Dear Colleagues,

These are the information, deadlines, and announcements for the week of 12th – 16th May 2025.

**DEADLINE / IMPORTANT DATES:**

**6th May 2025:** Access & Inclusion Model (AIM) Level 4, Level 5 and Level 7 standard applications for the 2025/2026 programme opened

**27th May 2025:** Annual Early Years Sector Profile 2024/25 open from 6th May - 27th May 2025

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**Access & Inclusion Model (AIM)**

Access & Inclusion Model (AIM) Level 4, Level 5 and Level 7 standardinitial and Review & Confirm applications for the 2025/2026 programme year are open.

AIM Level 7 Plus and Non-term applications for the 2025/26 programme call will open mid-summer. Services are reminded to submit any relevant AIM application at least three months prior to a child’s planned start date in ECCE. For further support, please see the [Better Start / AIM  - Service Provider Portal](https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/how-to-guides/better-start-aim/)

**Annual Early Years Sector Profile 2024/25**

The 2024/2025 Annual Early Years Sector Profile survey has opened. The survey will remain open until Tuesday, 27 May 2025 and can be accessed through the Early Years Hive [Here.](https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/surveys/) **Please ensure your Service Profile has been updated on the Early Years Hive on or after Friday, 2nd May.**This ensures that the most up to date information is included in the data collected for the survey. All services are encouraged to complete the survey; however, completing this year’s survey within the open window is **mandatory** for all existing Core Funding Partner Services. Services wishing to become a Core Funding Partner Service in the future must also complete the survey before submitting their Core Funding application. For more information and support, please go to [AEYSP Survey  - Service Provider Portal](https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/how-to-guides/aeysp-survey-guides/). FAQs are also available on the Early Years Hive on the Cross Programme – Documents page ([here](https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/downloads/cross-programme-documents/)).

**AIM non-term 2024/2025**

Please submit your AIM Non-term 2024/2025 applications for the summer months on the Early Years Hive as soon as possible. If you have already submitted the applications and did not include the required summer dates, please submit a ‘change of circumstance’ review to add the relevant dates.

A guide on submitting a change of circumstances review can be found [here](https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/AIM-level-7-change-of-circumstances.pdf).

**Better Start Quality Development Service Information Webinar**

The Better Start Team work in a mentoring capacity with Early Learning and Care settings to support the implementation of the National Frameworks Síolta and Aistear. Register today to secure your place at their next webinar: Better Start Quality Development Information Session. This will take place online on May 27th from 2.30pm to 3.30pm. You'll have the chance to connect with team members and explore the mentoring options available for your setting.

Visit the [Better Start Website Training and Events](https://www.betterstart.ie/training-events/) or click on this [link](https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/7dd349eb-f1b8-4f9f-b633-f51656d2efed%40aeae5436-a997-489f-b0e1-ae283ced47f7) to register.

**My Little Library 2025**

My Little Library 2025 information is attached. Please share this information with families using your service.

**Upcoming Training Courses**

Cork County Childcare are delighted to offer the following courses:

***Always Children First: Child Safeguarding Awareness Training for Organisations (Foundation Level)***

In person training. There are places available at the following location:

* Springfort Hall Hotel, Mallow on Saturday 14th June from 10am-5pm

For further information and to book a place please contact the office on 022-23880 or email [cptraining@corkchildcare.ie](mailto:cptraining@corkchildcare.ie )

***Always Children First: Child Safeguarding Awareness Training programme for Childminders***

The programme is designed to support childminder’s understanding of child safeguarding in a childminding context.  The training comprises of 2 sessions; participants must attend both sessions to receive their certificate.

•  Session 1: Introduction and Context + Child Centred Practice - Promoting the Welfare of Children

• Session 2: Safeguarding Awareness Raising and Responding to Concerns - Protecting children from harm

IMPORTANT - All participants must complete two eLearning programmes prior to attending the Tusla Always Children First: Foundation Training (See links below to access these programmes)

• [Tusla’s Children First E-Learning Programme](https://www.tusla.ie/children-first/children-first-e-learning-programme/) (1.5 hours maximum)

•  [Tusla’s Children First Mandated Person: Role and Responsibilities eLearning Module](http://rise.articulate.com/share/0SLOAecxxd46MwV9GqdfS6toZBwCCHkp)  (1 hour maximum)

Two separate workshops will take place, the dates are as follows:

* Saturday 12th July from 9:30am – 4:30pm at the Vienna Woods Hotel, Cork
* Monday 14th & Thursday 17th July from 6:30pm – 9:30pm at the Vienna Woods Hotel, Cork

To book your place on this training, please contact [cptraining@corkchildcare.ie](mailto:cptraining@corkchildcare.ie) for a booking form.

If you have any queries, please don’t hesitate to contact Denise Quinlan, Childminding Development Officer on (022) 23880 / [dquinlan@corkchildcare.ie](mailto:dquinlan@corkchildcare.ie)

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Description automatically generated**Cork County Childcare Committee Facebook Page**

We invite you to visit our website [HERE](https://www.corkchildcare.ie/) and like and follow our Facebook page Cork County Childcare Committee Ltd for updates and relevant content [HERE](https://www.facebook.com/people/Cork-County-Childcare-Committee-Ltd/100079059495356/) or scan the QR code

**Covid Case Advice**

Please see below links to relevant information: [Preventing the spread of covid 19 in school or childcare - HSE](https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/preventing-the-spread/child-returning-to-school-or-childcare/) & [Pre\_School\_ManagementInfectiousDisease.pdf](https://www.tusla.ie/uploads/content/Pre_School_ManagementInfectiousDisease.pdf)

General Covid-19 queries: Contact HSE on 1800 700 700 between 8 am and 8 pm Monday to Friday and 9 am - 5 pm Saturday and Sunday / [HSE Covid-19](https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/covid19/)

**Kind Regards**

**Cork County Childcare Committee**