Childminding Newsletter

Autumn 2022

The Business Side of Childminding

Interactive Information Sessions

In June, after Becoming a Childminder information sessions were run throughout the country, you told us you wanted to know more about the business side of childminding and you wanted more interaction with other childminders.

So this Autumn we are running a series of three interactive sessions for new and existing childminders on:

- Setting your fees,
- Childminder and parent contracts,
- Childminding and Revenue.

These interactive information sessions will be rolled out across the country by the team of Childminding Development Officers through your local City or County Childcare Committee. They will run mainly on weekday evenings for 1-2 hours in October and November.

There will be LOTS of information and PLENTY of time for discussion too. Grab a coffee and join us! Contact your local CCC to find out the details in your area.



Core Funding still open

More and more childminders are applying for Core Funding to get financial support for their childminding services! Core Funding is the new government subsidy scheme for all childcare providers. Tusla registered childminders can apply for Core Funding at any time of the year.

Some of the key conditions include:

- operating a fee freeze, i.e., no increase to fees in 2022/23 above September 2021 rates,
- offering the NCS or ECCE programme to all eligible children.

The key benefit is the guaranteed subsidy you can gain for each childcare place you provide. To get an idea of what this funding could offer, go to: the Ready Reckoner on the Early Years Hive.

Contact your local CCC for more details and support in applying for Core Funding.





Update



CMDG applications for 2022.

Make sure you:

- Sign the Letter of Agreement
- Complete the template
- Attach receipts
- Return via email: cmdg@cavanccc.ie before **5pm Friday** 25th November 2022.

Payments start around the 1st October 2022 for all complete applications.



The National Action Plan for Childminding

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth have developed a plan for childminding over the next 6 years called the National Action Plan for Childminding. The plan will support childminders who work in their own home - grandparents and nannies who are working in the parent's home are not included in the plan.

The plan will set out steps for all childminders to have access to supports, training, financial subsidies, and regulation.

- Childminders will be able to access a variety of new supports and new training opportunities.
- More childminders will have access to Government funding, such as Core Funding.
- All childminders will be able to register with Tusla, opening the way to the National Childcare Scheme for parents using childminders.

Just click on our logo to go our webpage and find out more!!



Your voice matters!

The voice of the childminder is vital to the success of the National Action Plan for Childminding. Childminders are currently on the Steering Group and four Advisory Groups to do with regulation, training, funding and communications.

We are looking for more childminders to take part in further consultation for the National Action Plan. You could be invited to participate in: surveys, focus groups, interviews, workshops, or piloting a programme. These could be online, by phone or in person.

You choose the type of consultation you want to participate in. We need you to make your voice heard! If you are willing to get involved, just click on the link to complete the survey and express your interest. Thank you!



Follow the National Action Plan for Childminding on Facebook to keep up to date with all the latest developments! Just click on the Facebook logo to find us!



It's a great time to start a nature table for our Autumn treasures, with the abundance of leaves, conkers, acorns and cones to be found outside in forests, gardens and on the streets. Children love collecting these on all kinds of nature walks exploring the outdoors.

They can turn some into traditional threaded conkers for bashing contests, and the rest can be played with, rolled, stuck into play dough and used as money in the play shop.

There is plenty of scope for discussion about contrast in textures between the shiny, smooth conkers and their spiky outer shells and the variety of shape and sizes between the different leaves, seeds and pine cones. They can learn more about trees, seeds and leaves after a trip to the library too.

Put some safe, clean items in a treasure basket for baby to explore too. Using treasure baskets gives babies the opportunity to explore with all their senses. They can feel, taste, hear, smell and see a variety of textures, experiment and make choices.

Find out more on <u>Aistear.</u> For more great ideas, check out the <u>Imagination Tree.</u>

