



**Childcare
Committee**
County Cavan

Weekly Newsletter 29th Sept - 3rd October

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

17th October:

Deadline for the Learner
Fund Bursary for Graduates
and Childminders

23 October:

AIM L1 application deadline
to receive payments from
employee start date for
25/26 programme





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 Cavan CCC. 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 Cavan CCC 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 Cavan CCC 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

Force Majeure Guidelines

Force Majeure Guidelines are now available on HIVE. These guidelines are designed to support services when applying for Force Majeure and completing a Force Majeure Application Form.

The Guidelines and Application Form can be accessed [here](#).

Pobal Compliance Inspections

On-site compliance inspections for ECCE (including AIM level 1 & Aim level 7), CCSP and Core Funding will commence shortly.

Pobal will deliver webinars on **13 & 16 October** that cover compliance processes, invitations can be found in the *Announcements* section of the Early Years Hive.

The Pobal Compliance team have uploaded programme compliance support documents which are available under each relevant section [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.

Public consultation on the regulation of school-age childcare

The Public Consultation on the Regulation of School Age Childcare and Early Learning and Care Services is now open for submissions. It is an opportunity to shape the legislation that supports the regulation of school-age and ELC services.

Further information on the public consultation can be accessed [here](#). The full press release can be accessed [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](#).



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](#)

Barnardo's Training

Are you a Manager or Owner or Owner of an Early Years' Service? In their upcoming workshop, attendees will receive guidance on the development and implementation of a supervision structure in an Early Learning and Care setting.

Why is Supervision Important

- Reinforces the values and vision of the service
- Improves connections and relationships with employees and overall team dynamics
- Improves practice
- Opportunity to explore challenges and achievements
- Provides a safe space to discuss concerns

If interested book here:

[Supporting Professional Practice through One-to-One Supervision in ELC - Barnardos](#)



Barnardos

Because childhood lasts a lifetime



Parenting When Separated

FREE

Adapting to Shared Parenting

Online lunchtime workshop

- ✓ Parent & child's needs post-separation
- ✓ Communication tools
- ✓ Identify your strengths as a parent

Monday 22nd September 12:30pm-1:30pm

onefamily

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 Project CYPSC Cavan

AUTUMN CRAFT & GIFT FAIR 2025

SUNDAY 5th OCTOBER

12.00PM - 5.00PM

SLIEVE RUSSELL HOTEL BALLYCONNELL CAVAN H14 FE03

FREE ADMISSION!

downlandcrafts.ie
 049 436 4877

HALLOWEEN TRACTOR RUN

WITH LORRIES, CARS, BICYCLES, HONDA 50'S

SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER

IN AID OF LARAGH CHILDCARE LTD

LARAGH COMMUNITY PARK H12 D782

Registration starts 11.30

Run starts at 1pm

KIDS FANCY DRESS WALK, RAFFLES, AUCTION, LOTS OF FUN ACTIVITIES

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: 5th November-10th December 2025
Time: 7pm- 9pm
Where: Cavan County Local Development Building, 6A Corlughan Business Park, Cavan, H12DP86.

To reserve a place, click on www.parentingcavan.ie select MENU- Scroll down through, click on ADHD Children and submit an enquiry form

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**