



**Childcare
Committee**
County Cavan

Weekly Newsletter 15th - 19th September

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/](https://cavanccc.ie/jobs-board/)



Deadlines and Important Dates

30th September:

QIPP Report final deadline

17th October:

Deadline for the Learner
Fund Bursary for Graduates
and Childminders





Application Window Now Open for 2025 Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary

The 2025 Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary is open for applications between Monday 15 September and 5pm on Friday 17 October 2025. To receive an application form, please contact CavanCCC. The rules for the Graduate Bursary and the Childminder Bursary can be accessed at the bottom of [this page](#).

Completed applications must be received within the deadline by CavanCCC who will process applications, for appraisal by the DCDE.

This year, the eligibility and selection criteria of the Learner Fund Bursary reflects a gradual alignment with the pilot Nurturing Skills Learner Fund (NSLF). Since its inception in 2024, the pilot NSLF scheme has offered financial support to over 700 Early Learning and Care practitioners. With the introduction of the NSLF as the main funding mechanism for those within the sector seeking to upskill, the Department of Children, Disability and Equality (DCDE) intends to wind down the Learner Fund Bursary by 2026.

While the Learner Fund Bursary amount for 2025 will remain set at €1000, the rules have been amended to reflect an alignment with the NSLF scheme in relation to the eligibility criteria (and the selection criteria in case of oversubscription).

For 2025, the Learner Fund Graduate Bursary is open to Early Learning and Care practitioners who fulfil the following eligibility criteria:

- have graduated in 2024 or 2025 only;
 - have graduated with a Quality Advisory Board (QAB) approved Early Learning and Care Degree Programme at Level 7 or 8 only. This list can be viewed [here](#).
- If demand for Learner Fund Graduate Bursary funding exceeds the available budget, policy-based selection criteria will apply, as set out in the rules of the scheme.

For 2025, the Learner Fund Childminder Bursary is open to childminders who fulfil the following eligibility criteria:

- applicants must currently be a Tusla registered Childminding Service.
- have graduated in 2024 or 2025 only;
- have graduated with Level 5, or 6 award on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) or Level 7 or 8 on the Quality Advisory Board (QAB) list of approved Early Learning and Care Degree Programmes.

Completed applications for the 2025 Learner Fund Graduate and Childminder Bursary must be received by CavanCCC by 5pm on Friday 17 October 2025.

AIM Level 1 application process for services with new LINC graduates is now open

The AIM Level 1 application process has now opened on Early Years Hive for services with new graduates of the Leadership for Inclusion (LINC) programme. A 'new graduate' refers to any person graduating in October 2025.

Applicants are encouraged to submit their application as soon as possible. Applications received by 5pm on Thursday 23 October 2025 will be awarded the additional capitation from the Inclusion Co-ordinator's employment start date relevant to the 2025/2026 programme year. Applicants are encouraged to apply early, as any applications received after this date will not be backdated.

Applications must be submitted via the Early Years Hive. Applicant guidelines can be found [here](#). Prior to submitting the AIM Level 1 application, service providers must ensure that they have completed their ECCE programme readiness steps and activated the ECCE Funding Agreement.

Queries in relation to the AIM Level 1 application process - contact the Early Years Provider Centre by raising a [Request](#) on the Hive using the following categories:

- Programme: AIM Level 1
- Request type: Application
- Request type detail: How To

Update on this week's ECCE Programme payment

Please note that this Friday's Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) payment, scheduled for 19 September, will be calculated based on approved registrations up to 10 October 2025, less any preliminary payment already issued. The balance of the payment, relating to the week ending 17 October 2025, will be processed on Monday 22 September.

Public consultation on the regulation of school-age childcare

Minister Foley recently launched the Public Consultation on the Regulation of School Age Childcare and Early Learning and Care Services. This consultation is an opportunity for parents, school-age childcare practitioners, providers and other stakeholders to shape the legislation that supports the regulation of school-age childcare services. Further information on the public consultation can be accessed [here](#).

The full press release can be accessed [here](#).



Updated Garda Vetting

There is a **new** Garda Vetting process in place for ELC/SAC services since **1st February 2025**, and *it can take over 2 months to complete*.

The following now applies:

- TUSLA manage Garda Vetting services for registered providers, including childminders, as well as Chairpersons of Boards of Management (where they are the registered provider) and board members who have access to children. Further information is available [here](#).
- Early Childhood Ireland (ECI) manage Garda Vetting services for all employees in ELC and SAC services. For more information, go to the [ECI website](#).
- Barnardos no longer provide vetting services.

QIPP Report Template 2024/2025

The final deadline for completing the QIPP end of year report is Tuesday 30 September 2025.

Services who have not yet submitted their report can so do so via www.cfcrrs.ie. A guidance video is available [here](#).

Tusla Registration Renewal

All Early Years Services are required to renew registration every 3 years. The registration date can be found on the current Tusla certificate or checked on the Early Years Register or the School Age Register. Please note the following key points:

- Applications must be submitted no later than 2 months before your current certification expires.
- The process requires submission of in-date Garda Vetting for the Registered Provider and the Person in Charge (if different). Current timelines for vetting should be considered.

Failure to reregister in time will result in your removal from the register, and it is an offence to operate an unregistered service. Additional information on re-registration can be found [here](#).

 **REGISTER NOW**

Equality Diversity & Inclusion Training

This training will introduce the diversity, equality and inclusion charter and guidelines for the Early Years sector. It will focus on providing an inclusive environment and using the anti-bias approach, support given to develop inclusion policy. As part of your ECCE contract (in the AIM appendix 2 Level 1) providers must participate in the Diversity, Equality and Inclusion Charter and Guidelines.

Schedule for the following training:

Saturday 27th September 9.30 – 4pm with lunch included

Tuesday 30th September 6.30 - 9.30 with light refreshments

Tuesday 7th October 6.30 – 9.30 with light refreshments

Please note: Full attendance at all three sessions is required in order to complete the training.

If the training is oversubscribed, priority will be given to services who have not yet completed any DEI training.

Please follow this link to register for all three sessions:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/825024108317?aff=oddttdtcreator>

!!! PLACES ARE LIMITED !!!



Health & Safety Workshop

Cavan CCC has collaborated with the Cavan Enterprise Offices to offer **Health and Safety Training** to support you/your team and/or board in developing a *Safety Statement* and carrying out a *Risk Assessment* for **Wednesday 22nd October @ 2.30 - 5pm** in the Cavan Innovation & Technology Centre, H12 R6D6.

The course will focus on:

- Drafting of a Safety Statement and carrying out Risk Assessment.
- Interactive workshops on risk assessment.

Participants will leave with a clear knowledge of their legal duties, the legal contents of a safety-statement and how to draft one and the confidence to carry out and document robust risk assessments.

This is a FREE Training event and it is open to potential, new and existing Early Learning & Care and School Age Childcare Services.

For more information and to book please click [here](#)



Culture Night Cavan town

TOWNHALL STREET FEST

FREE

CIRCUIS DANCE ART

MUSIC

Friday 19 September
3:00 - 7:30PM
Family Event
Townhall St. - Market Sq.

arts cavan
cavan arts

Women Who Walk Cavan

NEW! WOMEN'S WALKING GROUP

FREE - FRIENDLY - FOR EVERYONE

LET'S WALK TOGETHER!

Join us for bi-weekly walks
on Sunday in Cavan
All fitness levels welcome

The Orchard,
Drumalee,
Cavan

Sunday 28th
September
3PM sharp

If interested please contact
womenwhowalkcavan@gmail.com

womenwhowalkcavan@gmail.com

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:
Market House
BALLYCONNELL
H14R573
Date:
8th of Oct. 2025
Time:
10am- 12pm

Booking essential!
reserve your place by email to:
parentingcavan@cclld.ie

Tea, coffee & light refreshments on arrival

Guest speakers on the day

PARENTING SUPPORT CHAMPIONS PROJECT
CYPSC

THERE'S LOADS FOR YOU AT THE LIBRARY. SEE FOR YOURSELF.

**National Public Libraries
OPEN DAY Sat 27 Sept at
Johnston Central
Library**

All visitors enter a DRAW for a PRIZE!

**10 am - 11am
BorrowBox Demo**
Discover the joy of our Online Library. Learn how to access eBooks, eAudiobooks, digital magazines/newspapers on your smartphone, tablet or PC. Bring in your device and we'll get you started!

**11am
Family Storytime
3-5 years**
Bring your favourite teddy - settle in for storytime with our library staff!

**11:30 am - 12:30 noon
Lego Fun 4-10 years**
Children can come on down to our big Lego table and have some fun building and creating from their imagination and make friends!

**3 pm - 4 pm
Accessible Tech Demo
All Welcome**
Join us for a demonstration in our accessible services like Magic Table, Sensory Pod, C-Pen

**11:30 am - 12:30 noon
Book Folding 9+ years**
Have fun and create a little hedgehog companion out of old withdrawn books from the library. Take a book home to keep and make more!
Booking Essential! - Please call (0)49 4378500

**4 pm - 5 pm
Fun & Boardgames**
Enjoy some friendly competition with your family & friends in a game of chess or Kluster!

**2:30 pm - 4:30 pm
Circular Weaving Workshop**
Participate in a relaxing creative activity in a safe space share in a light-hearted way and begin to think about making plans.
Booking Essential! - Please call (0)49 4378500

Throughout the Day
Help complete our community jigsaw or enjoy colouring. We also would love to hear your ideas and feedback about our library fill in a feedback form

(0)49 4378500
www.cavanlibrary.ie

Healthy Ireland at Your Library

FREE

**Virginia Library
Fri 26 Sept**

**Baby Massage
Taster Session
with Orla O'Connor**

Certified Baby Massage Instructor & Public Health Nurse

**Friday 26 Sept
10.30am - 12.30pm**

**Booking Essential
Ring 049 8548456**

Healthy Ireland, a Government-led initiative, is the national strategy to improve health and wellbeing, placing a focus on prevention, individual awareness and keeping people healthy for longer.

www.cavanlibrary.ie

Cavan Community News

We encourage all community childcare services to check out the latest edition of the Cavan Community ENews. Compiled weekly by Cavan Public Participation Network (PPN), this newsletter features updates from over 500 local groups, partner agencies, and funders. It's a useful resource for staying informed about local initiatives, events, and supports that may benefit the families you work with.

[Click here to view this weeks newsletter.](#)





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**



Did you know we are now on Instagram? Follow us for all the updates!

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**