Dear Colleagues

This is the information, deadlines, and announcements for the week of 17th- 21st February 2025.

**DEADLINESS / IMPORTANT DATES:**

**TODAY 21st February 2025**

* LINC+ CPD Programme for LINC Graduates closes @ 4 pm – see below for further details

**28th February 2025**

* Deadline for Core Funding Income and Expenditure Template Year 2
* ‘Transfer of Ownership’ process for AIM Level 5 opens (see below for further information)

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

**LINC+ CPD Programme for LINC Graduates**

Registration for the LINC+ CPD Programme **for LINC Graduates** is now open and will close on Friday 21st February 2025 at 4 pm. To register please use the following link: [LINC Programme CPD](https://lincprogramme.ie/cpd-for-incos/)

**Reporting Requirements for Core Funding Year 2**

The deadline for submitting the completed Income and Expenditure for Year 2 is 28th February 2025.

The CFCRRS portal is now open for submissions. Guidance is available on the [Early Years Hive](https://earlyyearshive.ncs.gov.ie/downloads/download-corefunding) >‘Core Funding Reporting Requirement Year 2 (2023/2024)’. If you have any further queries or requests, please email [support@cfcrrs.ie](mailto:support@cfcrrs.ie).

**AIM Level 5 Equipment - Transfer of Ownership**

The ‘Transfer of Ownership’ process for AIM Level 5 equipment will open on **28th February** on the Hive. The Transfer of Ownership of relevant AIM equipment, from Pobal and DCEDIY to the relevant party, occurs at the end of the child’s participation in the ECCE programme. Equipment provided under AIM Level 5 should not be removed from the pre-school until the transfer of ownership process is completed. Guides and training videos are available on the **Early Years Hive -> Help & Support -> Better Start/AIM -> AIM Level 5**

**New Garda Vetting procedures**

Tusla will now provide the Garda Vetting Application Service for Registered Providers of Early Years & School Age Childcare Services, Childminders, and those applying for registration.

Garda Vetting Applications for Registered Providers of Early Years & School Age Childcare Services, Childminders, and those applying for registration must be submitted via the new [Tusla Garda Vetting Portal.](https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fchildminding.tusla.ie%2faccount%2flogin&c=E,1,2BUHAKoHaqVnr12Yn0jBqjcOjs5NsnTC2gu4Ofdwn9v1fiYXZh4TEHw_ILLJvxXWvNb3mPc23AN_qg_Mn6_RoEsfbjDCpg1rBOW1CMvr&typo=1) To support Registered Providers and Childminders Tusla has created a dedicated Garda Vetting section on [their website](https://www.tusla.ie/early-years-inspectorate/garda-vetting-applications/).

**Childminding Development Grant 2025**

The Childminding Development Grant of up to €1,000 is open to all childminders, including those who are planning to open a childminding business in 2025. The grant aims to support childminders to enhance quality and safety in their service as well as IT equipment to assist in engaging with training and registration processes later in the year.

Applications for the Childminding Development Grant are made to Cork County Childcare Committee. The grant application window is from 4th February 2025 to 4th April 2025.

For further information about the Childminding Development Grant or the National Action Plan for Childminding, visit [www.gov.ie/childminding](http://www.gov.ie/childminding) or contact Cork County Childcare Committee at [info@corkchildcare.ie](mailto:info@corkchildcare.ie)  / (022) 23880.

**Childminding Pre-Registration Training Course**

Cork County Childcare Committee are running Pre-Registration Training Courses for existing and potential childminders. If you are interested in attending the Pre-Registration Training Course on 4th March in Mallow from 9am – 5pm, please click on the link below to book your place: <https://forms.office.com/e/JpcqGjGfH3>

Pre-Registration training is a mandatory training programme for childminders who wish to register with Tusla. This training will help participants to understand the new childminding regulations and will provide all the information required to register with Tusla. This is a FREE training course and takes approximately 7 hours to complete. There is no assessment, and participants will receive a Certificate of Completion. There is no expiry date on this certificate.

For further information contact Denise Quinlan, Childminding Development Officer on (022)23880 / [dquinlan@corkchildcare.ie](mailto:dquinlan@corkchildcare.ie)

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

Attached please see the information on the ACF Child Safeguarding Awareness Training for Childminders. The training takes place in the Vienna Woods Hotel, Cork on Saturday 8th March from 9am – 5pm. To book your place on this course, please contact [cptraining@corkchildcare.ie](mailto:cptraining@corkchildcare.ie) for a booking form.

**Early Years Sectoral eBulletin February 2025**

The [Early Years Sectoral eBulletin](https://e.sensorpro.net/run/V4.aspx?vsid=UWNhwInpYIv1tnv0hvbKPnIIsA5iru6KA0bStDAoVc4fM%2FXO0onDhKO%2Bjv4J%2Fpwr_zes7) was sent out earlier this month. It includes updates from the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, the Department of Education’s Early Years Inspectorate, Pobal and Tusla.

**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 below

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**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