



COMPLETING THE QUESTION ON ETHNIC IDENTIFIER FOR DCEDIY ELC & SAC PROGRAMMES

CONTEXT

The Equal Participation Model (EPM) is a strategic policy currently under development in the Early Learning and Care and School Age Childcare Division of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. It is a proposed new funding strand as part of *Together for Better*, ensuring supports are allocated adequately and equitably.

As part of the EPM, additional supports are being considered. The mechanism to identify services requiring support is still in development, however consultations have made clear that ethnicity should be one element in assessing need. Ethnic identifiers are currently not included in the NCS or ECCE forms, but can be important facets of disadvantage. As such, DCEDIY is proposing to use a self-selection, ethnic identifier for parents/guardians on all their programme application and registration forms.

PURPOSE

- Data on ethnic or cultural background is required in some cases for the purpose of allocating appropriate resources to ELC&SAC services to support the individual needs of children from these communities under the EPM model.
- Data on ethnic or cultural origins is required for statistical analysis and in order to underpin future policy and planning within the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth. Data on ethnic or cultural backgrounds is required to comply with a number of international reporting requirements for children from these communities.

This data will not be used for other purpose.

HOW

Parents will be offered an optional question as part of the NCS application process, requesting information on ethnic and cultural background. Parents are free to skip this question if they would prefer not to answer.

For ECCE and CCSP, ELC and SAC providers are required to gain the written consent from the relevant parents/guardians, as appropriate, before data on these two data fields is recorded on the Hive. Parents again will have the option to not disclose this information. Should they prefer not to, they may skip the question.

The following documents will contain the ethnic identifier

- NCS Application Form (On-Line)
- NCS Sponsorship Form

- ECCE Parent Declaration Form
- CCSP Parent Declaration Form

WHAT

Parents/Guardians will have the option to self-identify as one of the options outlined below. These options are the ones used by the Central Statistics Office and will assist in gathering data to inform policy and how best to ensure equity for all.

To which ethnic or cultural background group does your child belong (please tick one)

- White Irish
- Irish Traveller
- Roma
- Any other White Background
- Black African
- Any other Black Background
- Chinese
- Any other Asian background
- Other, including mixed race backgrounds

ECCE REGISTRATION

When completing the ECCE registration in 2023, there are two new fields to be completed

- Ethnic Group/ Background
- Eircode

The Ethnic identifier is **NOT** a mandatory field, while we are encouraging parents/guardians to complete it, for some it can be a sensitive issue and they may not feel comfortable

Child Details	
Child First Name *	Child Last Name *
Child Date of Birth *	Gender *
Child Identification	
PPSN / Previous Registration	
<input type="radio"/> Registration No <input checked="" type="radio"/> PPSN	
Child PPSN	
Ethnic Group/Background	
Enter a Full Address or Eircode to search. Search	
Address Line 1	Address Line 2
General Post Office	O'Connell Street Lower
Address Line 3	Town / City
	Dublin 1
County	Eircode *
Dublin	D01F5P2

The drop down for the ethnic identifier as explained on page 2, one option is to be chosen.

Child Identification


PPSN / Previous Registration

Registration No PPSN


Child PPSN

Ethnic Group/Background

- White Irish
- White Irish Traveller
- White Roma
- Any other White Background
- Black or Black Irish African
- Black or Black Irish Any other Black background
- Asian or Asian Irish Chinese
- Asian or Asian Irish Indian / Pakistani / Bangladeshi
- Asian or Asian Irish Any other Asian background
- Other (incl. mixed group/background)



The eircode field is mandatory, fill it in and then select the correct address.

D09E165 

Omni Retail Park, Swords Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9

LIDL, Omni Retail Park, Swords Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9

MAXI ZOO OMNI, Omni Retail Park, Swords Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9

Address Line 3

Town / City

Dublin 1

County

Eircode *

Dublin

D01F5P2

THINGS TO NOTE WHEN COMPLETING THE NEW IDENTIFIER WITH PARENTS

This is a new process for you and for the parents/guardians, remember everyone may not be comfortable with it. It is optional for all parents/guardians. Here we hope are some helpful things to bear in mind for this process.

- This is optional, there is no pressure on parents/guardians into providing this information, The question is answered voluntarily, and answered on the basis of self-identification,
- Explain clearly the reason for collecting this info, it is universal to all parents. Its purpose is to identify families who may need additional supports while in ELC settings under the newly proposed Equal Participation Model
- Reassure parents/guardians this data will be used for the specified reasons only.
- Ask all parents if they would like help to complete the forms. Ensure you read all of the ethnic/cultural options one by one and ask parents to select the correct one.
- No assumptions, ask all parents the questions not just the parents/guardians you assume will or won't answer or where you have assumed a parent/guardians ethnic or cultural background
- Do not pressure parents into providing this information
- The collected data is aggregated and anonymised to avoid identification of specific individuals, data can not be traced by to you (no names included in the data).
- Data must and will only be used for the purpose for which it was collected.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORTS

If you have questions or would like additional supports you can contact your local CCC or Karen in Pavee Point.

www.myccc.ie

Pavee Point Traveller & Roma Centre
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Ireland
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