



**Childcare  
Committee**  
County Cavan

# Weekly Newsletter 11th – 21st March

## National News

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

## Local News

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

## Jobs Board

Please email all job ads to  
[mary@cavanccc.ie](mailto: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

28th March 2025: Deadline for  
Parent & Toddler Group Grant  
applications

31st March 2025 @12pm: Final  
date for survey submission on  
Experiences of ELCs Supporting  
Ukrainian Families

4th April 2025: Deadline for  
Childminding Development  
Grant 2025

1st May 2025: Nurturing Skills  
Learner Fund application process  
closes

## Parent and Toddler Group Grant

Applications are currently being accepted for the Parent & Toddler Group Grant 2025. The grant is available to existing not-for-profit groups who provide informal support to all families and involve the participation of parents/guardians in the community.

The grant is also open to new Parent & Toddler Groups as well as Buggy Walking Groups. For further information or to request an application form, contact [admin@cavanccc.ie](mailto:admin@cavanccc.ie) or 049 436 5856



## Survey: Experiences of ELC services in supporting Ukrainian Families Displaced by Conflict

Early Learning and Care (ELC) services across Ireland are invited to take part in a short survey exploring experiences in supporting Ukrainian families displaced by conflict. Your insights will help identify what has worked well, the challenges faced, and how we can better prepare for similar situations in the future.

The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete, and all responses will be handled with care. The final date for responses is 31st March at 12.00pm. Your input will help shape practical improvements that make a real difference for families and ELC services alike. Your time and thoughts will be really appreciated. You can access the survey here: [ELC Survey](#).





## Childminding Development Grant 2025



The Childminding Development Grant 2025 is currently open for applications. All current childminders and childminders planning to open in 2025 are eligible to apply. The grant aims to enhance quality and safety in childminding services and allows for the purchasing of IT equipment to assist with training and registration processes later in the year.

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 Cavan County Childcare Committee at [admin@cavanccc.ie](mailto:admin@cavanccc.ie) / (049) 4365856.

## Repeat of Updated Aistear Framework Webinar

For those who missed it, the NCCA are providing another opportunity to attend a repeat webinar on the updated Aistear Framework on Thursday March 27th at 7pm. This session will explore the updated Framework by examining its Vision, Principles and Themes. It will also present the Guidance for Good Practice and highlight additional supports available. Early years educators will gain valuable insights to enhance their understanding of these updates before official implementation of the updated Aistear in September 2025. Speakers will include:

- Donna Carolan, Acting Director, Curriculum and Assessment, NCCA
- Dr Sharon Skehill, Education Officer, NCCA
- Dr Mary Daly, Education Officer, NCCA
- Lorraine Farrell, National Aistear Development Officer, NCCA

To register for the event, please click on this [link](#)



## Nurturing Skills Learner Fund 2025 2026



The Nurturing Skills Learner Fund (NSLF) is now open to applicants for the academic year 2025/2026. NSLF is continuing, as a pilot phase, and will support Early Years Educators working in a Partner Service to undertake approved ELC Level 7/ 8 courses while they continue to work within the sector. NSLF will cover 90% of the course fees for successful applicants.

Attached you will find a Press Release from Minister Norma Foley announcing the opening of the NSLF and an information document detailing the Application Process and Timeline, Rules and Conditions, Eligibility Criteria, and Selection Criteria.

Applicants should contact [NSLF@pobal.ie](mailto: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.

# Understanding and Supporting Behaviour in Neurodivergent Children

 17 **Saturday, 5th April** |  **Cavan Crystal Hotel** |

 **10 AM – 4 PM** |  **€20**

A 1-day course for childcare practitioners on autism supports with Ciara Watson (Autism Supports). Gain practical strategies to support neurodivergent children and create an inclusive environment.

 **What to Expect:**

◆ **Part 1: Supporting Neurodivergent Children in Your Setting**

Discover why children may exhibit certain behaviour responses and how you can help reduce stress while fostering an inclusive space for every child to thrive.

◆ **Part 2: How to Introduce Visuals in Your Early Years Setting**

Looking for simple but powerful ways to enhance autism supports? Learn how to use visual aids to ease transitions, improve communication, and create a more structured learning experience—for all children!

☀️ Expect a day packed with practical tips, valuable insights, and plenty of lightbulb moments—all in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Plus, light lunch is included!

**Follow this link to register:**

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/1285877236429?aff=oddtcreator>

# 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=oddtcreator>

## EC STEM project – request for support



OUTSTE(A)M is an exciting STEM project which aims to provide high quality STEM education in Early Childhood Education & /care settings and primary schools using a play-based hands-on learning approach in the outdoors. OUTSTE(A)M are seeking educator opinions about their draft materials before they are released to the public.

If you are interested in reviewing the materials then click on this [link](#) to complete the anonymous online questionnaire.

## Wibbly Wobbly Balance Bike Scheme

The Wibbly Wobbly Bike Programme is designed for pre-school children aged 2½ to 6 years to promote active lifestyles through fun balance bike activities.

The programme is subsidised by Cavan Sports Partnership and Cavan County Childcare Committee. Pre-schools must ensure adequate insurance for activities, and may be asked to complete evaluations.

**There is still some months available for your service to receive the bikes. If you would like a direct link to your area please contact us.**



# LOCAL NEWS



Does your child have **ADHD?**



## ADHD Children's Programme(6-12 Years)

A free parenting programme for parents of children aged 6-12 years with a diagnosis of ADHD and suspected ADHD who are awaiting an assessment. ADHD- (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).

**Topics Include:** Parenting a child with ADHD, responding positively as a parent, establishing routines, managing concerning behaviour, problem solving, long term supports, supporting siblings, manage stress, support child's education and learning

**Date:** 14<sup>th</sup> May – 18<sup>th</sup> June 2025 (Once a week for 6 weeks).

**Time:** 7pm- 9pm ( Wednesday evenings).

**Where:** Cavan County Local Development Building, 6A Corlurgan Business Park, Ballinagh Road, Cavan, H12DP86.

Click on [www.parentingcavan.ie](http://www.parentingcavan.ie) select MENU- Scroll down through the programmes, click on ADHD Children and submit an enquiry form to reserve a place, or phone Joanne on 0877529948



## PARENTING CAVAN



presents

A MORNING OF  
BABY ACTIVITIES INCLUDING  
MOO MUSIC, SENSORY PLAY &  
BABY MASSAGE

Event for soon to be parents  
and for parents &  
babies 0-36 months

Venue:

**Johnston  
Central Library  
Cavan Town**

Time:

**10am- 12.30pm**

Date:

**1st of April 2025**

**Booking essential !**

reserve your place by email to:  
[parentingcavan@cclld.ie](mailto:parentingcavan@cclld.ie)

*Tea, coffee & light refreshments on arrival  
Guest speakers on the day and a raffle*



## Resilience in nature

## World Forest Day

Deep time orienteering for kids (accompanied by adult)

Live music from Daragh Slacke

Nature talk from ecologist Roisin O'Connell

Drumming in the forest with  
Wellness in Rhythm

Introduction to our new  
Peacebuilding Program

12 noon  
Deerpark Forest (rugby club entrance)  
Saturday 22nd March

0852703080

[fiachra@ecopeaceproject.org](mailto:fiachra@ecopeaceproject.org)



Comhairle Cntae  
an Chabháin  
Cavan  
County Council

A project supported by PEACEPLUS; a programme managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)

Cavan County  
Local Development

**Retrofit Ready**  
Getting communities ready for retrofitting

## Maudabawn ICA In Association with Retrofit Ready INFORMATION EVENT



## GALLONRAY HOUSE H16 X409

**Monday 24th March 2025  
Commencing at 7:30pm**

Learn about Home Retrofitting Works & Grants

**For more details Contact:**

Owen McConnon, Community Retrofit Champion.  
[omcconnon@cclld.ie](mailto:omcconnon@cclld.ie) 087 131 5964





**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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@cavanccc.ie)**

**Regards, Cavan  
County Childcare  
Committee**