



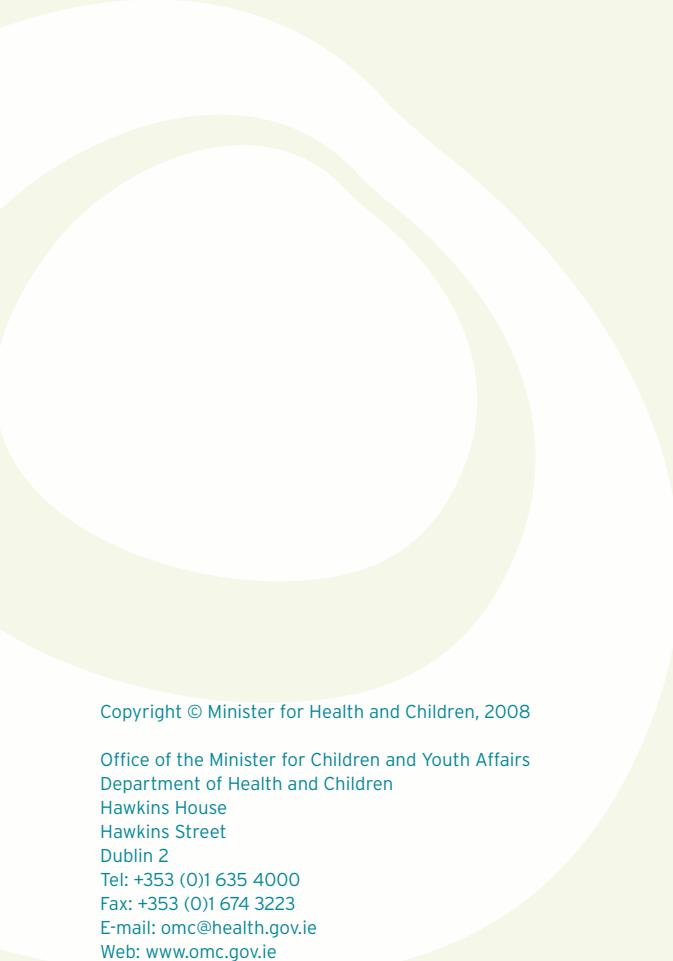
Office of the Minister for
Children and Youth Affairs
Oifig an Aire Leanach
agus Gnóthach Oige

national
childcare
strategy
2006-2010

national guidelines for childminders

Revised edition: August 2008





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Acknowledgements

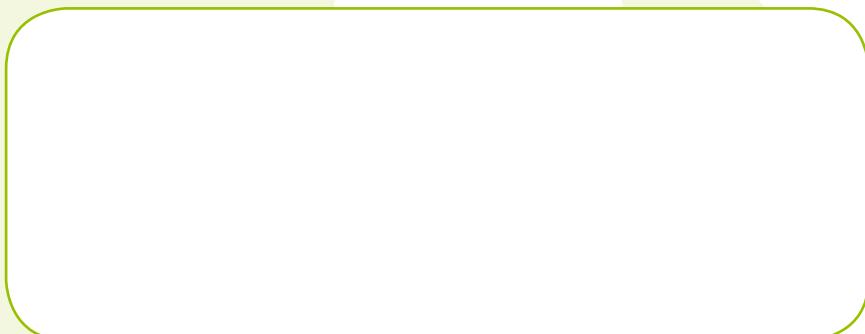
These guidelines have been prepared by a Childminding Subgroup established under the auspices of the National Childcare Co-ordinating Committee, chaired by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (OMCYA). They have been published by the Childcare Directorate of the OMCYA.

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Membership of the Childminding Subgroup included representatives from:

- Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
(Childcare Directorate, Child Welfare and Child Protection)
- Health Service Executive
- Pobal
- City/County Childcare Committees (CCCs)
- Childminder Advisory Officers (CMAOs)
- Childminding Ireland
- Individual childminders
- Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education
- The Lagan Family Daycare Network
- Farm Relief Services Network

Your Local Childminder Advisory Officer is:







Introduction

1.1 About the Childminding Guidelines

These guidelines are intended to assist childminders by providing them with guidance for good practice. The guidelines include:

- nationally agreed guidelines for good childminding practice (see *Chapter 2*);
- detailed information on statutory notification to the Health Service Executive (HSE) and voluntary notification (see *Chapter 3*);
- services provided to childminders by the City/County Childcare Committees, Childminder Advisory Officers and Childminding Ireland (see *Chapter 4*);
- contact details of all relevant organisations (see *Appendix C*).

1.2 Role of a childminder

A childminder cares for a small group of children of mixed ages in a 'home from home' setting. Children are welcomed as individuals. They are offered affection and respect, and their developmental and recreational needs are met. Childminders offer a flexible service, tailored to each child, thereby helping parents and guardians to balance their work and family commitments. A childminder negotiates and agrees the terms with parents.

The child's welfare must be the prime consideration of the childminder. Childminders have sole responsibility at all times for the health, safety and well-being of each child entrusted to their care.

1.3 Terms and references used in these guidelines

In order to understand these guidelines, **please take the time to read** the following definitions of terms and references used throughout the text.

- **A childminder** is a self-employed person who minds other people's children in the childminder's own home. Please refer to *Appendix B* for the legal definition of 'childminder' and 'childminding service'.
- **CCC:** Acronym for a **City/County Childcare Committee**. The Government established 33 CCCs in 2001 to help improve the provision of quality childcare in each city and county. CCCs are not-for-profit organisations. They provide information and supports to many different clients in the childcare sector, including childminders, parents and childcare providers who are setting up or operating childcare facilities. CCC staff provide services from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Please refer to *Appendix C1* for contact details of all CCCs.

- **Childminding Ireland** is a professional association for childminders and nannies who provide childcare in a family-based day setting. Registered membership is open to childminders who are self-employed and provide childcare in their own homes. Childminding Ireland provides many services to its members. It is dedicated to promoting *quality childcare* through providing support and information to childminders and the broader childcare sector through published materials, by telephone and via its website (www.childminding.ie). It also helps parents in identifying quality in family-based childcare and in finding childminding places. Please refer to *Appendix C4* for contact details of Childminding Ireland and other professional organisations in the childcare sector.
- **CMAO:** Acronym for **Childminder Advisory Officer**. CMAOs work with the CCCs and their specific role is to assist childminders. Please refer to *Appendix C3* for contact details of all national CMAOs.
- **HSE:** Acronym for the **Health Service Executive**, which has statutory responsibility for providing health and social services in Ireland. Please refer to *Appendix C2* for contact details of HSE Pre-School Services nationwide.
- **Notification:** Under the law, certain categories of childminders are obliged to notify the Health Service Executive of their service. Other childminders are not required to do so, but can choose to *voluntarily notify* their local CCC or CMAO of the existence of their service. Please refer to *Chapter 3* for detailed information on notification.
- **OMCYA:** Acronym for the **Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs**.



A photograph of two children outdoors. In the foreground, a young boy with dark curly hair is smiling and giving a thumbs-up with his right hand. He is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt with a small emblem on the chest and light-colored trousers. In the background, another child is visible, though less clearly, appearing to be in motion or playing. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting.

2.

National Guidelines for Childminders

2.1 Core requirements for childminders

Childminders who are required by law to notify the Health Service Executive (HSE) are bound by the requirements of Part VII of the Child Care Act 1991 and the Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006.

There are also four nationally recognised core areas where certain requirements should be met by childminders:

1. Suitability of the person

The childminder must be a person aged 18 or over who is genuinely interested in caring for children and is of a suitable character to do so.

2. Well-being of the child

The childminder must have a commitment to providing quality childcare, which ensures that the well-being and development of the child is paramount.

3. Physical environment

The childminder's home should provide a secure and happy environment in which the health, safety and welfare of the child is assured and in which the developmental needs of the child are met.

4. Health and safety

The childminder must provide evidence that adequate health and safety procedures are in place.

Details of the childminder's responsibilities in these four areas are provided in Sections 2.2 – 2.5 below. More detailed information and advice on all areas is available from local CCCs, local CMAOs and Childminding Ireland (see Appendix C for contact details).

2.2 Suitability of the person

A childminder should:

- be genuinely interested in caring for children, be of suitable character to do so and have the ability to communicate with children;
- be suitable to have sole care of children and must be free of a criminal conviction or of a pending investigation that may deem them unsuitable;
- be in good health;
- be aged 18 or over;
- provide references to the parent that will attest to their good character and suitability to be a childminder (e.g. past employer, parent of a previously minded child, General Practitioner);

- respect the confidentiality of the children and their families;
- be willing to undertake accredited training in First Aid;
- be willing to take part in childcare training.

2.3 Well-being of the child

A childminder should:

- have a commitment to providing quality childcare, which ensures that the well-being and development of the child is paramount;
- have an understanding of children's rights and needs;
- recognise and respect the children's individual characters;
- recognise the importance of play and learning in the structure of a child's day by sharing in play and providing appropriate material for play activities. Particular attention is drawn to *Síolta: The National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education*, published by the Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education in 2006 (available at www.siolta.ie), and the *National Framework for Early Learning*, to be published by the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (www.ncca.ie) in Spring 2009;
- put in place a procedure for recording relevant information in relation to the child and ensure that parents are made aware of this procedure;
- respect the parent as the primary carer and educator of the child;
- ensure that there is structured quality communication time with parents to discuss their child's progress;
- provide a healthy, balanced, nutritional diet for each child and be aware of any special requirements;
- ensure that all vulnerable foods are stored under suitable refrigerated storage conditions as necessary;
- be familiar with the most up-to-date Child Protection Policy by participating in training and ensure that this policy is put into practice in accordance with the *Children First: National Guidelines for the Protection and Welfare of Children*, published by the Department of Health and Children. A free Summary edition of the *Children First* national guidelines is available from the HSE. A full edition may be purchased from the Government Publications Office, Molesworth Street, Dublin 2. Both editions are available on the website of the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs (www.omc.gov.ie).

Childminders must ensure that no corporal punishment is inflicted on a child and that a child is never subjected to any degrading or abusive behaviour while in their care.

2.4 Physical environment

Attention must be paid to the following physical aspects of a childminder's home:

- the childminder's home should provide a secure and happy environment in which the health, safety and welfare of the child is assured and in which the developmental needs of the child can be met;
- the home should be of sound and stable structure, and should be fit for the purpose of childminding;
- the home, both indoors and outdoors, should be kept in a good state of repair and in a clean and hygienic condition;
- the childminder should have access to a telephone within the home. It is also recommended that the childminder has a contact person to call upon in the event of an emergency;
- the exit doors, gates and perimeter of the home should be secure;
- children should have adequate space in which to play and there should be adequate floor space;
- work and play areas should be suitable and be in a good state of repair, and precautions should be taken to ensure that they are not a source of infection;
- particular attention should be paid to all indoor areas, including:
 - kitchen
 - bathrooms
 - play areas
 - sleeping area
 - stairs
 - any other areas to which minded children have regular access.
- special attention should also be paid to the following outdoor areas (where applicable), particularly where there are additional features:
 - front garden
 - back garden
 - sandpit area
 - water hazards
 - driveways
 - garage
 - garden shed or other outdoor buildings, etc.

2.5 Health and safety

The childminder should:

- provide evidence that adequate health and safety procedures are in place;
- ensure that good hygiene practices are adhered to;
- have appropriate insurance cover for minded children in the childminder's own home and while travelling in the childminder's car;
- ensure the safety of children in their care at all times;
- be trained in First Aid for children. An up-to-date accredited First Aid Certificate should be prominently displayed and a properly equipped First Aid kit for children should be in place;
- have in place fire-fighting blankets/equipment and smoke alarms, and observe fire safety and emergency procedures (e.g. an evacuation plan);
- ensure that animals/pets on the premises do not put the health, safety or welfare of the children at risk;
- inform parents of any accident, injury or incident involving their children.



A woman with long blonde hair, wearing a green dress, is sitting in a field of tall grass. She is looking down at something in her hands, possibly a small object or a piece of paper. The background is a soft-focus view of the same field.

3.

Notification – Statutory or Voluntary

3.1 What is notification?

Certain categories of childminders are legally obliged to notify the HSE that they are providing a childminding service. Other childminders are not obliged to notify the HSE, but it can be worthwhile to do so voluntarily (see *Section 3.4 below*).

3.2 Who is obliged to notify the HSE?

Under the Child Care Act 1991, **a person minding more than 3 pre-school children from different families is obliged to notify the HSE** of the childminding service, with the exception of those who are exempt from notifying (see *Appendix B on legislation*).

A pre-school child is defined under the Act as 'a child who is under 6 years of age and who is not attending a national school or a school providing education similar to a national school'.

A childminder must provide specific information to the HSE as part of the notification process. This information is set out in the Schedule to the Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006. A childminder should contact the local HSE Pre-School Office (see *Appendix C2 for contact details*) to obtain a copy of the *Notification Form* (*for those obliged to notify*). The HSE provides an advisory service and an inspection service for all childcare services, including childminders who are required by law to notify them. The HSE has a legal obligation to make information available to interested persons on pre-school services, including childminders who are obliged to notify.

Under the Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006, a childminder should look after not more than 5 pre-school children, including their own pre-school children. No more than 2 children should be less than 15 months old. Exceptions in relation to numbers under 15 months can be made for multiple births or siblings.

3.3 Childminders who are not obliged to notify the HSE

A childminder is not obliged to inform the HSE in order to carry out a childminding service if the childminder is minding:

- children under the age of 6 years who are attending a national school or a school providing a similar educational programme; or
- pre-school children who are all from the same family or who are the children of the childminder's relatives¹; or
- no more than 3 pre-school children who are from different families.

¹ A relative is defined in the Explanatory Guide to the Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 as a brother, sister, aunt, uncle, grandparent or step-parent of the child.

However, a childminder might wish to *voluntarily notify* the HSE that a service is being provided and this can be done by contacting the local CMAO (see Appendix C3).

Childminders who are unsure as to whether they are obliged to notify or not should contact their local CCC, CMAO or Childminding Ireland for advice.

3.4 Voluntary notification

3.4.1 Benefits of voluntary notification

Voluntary notification benefits childminders by opening up access to a range of services and supports through their local CCCs and CMAOs, including information, networking and training (see Chapter 4). This will help childminders to improve the quality of their services. It also benefits childminders who wish to:

- operate to high standards;
- have their work valued and their contribution to the childcare sector recognised;
- obtain guidance on the development of policies and standards in childcare;
- participate in training, networking and other opportunities;
- attend conferences, seminars and other events for childminders organised by the CCCs;
- avail of various Capital Grant Schemes for childminders;
- remove the isolation often experienced by childminders;
- contact parents who are seeking family-based childcare places;
- have their names included on a public list of childminders that is made available to parents (optional).

3.4.2 How to voluntarily notify a childminding service

1. The childminder should first of all **read carefully and thoroughly through these guidelines**, which include the nationally recognised core requirements and good practice recommendations for childminders.
2. The childminder should contact the local CMAO, requesting a Voluntary Notification Pack. This will contain a *Voluntary Notification Form* and a *Self-evaluation Form*, both of which must be completed and returned to the CMAO.

3. The CMAO will then contact the childminder in advance to arrange a date and time to visit the childminder, to review the self-evaluation and to ensure that all the criteria are met.
4. The CMAO will be available throughout the self-evaluation to help, advise and guide the childminder through the process and resolve any problems that may arise. When this process is complete, the CMAO will sign off on the Voluntary Notification Form, following which the childminder will be sent a written confirmation that he or she has voluntarily notified.

A sample of the Voluntary Notification Form and Self-evaluation Form is given in Appendix A. The childminder should read both forms to learn more about what is involved.

It is recommended that the Voluntary Notification Form is accompanied by a Disclaimer (see Appendix A), which should be signed by both the CCC/CMAO and the childminder.

In line with the Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006, childminders undertaking the voluntary notification process should not look after more than 5 pre-school children, of which no more than 3 may be from different families.

4.

Services provided to childminders by the CCCs and CMAOs

All childminders, whether they are obliged to notify the HSE or not, can avail of services provided by the City/County Childcare Committees (CCCs) and Childminder Advisory Officers (CMAOs). Some of these services are outlined below and full details can be obtained from local CCCs and CMAOs (see Appendix C).

4.1 Training

The CCCs offer a training course called the Quality Awareness Programme (QAP) for childminders. This is generally a 10-hour course, divided into five 2-hour classes and delivered over a number of weeks. The course covers topics such as child development, child well-being, play, hygiene and health and safety. Following completion of a QAP, childminders can go on to pursue further recognised qualifications via their CCC or avail of other accredited training options. If childminders wish to avail of certain Government grants, they must complete the QAP (see Section 4.2.1).

4.2 Financial supports

Childminders can avail of various financial supports under the National Childcare Investment Programme (NCIP) 2006-2010. These supports are outlined below.

4.2.1 Childminding Development Grant

The Childminding Development Grant is designed to help childminders with the cost of toys, equipment or minor household adaptations. With the exception of childminders who have completed the national voluntary notification system, it is a condition of the Childminding Development Grant that childminders participate in the QAP operated by their local CCC. It is also a condition of the grant that all childminders who are subject to the Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 must have notified the HSE about their service.

Although the grant is limited to 90% of the total cost, it allows the childminder to claim up to €1,000 of the cost of the equipment or household adaptation. For example, in order to claim €1,000, the childminder must present receipts to their local CCC showing expenditure of at least €1,111. As an alternative, some CCCs operate the grant by providing pre-paid packs of equipment valued at €1,000 and the childminder is asked to make a contribution of €100.

Subject to available resources, the grants are available for the duration of the NCIP 2006-2010. Childminders who receive a grant must undertake to stay in operation for two years after the date of the grant; they may re-apply for another grant after those two years and before the end of the NCIP on 31 December 2010. If a childminder can only give a shorter commitment, then the grant will be reduced accordingly, e.g. a commitment for one year will reduce the maximum grant available to €500. In addition, childminders who received a grant under the Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme (EOCP) 2000-2006 may apply for a grant under the NCIP scheme.

4.2.2 Other NCIP capital grant schemes

All private childcare providers may apply for larger scale capital grant aid under the NCIP scheme, subject to a number of criteria. These include the number of childcare places that will be created and considerations about the quality of the service provided and its value for money. The maximum grant available to childminders is €75,000, based on the maximum for each new full-time childcare place being €15,000 and the Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006 limiting the number of childminding places to 5.

A smaller scale capital grant scheme for childminders, which does not require the creation of new childminding places, is available to assist with the cost of essential repairs and refurbishment associated with the service. The maximum grant under this scheme is €5,000 per full-time place.

In the case of both grants referred to above, it is a requirement that childminders have completed the national voluntary notification system, which is implemented through the local CCCs.

4.2.3 Tax exemption (Childcare Services Relief)

Childminders taking care of 3 or fewer children under the age of 18 may be entitled to avail of a tax exemption (called Childcare Services Relief) from the Revenue Commissioners if their annual childminding income comes to no more than €15,000.²

To apply for the tax exemption, childminders are obliged to make an annual tax return (before 31 October each year) of their childminding income to the Revenue Commissioners. Childminders must also provide evidence that they have informed their local CCC or CMAO that they are providing a childminding service. The CCC or CMAO will provide *written confirmation* of receipt of this information, which can be used by the childminder as evidence for tax exemption purposes.

² This exemption was introduced in Budget 2006 and amended in the Finance Act 2007; this limit applies for the tax year 2007 and each subsequent year unless revised or amended subsequently.

Notification of a service for the purposes of claiming this relief will be satisfied where a childminder formally advises the CCC/CMAO of the service. However, childminders should be encouraged to complete the national voluntary notification process.

As CCCs do not pass childminder details on to the Revenue Commissioners, it is a matter for childminders themselves to make the appropriate declarations to their tax office.

If the annual childminding income is over the tax exemption limit of €15,000, the total amount will be taxable as normal for a self-employed person. Further information about tax returns is available from the Revenue's website (www.revenue.ie).

A childminder who qualifies for the tax exemption will be required to pay an annual PRSI contribution of €253 in respect of the childminding income. This should be paid directly to the Department of Social and Family Affairs, and will ensure that all childminders who avail of the exemption have the opportunity to build up a social insurance record, which can, in time, be advantageous for benefits such as pensions and maternity benefit.

4.3 Childminding networks

Childminders can often feel isolated since there are no 'co-workers' with whom to discuss and review the challenges and joys of caring for children. However, networks of people in the same line of work provide opportunities for childminders to come together to share their experiences, to learn from one another and to offer mutual support. Networks also provide avenues for informal training and facilitate the identification of any additional supports or formal training required. Another benefit is the gaining of advice and information from the CMAOs around the country. Childminders can get further information on networks in their area by contacting their local CMAO (see Appendix C3).

4.4 List of childminders for parents

If a childminder wishes, the CCC can put their name and contact details on a list of childminders for distribution to parents in the local area. This will enable parents who may need a childminding service to make contact with the childminder.

4.5 Ongoing advice and guidance for childminders

Each CCC has a wealth of information and literature on childcare at its disposal and is in a position to offer advice and guidance to childminders. By undertaking the voluntary notification process, childminders can benefit from increased access to the CCCs and the knowledge and experience of the CMAOs, as well as keeping up to date with developments in the childcare sector, both nationally and internationally.



Appendix A: Sample forms for voluntary notification and disclaimer

1. Sample Voluntary Notification Form

Below is an example of a form that the local CCC may send a childminder who wishes to voluntarily notify. The CCC and CMAO will provide guidance to the childminder when completing the form.

VOLUNTARY NOTIFICATION BY A PERSON PROVIDING A HOME-BASED CHILDMINDING SERVICE

To: _____ City/County Childcare Committee
I, _____, hereby voluntarily notify the
_____ Childcare Committee that

I am providing/it is my intention to provide a home-based childminding service, which is exempt from the requirement to notify the Health Service Executive (HSE) under the Child Care Act 1991.

- I have read the National Guidelines for Childminders. I agree to comply with all aspects of the guidelines.
- I agree to work with the Childminder Advisory Officer to access various supports, information, training, funding, etc.
- I have completed the attached Self-evaluation Form.
- I agree that the HSE may be informed of my completed voluntary notification.

This notice is given today, the _____ day of _____ 20____

Childminder's details:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Mobile: _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

My childminding service operates from _____ am to _____ pm _____ days per week.

Signature of Childminder: _____ Date: _____

Signature of CCC Representative: _____ Date: _____
or CMAO

2. Sample Disclaimer Form

Below is an example of a disclaimer that can be used by CMAOs and CCCs in implementing the voluntary notification system.

DISCLAIMER

The information provided to the undersigned Childminder Advisory Officer ('the Officer') in this Voluntary Notification Form ('the Form') has been provided by [name of Childminder] ('the Childminder') of [address of Childminder] as part of a voluntary self-evaluation process as set out in the National Guidelines for Childminders.

In signing this Form, the Officer acknowledges receipt of the information from the Childminder and thereby confirms that the Childminder has voluntarily notified the [name of location] City/County Childcare Committee. Neither the Officer nor the Committee guarantees or warrants as to the truth, validity or accuracy of the information provided by the Childminder and the Childminder is solely responsible in this regard. The function of the Officer in receiving the information provided by the Childminder and signing this Form is solely to confirm that the Childminder has voluntarily notified the Committee. Neither the Officer nor the Committee accepts any responsibility, howsoever arising, in respect of any of the information provided in this Form, or the use thereof or reliance thereon by any party.

In signing this Form, the Childminder undertakes to and assures the Officer that the information provided to the Officer, and in turn to the Committee and any other third party (including the HSE) to which this Form may lawfully be given, is true, accurate and valid in every respect on the date of signing, and s/he accepts full responsibility in respect of the information provided in this Form, the use thereof and reliance thereon by any party. The Childminder is aware that the process of voluntary notification is a self-evaluation process and that s/he is required to complete the Form in good faith and to provide true, accurate, valid and up-to-date information.

Signed: _____
Childminder Advisory Officer

Signed: _____
Childminder

Date: _____

3. Voluntary notification - Self-evaluation Form

Suitability of the person		Signature of childminder
1.	I am an adult who is genuinely interested in caring for children, has the ability to communicate with children, is of good character and is in good health.	
2.	I attest that I am free from any criminal conviction or pending investigation that would deem me unsuitable to have unsupervised care of children. I am willing to undergo a Garda Vetting procedure in the future if necessary.	
3.	I have provided at least two written references that attest to my good character and to my suitability to provide single-handedly childcare for a group of pre-school children. <i>Copies of letters attached.</i>	
4.	I have trained in First Aid for Children and have up-to-date First Aid Certification dated _____ (<i>copy of Certificate attached</i>) OR I am willing to undertake First Aid Training for Children.	
5.	I have the following experience in working with children:	
6.	I have completed the following relevant training:	
7.	I plan to undertake the following relevant training:	

Well-being of the child		Signature of childminder
1.	I am committed to providing quality childcare, which ensures that the well-being and development of the child is paramount.	
2.	<p>I have written policies and procedures for my childminding service and I will ensure that parents are aware of these. These are available from the local CCC and cover the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confidentiality • Health and safety policies, including a safety statement • Child protection • Fire safety policy • Positive discipline policy • Partnership with parents • Equal opportunities 	
3.	<p>I have put in place a procedure for recording relevant information in relation to the child and ensure that parents are aware of this procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily attendance • Child's information record • Daily routine • Menu plans (ensuring healthy, balanced, nutritional diet; food stored correctly) • Accident/incident form • Medicine administration form 	
4.	I have/plan to avail of Children First: Child Protection Training.	

Physical Environment		Signature of childminder
1.	My home provides a secure and happy environment in which the health, safety and welfare of the child are assured and in which the developmental needs of the child are met.	
2.	The areas of my home, indoors and out of doors, are in a good state of repair and are fit for the purpose of childminding. All are free of avoidable hazards.	
3.	My home is clean, hygienic and safe; has stair gates, locks on cupboards, presses, doors as needed; and hazardous materials are suitably stored.	
4.	There is a telephone on the premises.	
5.	Emergency contacts are posted in an easily accessible location and an emergency back-up person is available to me who can respond promptly.	
6.	The exit doors, gates and perimeter of my home are secure.	
7.	There is adequate work and play space for all children and adults in the service.	

Health and Safety		Signature of childminder
1.	I have health and safety procedures in place in my childminding service and can provide evidence of this.	
2.	I ensure the safety of the children in my care at all times.	
3.	I ensure good hygienic practices are followed at all times.	
4.	I have appropriate insurance cover for my childminding service. <i>Copy attached.</i>	
5.	I have a properly equipped First Aid kit, fire fighting blanket/equipment and smoke alarms in place.	
6.	Fire safety procedures are in place, including an evacuation plan. <i>Copy attached.</i>	
7.	I have ensured that animals/pets on the premises do not put the health, safety or welfare of the children at risk.	

Appendix B: Relevant Legislation

Child Care Act 1991

In Chapter 3 of these guidelines, Section 3.4 on 'Voluntary notification' summarises the main provisions in law concerning childminders. Please refer to the Child Care Act 1991 for detailed information (see www.irishstatutebook.ie/1991/en/act/pub/0017/index.html).

Exemption from notifying HSE

Section 58, Part VII of the Child Care Act 1991 exempts certain childminders from notifying the HSE of their service, as follows:

Section 58. For the avoidance of doubt it is hereby declared that the provisions of this Part shall not apply to—

- (a) the care of one or more pre-school children undertaken by a relative of the child or children or the spouse of such relative,
- (b) a person taking care of one or more pre-school children of the same family and no other such children (other than that person's own such children) in that person's home,
- (c) a person taking care of not more than 3 pre-school children of different families (other than that person's own such children) in that person's home.

Section 49 of the Child Care Act 1991 defines a **pre-school child** as 'a child who has not attained the age of six years and who is not attending a national school or a school providing an educational programme similar to a national school'.

Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006

The Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006, as provided for under Part VII of the 1991 Act, are intended to secure the health, safety and welfare, and promote the development, of pre-school children attending pre-school services. The Regulations impact across the various types of pre-school provision, ranging from voluntary provision by community playgroups through to full day care provision in the private sector.

For ease of reference, some definitions of pre-school services are given below (as provided for under the Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006, effective from 3rd September 2007). For detailed information, please refer to the Regulations and their Explanatory Guide (see www.omc.gov.ie/viewdoc.asp?Docid=496&CatID=13&mn=&StartDate=01+January+2006).

- '**Childminding service'** means a pre-school service which may include an overnight service offered by a person who single-handedly takes care of pre-school children, including the childminder's own children, in the childminder's home for a total of more than 2 hours per day, except where the exemptions provided in Section 58 of the Child Care Act 1991 apply.
- A '**Childminder'** is a person who provides a childminding service as defined in the Regulations.
- '**Sessional pre-school service'** means a pre-school service offering a planned programme to pre-school children for a total of not more than 3.5 hours per session.

Services covered by the above definition may include pre-schools, playgroups, crèches, Montessori pre-schools, naónraí, notifiable childminders or similar services which generally cater for pre-school children.
- '**Part-time day care service'** means a pre-school service offering a structured day care service for pre-school children for a total of more than 3.5 hours and less than 5 hours per day and which may include a sessional pre-school service for pre-school children not attending the part-time day care service. The service must provide the same physical environment, including rest, play and sanitary facilities, as for full day care.

Services covered by the above definition may include pre-schools, playgroups, crèches, Montessori pre-schools, naónraí, notifiable childminders or similar services which generally cater for pre-school children.
- '**Full day care service'** means a pre-school service offering a structured day care service for pre-school children for more than 5 hours per day and which may include a sessional pre-school service for pre-school children not attending the full day care service.

Services such as those currently described as day nurseries and crèches are included in this definition. Where a full day care service also caters for children who do not attend on a full day basis, the adult/child ratio and group size for sessional services should apply.
- '**Pre-school service in a drop-in centre'** means a pre-school service offering day care which is used exclusively on an intermittent basis. This refers to a service where a pre-school child is cared for over a period of not more than 2 hours while the parent or guardian is availing of a service or attending an event. Such services are mainly located in shopping centres, leisure centres or other establishments as part of customer/client service.

- '**Pre-school service in a temporary drop-in centre**' means a pre-school service offering day care exclusively on a temporary basis. This refers to a service where a pre-school child is cared for while the parent or guardian is attending a once-off event, such as a conference or a sports event.
- '**Overnight pre-school service**' means a service in which pre-school children are taken care of for a total of more than 2 hours between the hours of 7pm and 6am, except where the exemptions provided in Section 58 of the Child Care Act 1991 apply.

Where an overnight pre-school service is provided in a childminding service, the childminder should look after not more than 5 pre-school children, including the childminder's own pre-school children. No more than 2 children should be less than 15 months. If it is not practical in a childminding service with 5 pre-school children or less to have an adult awake and actively supervising the pre-school children at all times, electronic baby monitor devices should be used and occasional checks carried out.

Where a childminder is caring for 6 pre-school children, including her own pre-school children, at the time of the commencement of the Child Care (Pre-School Services) (No. 2) Regulations 2006, the childminder will not be required to reduce the number cared for to 5 until such time as one of that group of 6 pre-school children begins to attend school or leaves the service voluntarily.

An overnight pre-school service should have a telephone on the premises and a second person must be available to cope with emergencies.

Appendix C: Contact details for CCCs, HSE Pre-School Offices, CMAOs and Voluntary Childcare Organisations

Appendix C1: City/County Childcare Committees (CCCs)

CCC	Address	Telephone	E-mail and website
Carlow	16 Dublin Road Carlow Town	(059) 914 0244	info@carlowccc.ie www.carlowchildcare.com
Cavan	Railway Station Belturbet Co. Cavan	(049) 952 9882	admin@cavanccc.ie www.cavanccc.ie
Clare	1 Kilrush Road Ennis Co. Clare	(065) 686 4862	info@clarechildcare.ie www.clarechildcare.ie
Cork City	29 Penrose Wharf Cork City	(021) 450 7942	corkcitychildcare@eircom.net www.corkcitychildcare.ie
Cork County	Market House Buttevant Co. Cork	(022) 23880	info@corkchildcare.ie www.corkchildcare.ie
Donegal	Glenview Business Park Donegal Road Ballybofey Co. Donegal	(074) 913 2416	info@donegalchildcare.com www.donegalchildcare.com
Dublin City	108 James Street The Digital Hub Dublin 8	(01) 542 4100	info@dccc.ie www.childcareonline.ie
Dublin - Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown	5a Woodpark Sallynoggin Co. Dublin	(01) 236 8030	info@dlrcountychildcare.ie www.dlrcountychildcare.ie
Dublin South	Block D Bawnogue Enterprise Centre Bawnogue Dublin 22	(01) 457 0122	info@southdublinchildcare.ie www.southdublinchildcare.ie
Dublin - Fingal	ABCO KOVEX Building Swords Business Park Swords Co. Dublin	(01) 807 7660	info@fingalcountychildcare.ie www.fingalcountychildcare.ie
Galway	9B Liosbán Retail Centre Tuam Road Galway	(091) 752039	mail@galwaychildcare.com www.galwaychildcare.com
Kerry	1 Powers Court Boherbee Tralee Co. Kerry	(066) 718 1582	info@kerrycountychildcare.com www.kerrycountychildcare.com

CCC	Address	Telephone	E-mail and website
Kildare	The Woods Clane Co. Kildare	(045) 861307	info@kildarechildcare.ie www.kildarechildcare.ie
Kilkenny	Rear Choill Mhuire Glendine Road Kilkenny	(056) 775 2865	kkccc@eircom.net www.kkccc.ie
Laois	6 Lismard Court Portlaoise Co. Laois	(057) 866 1029	info@laoischildcare.ie www.laoischildcare.ie
Leitrim	Laird House Church Street Drumshanbo Co. Leitrim	(071) 964 0870	leitrimcountychildcare@eircom.net www.leitrim.ie
Limerick City	City Hall Merchants Quay Limerick City	(061) 407525	childcare@limerickcity.ie www.limerickcitychildcare.ie
Limerick County	32 Main Street Croom Co. Limerick	(061) 600918	clcc@eircom.net www.clcc.ie
Longford	Longford Enterprise Centre Ballinalee Road Longford	(043) 42505	info@longfordchildcare.ie www.longfordchildcare.ie
Louth	Unit 14 Ardee Business Park Hale Street Ardee Co. Louth	(041) 685 9912	info@louthchildcare.ie www.louthchildcare.ie
Mayo	1st Floor Chambers House Ellison Street Castlebar Co. Mayo	(094) 904 7010	mayochildcare@mayococo.ie www.mayocdb.ie
Meath	No. 1 New Bridge Athlumney Road Navan Co. Meath	(046) 907 3010	meathchildcare@eircom.net www.mccc.ie
Monaghan	7 The Grange Plantation Walk Monaghan	(047) 72896	monaghancc@eircom.net www.monaghanchildcare.ie
North Tipperary	Civic Offices Limerick Road Nenagh Co. Tipperary	(067) 44888	childcare@northtippcoco.ie www.northtipperarychildcare.ie

CCC	Address	Telephone	E-mail and website
Offaly	St. Joseph's Community Centre Kilcormac Birr Co. Offaly	(057) 913 5878	offalychildcare@eircom.net www.offalychildcare.com
Roscommon	Knock Road Castlerea Co. Roscommon	(094) 962 2540	info@roscommonchildcare.ie www.roscommonchildcare.ie
Sligo	Unit 6 Cleveragh Retail Park Cleveragh Sligo	(071) 914 8860	sligochildcare@gmail.com www.sligochildcare.ie
South Tipperary	Unit 5, Ground Floor Hughes Mill Suir Island Clonmel Co. Tipperary	(052) 82274	info@southtippchildcare.ie www.southtippccc.ie
Waterford City	Unit 51 Tycor Business Centre Tycor Waterford City	(051) 860444	waterfordcitychildcarecom @eircom.net www.waterfordcitychildcare.com
Waterford County	9 Emmett Street Dungarvan Co. Waterford	(058) 43601	waterfordcochildcare@eircom.net www.waterfordcoco.ie
Westmeath	6 St. John's Terrace Blackhall Mullingar Co. Westmeath	(044) 933 5454	info@westmeathchildcare.ie www.westmeathchildcare.ie
Wexford	7 Castle Hill Enniscorthy Co. Wexford	(053) 923 7156	infowxccc@eircom.net www.wexfordchildcare.ie
Wicklow	Kilmartin Hill Wicklow Town	(0404) 64455	info@wccc.ie www.wicklowcountychildcare.ie

Appendix C2: HSE Pre-School Offices

SOUTHERN REGION				
County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Kilkenny/ Carlow	Pre-School Officer Community Care Centre James Green Kilkenny	(056) 778 4602	(056) 772 3529	clearyp@hse.ie
Tipperary South	Pre-School Officer 34 Queen Street Clonmel Co. Tipperary	(052) 70931 (052) 29276	(052) 29768	phil.mackey@hse.ie
Waterford	Pre-School Officer Community Care Centre Cork Road Waterford	(051) 842897	-	-
Wexford	Pre-School Officer Local Health Office Georges Street Wexford Town	(053) 912 3522 Ext. 358/333	(053) 912 1842	kathleen.lucking@hse.ie
Cork – City	HSE Southern Pre-Schools Office Pre-School Inspection Team Floor 2 Abbeycourt House Georges Quay Cork	(021) 492 3884	(021) 492 3953	maura.philpott@hse.ie
Cork – North Lee	North Lee Community Services Area Pre-School Inspection Team Floor 2 Abbeycourt House George's Quay Cork	(021) 492 3826	(021) 492 3953	maura.philpott@hse.ie
Cork – South Lee	South Lee Community Services Area Pre-School Inspection Team Floor 2 Abbeycourt House George's Quay Cork	(021) 492 3975	(021) 492 3953	maura.philpott@hse.ie
Cork – North	North Cork Community Services Area Pre-School Inspection Team 20 West End Mallow Co. Cork	(022) 30200	(022) 30211	liz.mccarthy@hse.ie

County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Cork – West	West Cork Community Services Area Pre-School Inspection Team Coolnagarrane Skibbereen Co. Cork	(028) 40490 Ext. 598	(028) 40511	eho.westcork@hse.ie
Kerry	Kerry Community Services Area Pre-School Inspection Team HSE South 19 Denny Street Tralee Co. Kerry	(066) 718 4911	(066) 718 4899	-

WESTERN REGION				
County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Sligo/ Leitrim/ West Cavan	Pre-School Services Health Service Executive Markievicz House Sligo	(071) 914 9669 (071) 914 9667	(071) 915 5131	sheila.noone@hse.ie
Donegal	Pre-School Services Health Service Executive County Clinic St. Conal's Hospital Letterkenny Co. Donegal	(074) 912 3669	(074) 912 2592	doris.keitley@hse.ie
Galway	Early Child Care Services 8B Liosbán Industrial Estate Tuam Road Galway	(091) 771928 Ext. 47	(091) 735701	preschool.services@hse.ie
Mayo	Early Child Care Services 2nd Floor Mill Lane Bridge Street Castlebar Co. Mayo	(094) 903 4776	(094) 903 4815	jenny.bernard@hse.ie catherine.lavin@hse.ie
Roscommon	Early Child Care Services Abbeytown House Abbey Street Roscommon	(09066) 26732	(09066) 26766	aileenm.kennedy@hse.ie
Tipperary North	Pre-School Inspection and Information Services Health Service Executive Annbrook Limerick Road Nenagh Co. Tipperary	(067) 38308	(067) 38301	lisa.mcgeeney@hse.ie helen.rouine@hse.ie

WESTERN REGION				
County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Clare	Pre-School Inspection and Information Services Health Service Executive River House Gort Road Ennis Co. Clare	(065) 686 3902	(065) 686 3983	majella.mcmahon@hse.ie annegobrien2@hse.ie margaret.neylon@hse.ie carmel.devane@hse.ie
Limerick	Pre-School Inspection and Information Services Health Service Executive 87 O'Connell Street Limerick	(061) 483591	(061) 483365	josetta.ryan@hse.ie patricia.magner@hse.ie marie.riordan@hse.ie jane.hayes@hse.ie mary.gillen@hse.ie ellen.hartnettbrownne@hse.ie

NORTH-EAST REGION				
County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Meath	Pre-School Officer Family Resource Centre Health Service Executive Commons Road Navan Co. Meath	(046) 907 4431	(046) 907 3183	maureen.joyce@hse.ie teresa.kelly@hse.ie
Louth	Pre-School Officer Health Service Executive The Ramparts Dundalk Co. Louth	(042) 938 9623	(042) 938 9184	bernie.landy@hse.ie
Cavan/ Monaghan	Pre-School Officer Pre-School Services Primary Care PCCC Services Local Health Office Rooskey Monaghan Town	(047) 30466	(047) 77908	siobhan.mccormick@hse.ie

MID-LEINSTER REGION				
County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Laois/Offaly	HSE Pre-School Services Harbour Street Tullamore Co. Offaly	(057) 932 8110	(057) 932 8107	ann.spain@hse.ie
Longford/ Westmeath	Pre-School Services Office Marlinstown Business Park Springfield Co. Westmeath	(044) 933 6070	(044) 933 6077	-

County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Kildare/ West Wicklow	Pre-School Officer Area 9 Poplar House Poplar Square Naas Co. Kildare	(045) 873241	(045) 879225	denise.wyer@hse.ie
East Wicklow	Pre-School Officer Area 10 Loughlinstown Health Centre Loughlinstown Drive Loughlinstown Co. Dublin	(01) 282 2122	(01) 282 1594	catherine.fenton@hse.ie

DUBLIN AREA				
Area	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Area 1 (Bray, Blackrock, Stillorgan, Dun Laoghaire)	Pre-School Officer Loughlinstown Health Centre Loughlinstown Drive Loughlinstown Co. Dublin	(01) 282 2122	(01) 282 1594	catherine.fenton @hse.ie
Areas 2 & 3 (Post codes: Dublin 4, 6, 8, 14 and 16)	Pre-School Officer The Maltings Business Park 54-55 Marrowbone Lane Dublin 8	(01) 454 4733	(01) 454 4827	deirdre.kelleher1 @hse.ie
Areas 4 & 5	Pre-School Officer Community Services Cherry Orchard Hospital Ballyfermot Dublin 10	(01) 620 6323 Ext. 092	(01) 620 6358	michellep.corcoran @hse.ie
Area 6 (Finglas, Cabra, Blanchard- stown)	Pre-School Officer Local Health Office North West Dublin Rathdown Road Dublin 7	(01) 882 5164	(01) 882 5168	maire.farrell@hse.ie
Area 7 (Fairview, Clontarf, Ballymun)	Pre-School Officer Local Health Office North West Dublin Rathdown Road Dublin 7	(01) 882 5164	(01) 882 5168	carmel.murrin@hse.ie
Area 8 (North Dublin, from Artane to Balbriggan/ Naul/ Garristown)	Pre-School Officer The Cottage 2 Church Road Swords Co. Dublin	(01) 840 2835	(01) 890 1636	teresa.farrell3@hse.ie

Appendix C3: Childminder Advisory Officers (CMAOs)

County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Carlow	HSE - South Eastern Area 16 Dublin Road Carlow Co. Carlow	(059) 914 0244	(059) 914 0651	eilish@carlowccc.ie
Cavan (and part of Monaghan)	HSE - North Eastern Area Cavan CCC Railway Station Belturbet Co. Cavan	(049) 952 9882	(049) 952 9881	mmcgovern@cavanccc.ie
Clare	Clare CCC 1 Kilrush Road Ennis Co. Clare	(065) 686 4862	(065) 686 5515	debbie.odonovan @clarechildcare.ie
Cork City	HSE - Southern Area Cork CCC 29 Penrose Wharf Cork City	(021) 450 7942	(021) 450 7914	ruth @corkcitychildcare.ie
Cork County	Cork CCC South Cork Office Unit 12 Underhill Commercial Park Underhill Dunmanway Co. Cork	(023) 55962	-	info@corkchildcare.ie
Donegal	HSE - North Western Area Floor 1 Glenview Business Park Donegal Road Ballybofey Co. Donegal	(074) 913 2416	(074) 913 0314	angelamcginty @donegalchildcare.com
Dublin City – North West (Ballygall, Ballymun, Finglas North and South, Whitehall)	Dublin North West Childcare Resource Centre c/o Ballymun Partnership North Mall Ballymun Town Centre Dublin 11	(01) 842 3612	(01) 842 7004	childcareinfo@ballymun.org

County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Dublin City – North Central (Artane, Beaumont, Belcamp, Clonshaugh, Clontarf, Coolock, Darndale, Donaghmede, Drumcondra South, Kilbarrack, Killester, Marino, Raheny, and parts of Whitehall and Santry)	Dublin North Central Childcare Bureau Unit 8 Northside Enterprise Centre Bunratty Drive Coolock Dublin 17	(01) 867 5244	(01) 867 5292	info@childcarebureau.ie
Dublin City – South Central (Ballyfermot, Chapelizod, Crumlin, Drimnagh, Inchicore, parts of Harold's Cross and Terenure, Kilmainham, Kimmage, Merchants Quay, Rialto, Ushers and Phoenix Park, Walkinstown)	Childcare Information Bureau 4 Innishmore House St. Agnes Road Crumlin Dublin 12	(01) 456 3487	(01) 456 3598	info@childcareinfo.biz

County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Dublin City – South East (Donnybrook, Merrion, Pearse Street, Ranelagh, Rathgar, Rathmines, Ringsend, Sandymount, Whitefriar Street)	Childcare Information Service c/o Rathmines Community Partnership 11 Wynnefield Road Rathmines Dublin 6	(01) 496 5558	(01) 496 5590	teresa @rathminespartnership.ie
Dublin City – Central (Arran Quay, Ashtown, Ballybough, Botanic, Cabra East and West, Drumcondra South, Inns Quay, Mountjoy, North City, North Docks, Rotunda, Eastwall)	Local Childcare Resource Centre c/o Dublin City Council 51/53 Sean McDermott Street Dublin 1	(01) 222 5309	(01) 222 3882	gina.obrien@dublincity.ie
Dublin – South Dublin County	HSE – South West Area Unit 7 The Maltings Business Park 54-55 Marrowbone Lane Dublin 8	(01) 473 4090	(01) 454 4827	info@southdublinchildcare.ie
Dublin – North West Area 6 (part Dublin City Childcare Committee and part Fingal County Childcare Committee)	HSE – Dublin North East Local Health Office Rathdown Road Grangegorman Dublin 7	(01) 882 5174	(01) 868 0753	liz.butler@hse.ie

County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Dublin – Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown	Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown CCC 5A Woodpark Sallynoggin Co. Dublin	(01) 236 8030	(01) 236 8012	info@dlrcountychildcare.ie tracey@dlrcountychildcare.ie
Dublin – Fingal (north part of Community Services Area 8)	Fingal CCC ABCO KOVEX Building Swords Business Park Swords Co. Dublin	(01) 807 7665 (01) 807 7660	(01) 807 7669	info@fingalcountychildcare.ie una@fingalcountychildcare.ie
Galway City and County	Galway CCC 9B Liosbán Retail Centre Tuam Road Galway	(091) 752039	(091) 735701	sheila@galwaychildcare.com mail@galwaychildcare.com
Kerry	HSE - Southern Area Kerry CCC 1 Powerscourt Boherbee Tralee Co. Kerry	(066) 718 1582	(066) 710 2945	denise@kerrycountychildcare.com
Kildare and West Wicklow	HSE - Dublin - Mid-Leinster Beech House 101-102 Naas Business Park Naas Co. Kildare	(045) 907330	(045) 981895	bridie.clancy@hse.ie
Kilkenny	HSE - South Eastern Area Kilkenny CCC Rear Coill Mhuire Glendine Road Kilkenny	(056) 775 2865	(056) 778 6903	helenakkccc@eircom.net
Leitrim	HSE - North West Area Leitrim CCC Laird House Church Street Drumshanbo Co. Leitrim	(071) 964 0870	(071) 964 0871	leitrimcountychildcare@eircom.net
Limerick City	c/o Limerick Social Services Henry Street Limerick	(061) 314111	-	marieh16@lycos.com
Limerick County	HSE - Mid Western Area 87 O'Connell Street Limerick	(061) 483591	(061) 483365	clcc@eircom.net

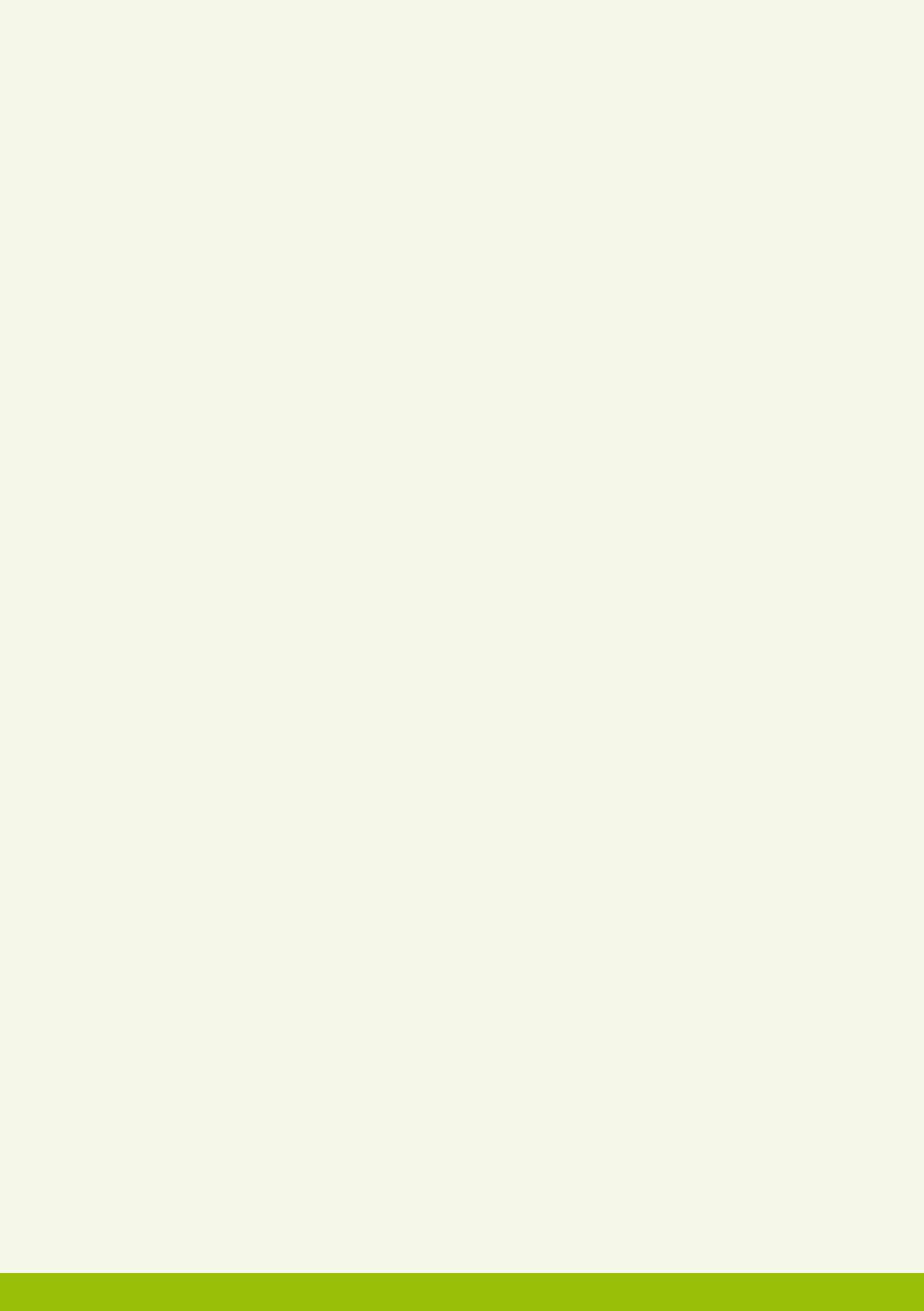
County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Laois/Offaly	HSE - Midland Area Pre-School Services Harbour Street Tullamore Co. Offaly	(057) 932 8109	–	fiona.mchugh2@hse.ie
Longford	Longford CCC Longford Enterprise Centre Ballinalee Co. Longford	(043) 42505	–	kerrie@longfordchildcare.ie
Louth, including South Monaghan	HSE - North East Area Unit 14 Ardee Business Park Hale Street Ardee Co. Louth	(041) 685 9912	(041) 685 9913	info@louthchildcare.ie anita@louthchildcare.ie
Mayo	HSE - Western Area Early Childcare Services 2nd Floor Mill Lane Bridge Street Castlebar Co. Mayo	(094) 903 4776 (094) 903 4777	(094) 903 4815	mary.oharagavin@hse.ie
Meath	Meath CCC 1 Newbridge Athlumney Road Navan Co. Meath	(046) 907 3010	(046) 906 7221	marina@mccc.ie
Monaghan	HSE - North Eastern Area Monaghan CCC 7 The Grange Plantation Walk Monaghan	(047) 72896	(047) 72881	colettequigley@eircom.net monaghanccc@eircom.net
Roscommon	HSE - Western Area Roscommon CCC Arm Roscrea Co. Roscommon	(094) 962 2540	(094) 962 0878	anita @roscommonchildcare.ie
Sligo	HSE - North Western Area Sligo CCC Unit 6 Cleveragh Retail Park Cleveragh Sligo	(071) 914 8860	(071) 914 8849	sligochildcare@gmail.com

County	Address	Telephone	Fax	E-mail
Tipperary North	HSE - Mid Western Area Annbrook Limerick Road Nenagh Co. Tipperary	(067) 38310	–	lisa.mcgeeney@hse.ie
Tipperary South	South Tipperary CCC Unit 5 Ground Floor Hughes Mills Suir Island Clonmel Co. Tipperary	(052) 82274	(052) 28776	carol@southtippchildcare.ie
Waterford City	HSE - South Eastern Area Waterford CCC Unit 51 Tycor Business Centre Waterford City	(051) 860444	(051) 860445	susanwaterfordchild @eircom.net waterfordcitychildcare @eircom.net
Waterford County	HSE - South Eastern Area Waterford CCC 9 Emmet Street Dungarvan Co. Waterford	(058) 48024	(058) 43602	childminding@eircom.net
Wexford	HSE - South Eastern Area Wexford CCC 7 Castle Hill Enniscorthy Co. Wexford	(053) 923 7156	(053) 923 9540	wexfordchildminding @eircom.net
Wicklow East	HSE - Eastern Region Area Wicklow CCC Kilmartin Hill Wicklow Town Co. Wicklow	(0404) 64455	(0404) 64444	miriam@wccc.ie
Wicklow West and Kildare	Beech House 101-102 Naas Business Park Naas Co. Kildare	(045) 907330	(045) 981895	bridie.clancy@hse.ie
Westmeath	HSE - Midland Area Pre-School Services Marlinstown Business Park Marlinstown Mullingar Co. Westmeath	(044) 933 6074	–	caroline.hughes@hse.ie

Appendix C4: Voluntary Childcare Organisations and other relevant organisations

Organisation	Address	Telephone	E-mail and website
Barnardos	Christchurch Square Dublin 8	(01) 453 0355	info@barnardos.ie www.barnardos.ie
Childminding Ireland	9 Bulford Business Campus Kilcoole Co. Wicklow	(01) 287 8466	info@childminding.ie www.childminding.ie
Children in Hospital Ireland	Carmichael Centre Coleraine House Coleraine Street Dublin 7	(01) 878 0118	info@childreninhospital.ie www.childreninhospital.ie
Forbairt Naónraí Teo	Forbairt Naónraí Teo 7 Merrion Square Dublin 2	(01) 639 8449	eolas@naionrai.ie www.naionrai.ie
IPPA, The Early Childhood Organisation	Unit 4 Broomhill Business Complex Broomhill Road Tallaght Dublin 24	(01) 463 0010	info@ippa.ie www.ippa.ie
Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (ISPCC)	29 Lower Baggot Street Dublin 2	(01) 676 7960	ispcc@ispcc.ie www.ispcc.ie
Irish Steiner Kindergarten Association (ISKA)	Clai House Millpool Road Mountshannon Co. Clare	(061) 927944	info@steinerireland.org www.steinerireland.org
National Children's Nurseries Association (NCNA)	Unit 12C Bluebell Industrial Park Old Naas Road Bluebell Dublin 12	(01) 460 1138 (01) 460 1158	info@ncna.ie www.ncna.net
St. Nicholas Montessori Society of Ireland	Ground Floor 29 Patrick Street Dun Laoghaire Co. Dublin	(01) 280 5705	smta@eircom.net www.montessoriireland.ie
Planet, The Partnerships Network	68 Main Street Gorey Co. Wexford	(053) 942 2788	info@planet.ie www.planet.ie







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