



**Childcare
Committee**
County Cavan

**Weekly
Newsletter
31st March
- 4th 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!](#)

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

****** Today 4th April 2025 *****:**
Deadline for Childminding
Development Grant 2025

7th April 2025

EOI to attend Aistear National
conference

26th April 2025

Always Children First

1st May 2025

Nurturing Skills Learner Fund
application process closes

24th May 2025

National Aistear Conference

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.





Childminding Development Grant 2025



The deadline for applications for the Childminding Development Grant 2025 is **5pm today, 4th April**. 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 Tusla registration processes later in the year.

For further information or to receive an application form, contact Cavan County Childcare Committee at admin@cavancce.ie / (049) 4365856.



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

Providers in contract for the ECCE programme are reminded that changes to service calendars must be first approved by County Childcare Committees (CCCs) and parents must be given 20 working days' notice in writing of any change to the service's 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

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>

Chatterbox Stammering webinar



 **Monday, 7th April 2025**

 **Online**

 **7.00PM – 8.00PM**

We are excited to invite all preschool practitioners to an essential webinar on “Stammering in the Preschool Years,” presented by Elizabeth Downey, Senior Speech and Language Therapist with the Chatterbox Service.

As early childhood professionals, your role in supporting speech and language development is crucial. This session will help you:

- Recognise early signs of stammering in young children
- Gain practical strategies for supporting children who stammer
- Enhance your skills in creating a supportive environment for language development in preschool settings

This webinar will provide you with the tools and knowledge to better support the children in your care, making a lasting difference in their speech development.


Don't miss out on this opportunity to enhance your professional skills!

Follow this link to register:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/1304137262659?aff=oddtcreator>

Always Children First

The logo for Children First, featuring the words "Children" and "First" in a blue sans-serif font. The letter "i" in "First" is stylized with a yellow dot and a blue vertical bar.

 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=oddtcreator>

**NATIONAL CHILD
SAFEGUARDING
PROGRAMME**

for Early Learning &
Childcare Services





Community-based CCTV Grant Aid Scheme

The community-based CCTV grant aid scheme supports communities and local authorities who wish to install and maintain. Applicants to the scheme can include not-for-profit organisations within the community, as well as relevant statutory or voluntary organisations. For example, applicants may include:

- area partnerships
- community development projects
- family resource centres
- local authorities
- community enterprises

Deadline: Ongoing

More info: <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/3a6b2-community-based-cctv-grant-aid-scheme/>

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



INVITATION



Launch & Awareness Raising of the Lifestart Growing Child Programme Counties Monaghan & Cavan

Wednesday 30 April 2025

Parents & Children 10:00am - 12:00 Noon

FREE RESOURCES

Presentation to Fledgling Groups

12:15am - 1:15pm

REFRESHMENTS SERVED

Networking for Lifestart Organisations

2:00pm - 3:00pm

Venue: Co Cavan Rugby Club, H12 CC60

Introduction to The Growing Child Programme

Play Activities Available for Children

Meet Participating Parents & Children

Experience the Lifestart Approach in Action

Find Out About Other Services Available for Families

RSVP by 23rd April 2025 to patriciac@ncn.ie

For Further Information Call Kathleen: 086 7944973 / 047 72469



PAEDIATRIC PHYSIOTHERAPIST MISCP CORU REG
JAIM INFANT MASSAGE INTRUCTOR

BABY MASSAGE CLASSES



PRESBYTERIAN HALL
COOTEHILL CO. CAVAN
H16KD63
MAY 2025

- THURSDAY 1ST
- THURSDAY 8TH
- THURSDAY 15TH
- WEDNESDAY 21ST
- THURSDAY 29TH

🕒 10:15AM - 11:45AM

SUITABLE FROM BIRTH TO PRE CRAWLING

📱 @TWINKLETOES_BABYMASSAGE

📞 CONTACT FIONA 087 770 8281




Storytime

Johnston Central Library

Every Saturday

11 - 11.30 am For Ages 3-7






Resilience in nature

Wild Forest Day

Deep time orienteering for kids (accompanied by adult)

Live music from Daragh Stacke

Nature talk from ecologist Róisín O'Connell

Drumming in the forest with Wellness in Rhythm

Introduction to our new Peacebuilding Program

12 noon Sunday 6th of April
Deerpark Forest (rugby club entrance)

fiaichra@ecopeaceproject.org







Comhairle Contae an Chabháin
Cavan County Council

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



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**