

Early Years Educators - Invitation to take part in a Public Consultation

In 2019, the then Minister for Children and Youth Affairs announced that a review of the enforcement powers of the Tusla Early Years Inspectorate (EYI) would be undertaken by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

In particular, the Minister wished to extend Tusla's powers to enable it to suspend services immediately, where it had significant safety or welfare concerns in relation to a service. The review would also consider how parents can be informed at the earliest possible opportunity of serious concerns about a service being investigated by Tusla EYI.

As part of the review, the Department is carrying out a public consultation. Phase 1 of this consultation has been completed. Phase 2 is underway and involves a series of focus groups with different stakeholders, including Early Years Educators.

Further information on this consultation can be found here: [Public Consultation on a Review of Regulations for Early Learning and Care](#)

The focus groups will be held online and will be facilitated by Ace Communication.

Each focus group will last for approximately 90 minutes.

As a participant of Phase 1 of this public consultation, we would like to invite you to attend a focus group.

Please only apply if your primary role is as an educator in an early learning and care setting. There will be additional focus groups at a later date for other stakeholders.

Please respond by email to acefocusgroups@gmail.com if you would like to participate. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

We will reply to confirm your place and provide the meeting link.

Focus Group 3 – Thursday 6th October at 7.30 pm

If you would like to take part in the consultation but this date does not suit you, please let us know and we may be able to offer you a place at a later date.

If you require accessibility supports to take part, please contact us to discuss.

If you have any questions, please contact Teresa Gadd, lead researcher, on 085 141 0933.