Dear Colleagues,

These are the deadlines, information, and announcements for the week 3rd - 7th April 2023.

**DEADLINES / IMPORTANT DATES:**

**\*Today\* Friday 7th April**

The second Core Funding ‘Review and Confirm’ window to close for all Partner Services

**Friday 21st April**

Closing date for Parent and Toddler Grant Applications

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**Core Funding Review and Confirm – Window 2**

The deadline for completing the Core Funding application review and confirm is today Friday 7th April. Please note the following:

* The Core Funding Application Module must be at status Approved to complete the Review and Confirm process.
* If your application is at ‘Referred Back’ you must address the reason for refer back and then complete the review and confirm process.
* It is important the Review and Confirm process is completed within the required timeframe, as Core Funding payments will be placed on hold until such a time as the process is completed.
* The late submission of a Review and Confirm form noting a decrease to the base rate value will be effective from the change effective date rather than the last day of the review and confirm window.

A detailed guidance document is attached and tailored training videos are available on the Hive.

**Parent and Toddler Group Grants Initiative 2023**

The Parent and Toddler Groups Grants Initiative 2023 was announced in March. If you know of a local Parent & Toddler Group meeting in your area, please pass on the information about the grant.

Closing date for receipt of applications is 21st April. For further details or for an application form, groups can contact codriscoll@corkchildcare.ie or call 022-23880.

**Happy Talk April 2023**

Attached is the Happy Talk Calendar for April. The theme for this month is Rhymes & Songs & Babies.

**AIM Level 7 Funding over the Easter Holidays (Non-payable weeks)**

AIM Level 7 funding is paid weekly, one week in advance. Services will not receive payment for the Easter period if they have confirmed in their service calendar that they will be closed. Payments will resume week ending 14 April 2023.

**Building Blocks - Improvement Grant**

The Department of Children Equality Disability Integration and Youth announced the outcome in relation to the Building Blocks – Improvement Grant. Notifications were issued to the PAU of the organisations that applied with the outcome of the process. This is the link to the press release https://www.gov.ie/en/press-release/5fbf7-minister-ogorman-announces-9-million-in-capital-funding-for-greener-warmer-early-learning-and-childcare-services/

**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 for the most up to date information and guidance. (<https://first5.gov.ie>)

Should you have any queries on any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact us on 022-23880 or info@corkchildcare.ie

Wishing you all a very happy Easter!

Kind Regards,

Cork County Childcare Committee