



NEWS FROM KILDARE COUNTY CHILDCARE COMMITTEE January 2018

Kildare County Childcare Committee Needs Analysis

A big thank-you to all of the services in the county who have distributed questionnaires to parents and who will be meeting our researcher in the coming weeks as part of the needs analysis we are conducting into childcare needs and provision in the county. For now, a representative sample of services are being consulted as the first phase of the research, this will be followed by a full survey which will allow everyone to express their views/ input into the process... we will be in touch with the survey in February.

Meet KCCC staff!

KCCC Staff are available to support childcare in County Kildare. You might know some of us from service visits and training events but you might like to put a face to the other voices you speak to over the phone or names from email... here we are:



(l-r) Julie McNamara, CEO; Jacqueline Ryan, Administrator;



Emily Moore, Programme Administrator; Fidelma Martin, Development Officer



(l-r); Marianne Casey, Development Officer; Marie Dowdall, Information and Training Officer



(l-r) Ashling Henderson, Clerical Officer; Jane Beatty, Communications Officer

More information about what we do, and contact details are available at: <http://www.kccc.ie/About-Us/Staff>

Purple Penguin receive ECI Learning Story award

Purple Penguin creche in Celbridge received an Early Childhood Ireland Learning Stories award for November 2017. This was for the story 'A Letter to Kelly', a simple but lovely evocation of children's dispositions in the early years. Read the full Learning Story on ECI's website – congratulations to everyone at The Purple Penguin! <https://www.earlychildhoodireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/LettertoKelly.pdf>

Have you completed Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI) Training?

Great news!!

Resources are coming to your service soon..

Minister Zappone has announced wonderful new resources for all services who have staff trained in EDI, these much sought after resources will be coming to you in the next month or so!

See the DCYA press release here: <https://www.dcy.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?DocID=4546>

It states:

"These resources, which include equipment, toys and materials, also support the development of coordination and audio, visual and tactile skills among all children, and in particular, children with a disability. AIM Inclusive Play will include a dark den, therapy putty, sand timers and kinetic sand, among a range of other resources.

The contract to develop AIM Inclusive Play was awarded to Learning Space (Belfast) Limited in November last year following a competitive tendering process. From February 2018, AIM Inclusive Play will be distributed to more than 6,000 pre-school rooms delivering the ECCE Programme across more than 4,000 pre-school settings nationally."

Have you yet to complete EDI training?

We will have plenty of opportunities for remaining childcare workers to complete EDI training in the first half of this year.

"This programme is fantastic and should be considered mandatory for all in the sector" (Group 1 participant).

"I loved the programme, got great ideas" (Group 3 participant)

"Made me more confident in the area of Diversity, Equality and Inclusion" (Group 7 participant)

"Very Informative, enjoyable and interesting" (Group 8 participant)

"Gained valuable knowledge of Diversity, Equality and Inclusion". (Group 9 participant)

Go to eventbrite to book a place on AIM EDI training now!

Briefing Sessions

KCCC will be hosting evening briefing sessions on the new requirements under the Children First Act, one person from each service is encouraged to attend. They will take place on the following dates, at KCCC offices in Clane:

30th January, 1st February, 6th February, 8th February, 6th March.

Booking will be via eventbrite invitation.

*** We have paper copies of the Children First document available here in the office for anyone who would like to collect them and will have them available at briefing sessions ****

DCYA Press release - sign language training for Early Years

The DCYA have announced free sign language and specialised training for childcare centres: www.dcy.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?Docid=4543&CatID=11&mn=&StartDate=1+January+2018