla Registration before DCYA Applications can be processed.

Please see links below to Registration of School Age Services Regulations 2018, Explanatory Guide (Afterschool) and FAQ's.

[pdf Registration of School Age Services - Regulations 2018 \(13.64 MB\)](#)

[pdf FAQ's on Afterschool Regulations \(404 KB\)](#)

[pdf Afterschool Regulations Explanatory Guide 2019 \(1.14 MB\)](#)

Please note that there are a number of policies and documents that must be submitted along with the application. A comprehensive list of what is required can be found on page 14 under Schedule 2 of the regulations.

If you need any more information or support in the application process please contact Ciara Harte in our office.

Email Ciara: ciara@southdublinchildcare.ie or Phone: 01 457 0122



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

CCSP Supporting Documents Guide 2018/2019

Medical Card Information

There has been a slight change in the information required where, after reviewing the HSE database, a medical card and/or GP visit card is not valid for CCS/P. Previously we would have accepted a letter only, from the Primary Care Reimbursement Service (PCRS) outlining medical card/GP visit card details. However, we now accept evidence of a valid medical card or GP visit card by way of letter, email or account print out from the PCRS.

The document submitted must contain the following:

- Evidence showing document is from the Primary Care Reimbursement Service,
- The parent and/or child name and PPSN.
- The card type i.e. medical card or GP visit card.'
- The card start date and end date.

Please refer to the CCS/P Supporting Documents Guide 2018/19 which is available on the PIP portal for further guidance on this change.



CCS December 2018 returns

The CCS December 2018 returns are now available for completion on Pobal Online. The deadline for submitting the completed return is **Friday 1st February 2019.**

If you have any questions or require assistance in completing the return, please contact your Support Officer.

If you do not submit the return by the deadline, your future CCS payments may be

affected.



Early Years and School Age Capital 2019

Extra spaces and fire-safety priorities for Childcare Investment in 2019

The Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Dr Katherine Zappone, TD is pleased to announce the priorities for 2019's Early Learning and Care and School Age Capital programmes. The Minister has secured €9m for capital grants across 2019.

The budget for the Early Learning and Care and School Age Capital programmes has been set at €6.106m.

A further announcement with details of an additional €3m to be associated with the new Affordable Childcare Scheme will issue early in 2019.

The programmes will be open for applications from early learning and care and school age childcare services in February 2019.

Strands

Capital funding under the programmes will be delivered under the following three strands:

Strand A: Creation of new places for 0-3 year olds - €4.231m (max. €50,000 per grant)

Strand B: Fire Safety for community early learning and care services – €0.875m, (max. €15,000 per grant)

Strand C: Creation of new school age places - €1m (max. €20,000 per grant)

The focus of the funding in 2019 is to continue the expansion of early learning and care places for 0-3 year olds and school age childcare places where this is most needed.

Funding is also being made available to aid community/not-for-profit early learning and childcare services in addressing fire safety issues that have been highlighted in inspection reports.

Commenting on the launch of the Capital Fund, Minister Zappone said: -

“2019 is going to be one of the most significant years in our efforts to transform one of the most expensive childcare services in the world into the best. The final groundwork is now being put in place ahead of the launch of the Affordable Childcare Scheme next October.

Across the year I am delighted to have secured more than €9 million in Capital Funding for early learning and care and school age services. Now I can confirm a first round of investment totalling €6.106m. We will start this funding process early in the year to give more time for

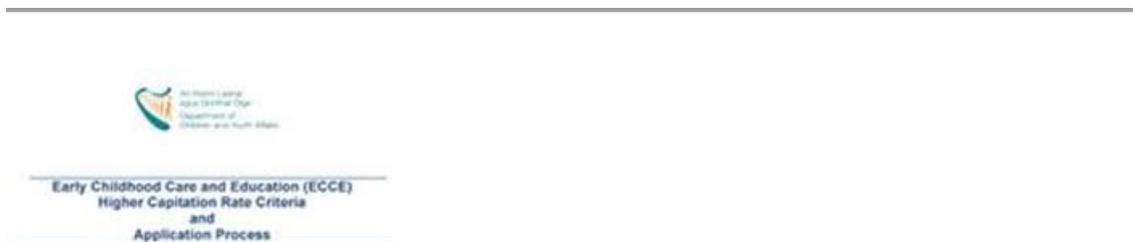
applications and implementation. More children than ever in the history of the state are accessing government funded subsidies for early learning and care and I am mindful of the pressures and opportunities that this can create for the sector.

In the recent Pobal Annual Sector Profile, almost a quarter of all services indicated their intention to expand in the next 12-months, creating over 15,000 additional spaces for children nationwide. The Government is ready to assist in creating additional capacity at a time of rapid expansion and transformation.

Since 2015 Government investment in childcare is up 117%. Now it is time to take the next big leap as we prepare for the Affordable Childcare Scheme to become a reality which will benefit children, parents and providers for generations to come.”

Further information on the application process, including detailed application guidelines, will be made available to services in January 2019.

Please contact your [South Dublin Childcare](#) if you have any questions.



Higher Capitation Information

Please note that Early Years Services should notify Pobal of any changes that may affect their Higher Capitation award throughout the year. This will ensure that each Service Provider receives their full entitlement. Particular care should be taken in relation to staffing arrangements and FTEs as per below:

Staff Amendments

Errors

The Provider should amend any incorrect staff details on the application, and then resubmit the form to Pobal for review.

Changes (Due to absence or cessation of employment)

If a staff member:

- Is absent for a period of more than four weeks
- Commences Maternity Leave
- Ceases employment entirely

Then the Provider should amend the 'Staff Qualifications' section of the application as follows:

- 'Staff Status' for the relevant employee should be changed to 'No longer working here'
- 'End date' for the relevant employee should be changed to show the last date of attendance (as with registrations, this should be input as a Friday)

- The form should then be resubmitted to Pobal for review

F.T.E. Amendments

Errors

The Provider should amend any incorrect staff details on the application, and then resubmit the form to Pobal for review.

Changes (Due to child leaving or joining ECCE)

Services offering a mixture of both Higher Capitation and Standard Capitation Sessions must keep Pobal updated of any changes to weekly FTE as they occur. The application form does not need to be amended in this instance. Instead, Service Providers should complete an [F.T.E. Amendment Form](#) and submit to Pobal at the following email address: highercap@pobal.ie Pobal will then review and update the Higher Capitation award as necessary.

Please note that Services offering Higher Capitation Sessions only are not required to update Pobal re: changes to FTE.



Policies and Procedures

From the Early Years Newsletter Christmas 2018:

To support providers to comply with the preschool regulations a practical guide to developing policies and procedures, with supporting online policy and templates, have been circulated to registered providers. Templates are available at <https://www.tusla.ie/services/preschool-services/early-years-quality-and-regulatory-framework/sample-policies-and-templates/>
