



**Childcare
Committee**
County Cavan

Weekly Newsletter 7th - 11th April

National News

[Click here to read all the national news this week!](#)

Local News

[Click here to read all the local news this week!](#)

Good News

[A huge thanks to Autism Supports for an inspiring training session. Click here to check out our story!](#)

Jobs Board

Please email all job ads to
mary@cavanccc.ie

You can see all the up to date
vacancies on our website here:
<https://cavanccc.ie/jobs-board/>



Deadlines and Important Dates

26th April 2025

Always Children First

28th April 2025

Critical Incident Briefing

1st May 2025

Nurturing Skills Learner Fund
application process closes

13th May 2025

Everyday Spaces Training

24th May 2025

National Aistear Conference

April Early Years e-Bulletin

You can access this months Early Years Sectorial e-Bulletin through the link below. The e-Bulletin includes updates from the Department of Children, Disability and Equality, the Department of Education Inspectorate, Pobal and Tusla. [Early Years Sectorial e-Bulletin April 2025 edition](#)

Nurturing Skills Learner Fund 2025 2026



The Nurturing Skills Learner Fund (NSLF) is now open to applicants for the academic year 2025/2026. NSLF will cover 90% of the course fees for successful applicants.

Information on the Nurturing Skills Learner Fund can be found [here](#). Applicants should contact NSLF@pobal.ie to request a link to register on the NSLF Student Portal, upload their employment details and complete the new application process. The application process **closes on 1st May 2025**.

Easter closures and compliance

As some services may close for the Easter break, dates during 14-18 and/or 21-25 April, it may be necessary to make the following changes on your Early Years Hive.

Please note: Good Friday, 18 April 2025, is not a public holiday.

We advise making any necessary changes as soon as possible to ensure there are no issues when returns are submitted and payments processed.

NCS: Service calendar and returns

If your service is closed, you must mark the closures on your NCS service calendar accordingly. You must also note whether it is a subsidised (paid) closure or not.

For more information, please see 'How to add a closure' on the [NCS Service Calendar](#) section of Help & Support.

Changes cannot be made to service calendar opening hours or claim hours once a return for that week has been submitted on the Early Years Hive.

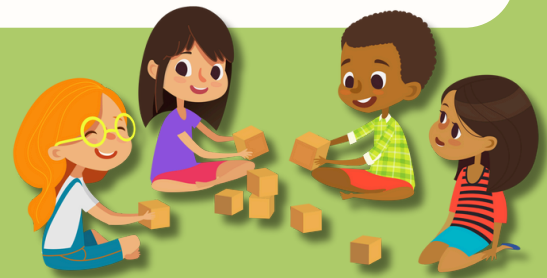
If you require further assistance, please raise a [Service Request](#) using the following categories ensuring that you include the CHICK number in the request:

- Programme: NCS
- Request Type: NCS Calendar
- Request Type Details: General

NCS: Updated bridging payments

A 'bridging payment' is available to service providers during periods of subsidised closure, if they are unavailable to submit their weekly NCS return, for example, mid-term breaks, Easter, Christmas etc.

For guidance on returns, as well as updated guidance on bridging payments, please see the [NCS Attendance Returns Guide](#).



ECCE: Service calendar

ECCE programme rules state that changes to the ECCE calendars must be first approved by the Childcare Care Committee and parents must be given 20 working days' notice of any changes to the calendar.

Copies of such notices must be kept on file for compliance purposes. For further information on service calendars, please contact your local CCC or refer to the [ECCE Service Calendar](#) section of Help & Support.

If you require further assistance, please raise a [Service Request](#)

Early Childhood Ireland Childminding Research

Are you a Childminder who would like to collaborate and share your expertise with Early Childhood Ireland on new research that will help shape future childminding practice and policies?

Your collaboration will help us better understand the valuable work of childminders and children's experiences of home-based care. Your expertise and participation are crucial to help us learn about:

1. Children's and childminders' experiences of mixed age groups in a home setting
2. Childminders' perspectives and application of Aistear and Síolta in practice.

Please see attached for further information.



Early
Childhood
Ireland

National Aistear Conference

DCEDIY will host a national Aistear Conference on **May 24th, 2025**, from 10am to 4pm at the Dublin Royal Convention Centre.

This National Early Years Conference will provide a forum for educators, policy makers, academics, students and support organisations to collaboratively explore the updates, new concepts and key messages within the updated Aistear. In partnership with DCEDIY, Cavan County Childcare Committee is pleased to offer the following opportunity to Early Years Educators and Childminders in the county.

1. Entrance tickets to the event, which will include lunch and a conference bag containing a copy of the updated Aistear and other resources.
2. Transportation to the event.
3. A certificate of attendance, which will support your service's QIPP 2025.

If you would like to attend, we invite you to complete this online expression of interest form to register your details:

<https://forms.office.com/e/nr5SxyrXBS>

Please note, that **places are limited to 10**, and random selection will apply.



Critical Incident Briefing



 Monday, 28th April 2025

 Online

 3:00 PM

All ELC, SAC, and registered childminding services are required to have a Critical Incident Plan as outlined in the Tusla Quality and Regulatory Framework (QRF) and the National Quality Guidelines for School Age Childcare Services.

Employers also have a legal duty to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of their employees under the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005.

◆ What This Training Covers:


- Understanding regulatory and legal responsibilities
- Planning ahead for emergencies and critical incidents
- Learning how to respond professionally and appropriately in a crisis

Follow this link to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/1285900465909?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Always Children First

The logo for Children First, featuring the words "Children" and "First" in a blue sans-serif font, with a stylized yellow and blue figure of a person between the words.

 **17** Saturday, 26th April 2025

 **10:00 AM – 4:30 PM**

The Always Children First Foundation training raises awareness of Child Protection and Welfare in the Early Years sector. This six-hour session, facilitated by Cavan CCC, helps participants understand safeguarding and reporting concerns.

Prerequisite: Participants must complete the Tusla E-Learning Children First Programme (within the last 12 months) and the Tusla Mandated Persons E-Learning (new from 2024).

Certificates must be sent to CCC before training.



Access training here:

[Children First E-Learning](#)

[Mandated Persons E-Learning](#)

Follow this link to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/1304074194019?aff=oddttdtcreator>


**NATIONAL CHILD
SAFEGUARDING
PROGRAMME**

for Early Learning &
Childcare Services



Everyday Spaces

 **Tuesday, 13th May 2025**

 **4M – 8PM**



Everyday Spaces Checklist ensures that babies, toddlers and young children are included in decision-making within their everyday work.

This course can form part of your QAP requirements for 25/26!

Complimentary light bites and refreshments will be available during the event

On completion of the Everyday Spaces Early Years Educators training, participants will be able to:

- Describe the International and National rights, policy and legislative obligations of organisations in Ireland to involve babies, toddlers and young children in decision-making.
- Identify how the Participation Framework can support them to involve babies, toddlers and young children in decision-making in their everyday practice.
- Apply the Everyday Spaces Checklist through using practical approaches to listening to babies, toddlers and young children and involve them in decision-making in everyday settings.

Follow this link to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/1304074194019?aff=oddttdtcreator>

Supporting Behaviours in Neurodivergent Children

Ciara Watson from Autism Supports led out training for ELC & SAC last Saturday 5th April. Ciara has a wealth of expertise & knowledge and also her own unique experience of neurodivergence. Those that attended this training all commented how interactive and relatable it was, with plenty of time to ask questions. They learned really valuable strategies that they can take away and apply to children they have in their own settings.

Some of the comments from participants on what they found most useful included:

“strategies for avoiding meltdowns”, “ learning how their mind works, how they see things on a daily basis”, “ I loved the visuals and daily routines” “ the visual aids & social stories were brilliant”.

All participants recommended this type of training for all those working with children and also said that it would be brilliant for parents.

Would you be interested in.....

Cavan CCC plan to roll out further supports in this area. We are asking practitioners if they would be interested in setting up a peer support network or communities of practice in this area. If this is something you would be interested in, please let us know.

Autism Supports



Autism Supports





Preab isteach sa Scéal

SATURDAY STORYTIME

Spring into Storytime

Johnston Central Library

- 5TH APRIL, 11AM – 11.30AM
- 12TH APRIL, 11AM – 11.30AM
- 26TH APRIL, 11AM – 11.30AM

Booking not essential - just come along for storytime with our staff!

Libraries Ireland

Cavan

FREE!

AgriKids

BE FARM SAFE · STAY FARM SAFE

Farm Safety Workshop and Storytime

with AgriKids & Author **Alma Jordan**

for 4-9 yr olds

Spring into Storytime

At: Johnston Central Library

On: 24th April 2025

Time: 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Booking Essential

Ask in the library or ring 049 4378500

www.cavanlibrary.ie

Libraries Ireland

Cavan

All Inclusive Childrens FunDay

Come play and meet new friends for Fun and Games together suitable for children 5-13

Saturday, April 12th,

3pm - 4:30pm

Magheracloone Community Centre A81HC99

Volunteers needed contact:

0872960047

Libraries Ireland

MONAGHAN SPORTS PARTNERSHIP

Spring into Storytime

ART HOUR

JOHNSTON CENTRAL LIBRARY

SATURDAY 12TH APRIL

11AM - 12NOON

AGE 6+

BOOKING ESSENTIAL, PLEASE RING

+353 (0)49 4378500

FREE EVENT!

Libraries Ireland

Cavan



Don't forget to follow us on Facebook to keep up to date with everything Childcare related!



Remember you can also send on any job vacancies you have and anything else about your service that you would like us to share to:
admin@cavanccc.ie



We love sharing positive stories! If your service has a recent success, inspiring initiative, or uplifting update, why not feature it in our weekly newsletter?

It's a great way to highlight the incredible work you do, celebrate achievements, and connect with the community. Send us your good news, and let's spread some positivity together!

Covid Case Advice

Please see below links to relevant information:

- [Preventing the spread of covid 19 in school or childcare - HSE](#)
- [Management of Infectious Disease in Childcare Facilities and Other Childcare Settings \(2012\)](#)
- 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](#)

As usual, if you have any queries or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on:
Tel: 049 436 5856
Email:
admin@cavanccc.ie

**Regards, Cavan
County Childcare
Committee**