

Childminders

If you are interested in becoming a Childminder you will be able to avail of a range of services on offer, including training and development, themed workshops, information sharing, funding and network support. The role of SDCCC is to support the development of quality childcare, recognising the value of a 'home from home' environment. It is not the role of the SDCCC to check if you are PAYE (tax) compliant.

Childminders Training & Development

Child Protection: Wednesday 24th March between 7pm to 9.30pm. Bewleys Hotel, Newlands Cross.

- What is Child Protection
- Good practice in Child Protection
- Dealing with a disclosure e.g. reporting procedure
- What are my responsibilities in relation to Child Protection

Childminder Neighbourhood Meetings

The first neighbourhood meeting for Childminders took place in Lucan on Saturday 6th February. The reasons for meeting up is to share experiences, ideas and information and to see where South Dublin CCC can support any activities. The second neighbourhood meeting for Childminders took place on **Saturday 6th March**. Other neighbourhood meetings are planned throughout the year in the rest of the county so talk to Claire for more information.

Childminder Development Grants 2010

If you are working as either a 'voluntary' or 'HSE' notified Childminder you can apply for the above grant – up to a maximum of €1,000. The grant is a 'once off' award so if you received funding in 2009 you are not eligible to apply under the scheme in 2010.

Voluntary Notification

This is a straight forward process not involving the HSE or Revenue Commissioners. To complete the process South Dublin CCC provides training in Child Protection, Quality Awareness, Occupational First Aid and associated workshops /activities. You will be required to seek Garda vetting through Barnardos and arrange appropriate insurance.

You are also eligible to apply for the Childminding Development Grant.

Childminding Week

Childminding Week takes place between 22nd March and 26th March. If you would like further details for any event or have more ideas about how to mark the week contact

Claire McEwen on 01 457 0122 or email claire@southdublinchildcare.ie.

If you are interested in signing up for the child protection training, applying for a Childminder Development Grant, taking part in a neighbourhood network or Voluntary

Notification please contact

Claire McEwen on 01 457 0122 or email her at **claire@southdublinchildcare.ie**

(Please note a €35 (refundable deposit) is payable for all training)



Upcoming survey of Childcare Management Committees



South Dublin County Childcare Committee is looking to develop a support network for voluntary management committee members. As part of launching this initiative, we will be conducting a short survey of committee members in the coming month to gather information and feedback about what it's like being a voluntary member of a childcare committee, the challenges and issues you encounter and what kinds of support you would find helpful to you in this task. Following the survey, we will be holding a networking event in April to bring committee members together to feedback the results of the survey and give you an opportunity to meet other voluntary board members.

*Keep an eye out for the questionnaire in the coming weeks. If you would like any further information about this initiative, please contact: **Paula O'Neill, on 01 4570122 or email paulaoneill@southdublinchildcare.ie***

Childcare Practitioner Networking & Workshop Programme 2010



Over the coming months we will be hosting monthly workshops and networks in South Dublin County for childcare practitioners on developing and improving quality of childcare. We hope that both the workshops and networks will provide an opportunity for childcare providers to share information, build relationships and to reflect on issues impacting on the delivery of quality childcare services. The first workshop will focus on developing and implementing an Early Years Curriculum but we would like to hear from practitioners about what future workshops/networks would cover.

For more details contact:

Fiona - Tallaght **Fiona@southdublinchildcare.ie**

Paula - Clondalkin **Paulaoneill@southdublinchildcare.ie**

Claire - Lucan **Claire@southdublinchildcare.ie**

Lindsay - Greater South Dublin Area **Lindsay@southdublinchildcare.ie**

Further training is scheduled through the year which will be available shortly, for more information visit our website

www.southdublinchildcare.ie or contact **Fiona Dempsey on 01 4570122** or email **fiona@southdublinchildcare.ie**



Community Childcare Subvention Scheme Updates



New CCS Applications - **IT'S JUST HOT OFF THE PRESS.**

South Dublin County Childcare committee are now accepting applications from community based groups wishing to enter the Community Childcare Subvention Scheme (CCS). The closing date for entry to the scheme is the 9th April 2010. In December 2009 the OMCYA announced a number of changes to the CCSS scheme. The CCSS which was due to end at the end of 2010, will be superseded from 1 September 2010 by a new Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) Scheme. The CCS is a mainstream scheme, and there is no end date associated with it. Some changes have been made to the scheme the main purpose of which is to make the scheme focus more on supporting people entering the work-force or vocational training and is also expected to make the scheme sustainable in what is a trying budgetary context.

The following changes will take effect in September 2010:

CCS Bands

- The Band A rate will include recipients of **Family Income Supplement** from September 2010
- Weekly Subvention for recipients of **Jobseekers Benefit/Assistance** will be capped at 2 half days per week, i.e. a part-time place each day. Full capitation will apply to such parents availing of sessional and half-day places, but where the child attends full daycare, no more than €50 subvention will apply per week. This will NOT apply to other Band A parents, e.g. One Parent Family Payments.

- **Band C parents** (i.e. low income working parents above the FIS threshold e.g. medical and GP visit card holders) will be reclassified as Band B from September 2010. This new Band B may also apply to parents who were Band A last year.

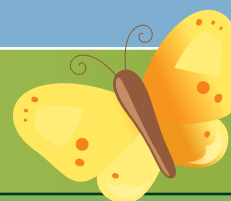
Hours of Service

- Places of **exactly 3 hours 30 minutes duration** will be brought in line with the Pre-School Regulations, and will be classified as sessional places. Places of at least 3 hours 31 minutes, but no more than 5 hours duration, will continue to be counted as part-time places.
- The baby supplement of €30 p.w. will be discontinued

Reporting & Top Ups

- The CCS year will be in line with that of the ECCE scheme (September-August), and services will make their first CCS returns in September 2010. Your CCSS return made in January will calculate subvention levels for the period January-August 2010 (i.e. 8 months). All calculations for January - August funding will be made on a pro-rata basis, including any relevant top-ups.
- Contracts will be entered into on a rolling one-year basis.

If you have any queries about the information please contact your project development officer in South Dublin County Childcare Committee.



Training Spring/Summer 2010

Workshop/ Course	Date	Time	Venue	Fee	Booking	Contact Person
IPPA Road Show The Play Based Curriculum – linking with Aistear & Síolta	23rd March	7:30pm - 9:30pm	TBC Tallaght	€20 (non IPPA members)	IPPA	Jacinta 4630011
Occupational First Aid (Fetac Level 5 Module)	16th, 17th & 24th April	9:00am - 4:30pm	Lucan Spa Hotel	€90	SDCCC	Fiona 4570122
Síolta Awareness Workshop	22nd April	7:00pm - 9:30pm	Lucan Spa Hotel	FOC	Barnardos	Fiona 4570122 Martina 4530355
Primary Food Handling (1 & 1/2 days)	8th & 15th May	9:30 - 4:00pm & 9:30 - 12:30pm	Louis Fitzgerald	€45	SDCCC	Fiona 4570122
Manual Handling Certificate	22nd May	9:30 - 1:30pm	Maldron Hotel, Tallaght	€20	SDCCC	Fiona 4570122



If you would like a copy of our 2010 wall planner please contact the office 01 4570122

'Crazy Hats for Haiti' Week'

March 22nd – 28th



Lindsay is going to Haiti with Haven Partnership's 'Build It' week in October and is aiming to raise over €4,000. If you are interested in supporting her in her fundraising by participating in 'Crazy Hats for Haiti' week or holding another fundraising event for this worthwhile cause, please email lindsay@southdublinchildcare.ie and she will email / post you official sponsorship forms, a list of fundraising ideas and parental consent forms (if you are taking photographs for our website!).

Every little counts so no matter how big or small the event, it will be hugely appreciated! **All you have to do is choose a day during this week in which, for a fee, students and staff can wear their wackiest hat to school. At the end of the day, the manager announces the winners of the contest. More than one winner could be selected if you use categories such as most creative, largest, or best home-made hat.**

Not only will you be helping the people of Haiti but through your own fundraising you will be encouraging creativity & team work among the children and staff. Most importantly, a lot of money can be raised and a lot of fun had!! You can also visit our website for more fun fundraising ideas www.southdublinchildcare.ie



A Poem for Easter!

(hand action poem)

The Rabbits

A family of rabbits lived under a tree; (close right hand and hide it under left arm)

A father, a mother, and babies three. (Hold up thumb, then fingers in succession)

Sometimes the bunnies would sleep all day; (Make fist)

But when night came, they liked to play. (Wiggle fingers)

Out of the hole, they'd creep, creep, creep. (Move fingers in a creeping motion)

While the birds in the trees were all asleep, (Rest face on hands, place palms together)

Then the bunnies would scamper about and run... (Wiggle fingers)

Uphill, downhill! Oh, what fun! (Move fingers vigorously)

But when the mother said, "It's time to rest," (Hold up middle finger)

'Pop! They would hurry (Clap hands after "pop")

Right back to their nest! (Hide hand under arm)

hahahhahahahahahahahahaah!!!!!!!!!!!!



Reminder *

Do we have your Email Address?

Email is the fastest and most cost effective way for us to keep you up to date with relevant information and training. We have received email addresses from most of you through your ECCE applications and will continue to use these email addresses. Please check them regularly! If we do not have your email address please contact us on 01 4570122 so we can add your email to our database.

We are now on Facebook !!!!!

Join us now on our Facebook page, 'South Dublin Childcare' for up-to-date information.

Transforming Ireland

Funded by the Irish Government under the National Development Plan 2007-2013.



News Sheet

South Dublin County Childcare Committee

C6, Clondalkin Civic Offices, 9th Lock Road, Clondalkin, D22. T 01 4570122 F 01 45703

info@southdublinchildcare.ie www.southdublinchildcare.ie



Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme Update

There are currently 4,000 pre school services taking part in the scheme with 50,000 children enrolled in pre school year places.. These figures represent 80% of services and 80% of qualifying children. Services processing new enrolments for the April term should ask parents to complete and return the 'Parent Declaration' form by the end of February and send them into the OMCYA by the 15th March 2010.

Welcome to South Dublin County Childcare Committee's March 2010 News Sheet.

ECCE Scheme Electronic Returns - PPSN Verification Numbers

Children are eligible to participate in the free pre-school year from Sept 2010 if they were born between 2nd Feb 2006 and 30th Jun 2007. When services are processing electronic returns it is important that they:

- Check that the parent has provided the correct PPSN number for the right child
- The PPSN number is not incorrectly typed into the electronic return
- Check the birth date falls within the qualifying period

If a parent or service has submitted an incorrect PPSN number for a child or the birth date falls outside the qualifying period the service will not receive a capitation payment applicable under the Scheme. Any overpayment(s) will be deducted from future ECCE payments for the service. If a free place has been provided for a child in the meantime services will be required to resolve this issue directly with parents. Parents may appeal in writing to the OMYCA within 2 weeks from a service being notified of any PPSN verification discrepancies.

The following information will be required by the OMYCA:

- A letter of appeal (sent by registered post)
- The child's birth certificate
- Evidence of the relevant child's PPSN number

ECCE & Children with Special Needs

Under the scheme a parent with a child with special needs can avail of the scheme for two years. The OMYCA have confirmed that parents will be able to apply for 5 days per year (previously offered on a pro rata basis) and that applications will be assessed on a case by case basis.

'Managing Better in 2010' HR Training and Support Programme

Today, managing a childcare service is a daunting and demanding task. This year South Dublin CCC are offering a programme of supports to help anyone employing staff including Managers, Owner-Managers and Voluntary Boards of Management to meet the many challenges involved in providing a high quality and professional service to children and parents. *The HR Training and Support Programme includes 3 Workshops and a peer support network:*

Workshop / Title	Dates	Venue
1. Writing an Employment contract <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are your obligations as an employer• what should be in a contract• different kinds of contracts• developing a clear and workable contract for employees	Private Providers Monday March 8th 7.00 – 10.00pm Community Providers Tuesday March 9th 10.00 – 1.00pm	Spa Hotel Lucan Bolbrook Enterprise Centre, Tallaght
2. Handling Grievance and Disciplinary <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What the law says Developing a grievance and disciplinary policy• Mapping the steps in conducting a grievance and disciplinary process• Avoiding pitfalls	Private Providers Monday April 12th 7.00-10.00pm Community Providers Tuesday April 13th 10.00-1.00pm	Spa Hotel Lucan Bolbrook Enterprise Centre, Tallaght
3. Supervising staff <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understanding what supervision is about• Giving constructive feedback tools• conducting a supervision session• Handling difficult issues• Key tips and tools in supervising staff	Private Providers Monday May 10th 7.00-10.00pm	Spa Hotel Lucan Bolbrook Enterprise Centre, Tallaght

2010 ECCE Timeline

Mar:	The OMYCA will send out information packs to service providers in order to apply for the September 2010 ECCE scheme. Services already in the ECCE scheme will be asked to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Confirm qualifications of existing staff• Provide copies of any new staff qualifications• Submit a valid current tax clearance certificate
Apr:	New applications for the ECCE scheme will be accepted by South Dublin County Childcare Committee until the 30th April. New application Forms will be available in the coming weeks.
May:	Contracts will be issued in May and will apply for one year with a rollover clause for a second year.
Jun:	The OMYCA will issue a leaflet to parents of qualifying children in June in preparation for September 2010.
Jul:	The OMYCA will send out an information pack in relation to the electronic returns
Sept:	The new term starts and the electronic returns will be due between 6th-10th September
Oct:	Services should notify parents to enrol their child in October for the January 2011 term.

The fourth workshop will be held in June.

Details of the date and topic to be confirmed

Peer Support meetings will be between the workshops to support participants to begin to put their learning into practice and to share experiences, practice tips and tease out difficulties with other providers.

For further details and/or to book a place on one or more of the workshops please contact:

Paula O Neill, SDCCC, C6, Clondalkin Civic Offices, 9th Lock Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22.

Tel: 01 4570122 . 4570122

Fax: 01 4570322

Paulaoneill@southdublinchildcare.ie

www.southdublinchildcare.ie

