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Welcome to the latest issue of Early Years eNews

Barnardos were delighted to attend the Early Childhood Ireland conference in Croke Park last weekend and even more delighted by some announcements made at the event by Minister Katherine Zappone, including the news that €3 million will be invested into CPD for early years educators. While the full details haven't yet been released we know that the CPD initiative will be managed by Better Start and that a proper CPD infrastructure, including supports and funding, will be developed. In addition, the Minister stated that consideration will be given to extending AIM to younger children, another very welcome development.

In this issue we bring you updates on other developments in the areas of early years and children and families as well as information about Barnardos training events coming up, new publications available and additions to our library resources.

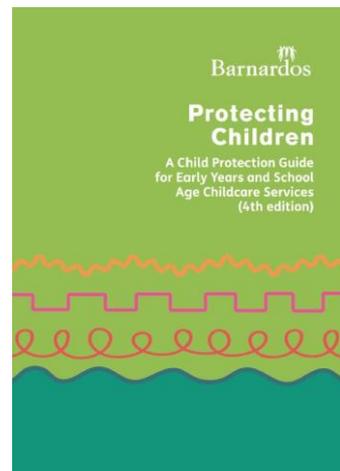
If you have any comments or suggestions about our Early Years eNewsletter [we would love to hear from you.](#)

Sinéad

Barnardos News

New Child Protection Guide

Barnardos have launched a new edition of [Protecting Children: A Child Protection Guide For Early Years And School Age Childcare Services](#).



This guide is for managers, practitioners and support staff working in early years and school age childcare services as they develop, implement and adopt policies and procedures to safeguard and protect children. Guidance provided is in accordance with the Children First Act 2015, and all other governing regulations.

You can order this publication now from [Barnardos online shop](#) or contact us on resources@barnardos.ie for larger orders.

Barnardos Big Toddle

The Big Toddle for Barnardos sponsored by Toddlebox.ie takes place this May and June. The Big Toddle is a fun half mile sponsored walk for crèche/pre-school children that raises vital funds in support of Barnardos Early Years Services. This year will be our 15th Big Toddle



and we want you and your little ones to join the celebrations! [Join the Big Toddle fun today](#)

Meet our Team: Administrator, Niamh Conaty

I began working for Barnardos in April 2006. I came from a background of web design, uploading news content, first for the Irish Times then for the Irish Independent, but wanted to get into something more people-centred. Initially in Barnardos I worked with the Service Design & Development Team, so I did a lot of recording of the service design process – from logic models, through staff consultation to programme and manual stage (e.g. Partnership with Parents, Birth-2 years parenting, Wizards of Words, Friendship Group, Tus Maith). My current role with the Learning and Development Service involves a lot of editing, proofing, design and layout of various reports and policies, both for internal use and consultancy. I have recently trained as a Microsoft Office trainer and am looking forward to training staff in Word, PowerPoint and Outlook soon.



Other News and Developments

Reforms and Supports for the Childminding Sector

At the end of March, [Pathway to a Quality Support and Assurance System for Childminding in Ireland](#), a report compiled by the Working Group on Reforms and



Supports for the Childminding Sector, was launched. Having studied and discussed the research and the feedback from the scoping and consultation process, the Working Group makes proposals in the areas of Legislation; Regulation, registration and inspection; Quality supports and standards; Funding and financial supports; and Strategy and implementation. The aim of the proposals in these areas is to substantially enhance the quality of childminding in Ireland to:

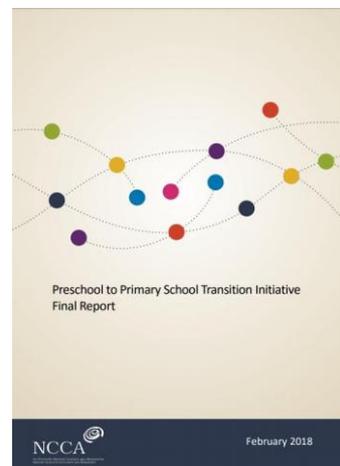
- Achieve the best possible outcomes for children
- Safeguard and protect children
- Provide parents and families with a safe and nurturing environment for their children
- Build on the unique strengths of childminding, including close relationships, continuity of care and home-from-home provision in the local community Support childminders to provide enjoyable, high quality care, development and learning opportunities for children of all ages

This welcome [report](#) will be considered by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs over the coming months in order to develop a plan to support the development of the childminding sector in Ireland.

Preschool to Primary School Transitions Initiative

The final report of the NCCA's [Preschool to Primary School Transitions Initiative](#) is now available. The aims of the initiative are to:

- Support practitioners and teachers in helping children and their families experience a more positive transition from preschool to primary school.



- Pilot and evaluate two draft reporting templates developed by the NCCA for the sharing of information on children's learning and development between preschools, schools and families.
- Promote and build positive, reciprocal relationships between preschools and primary schools through participation in shared transition activities and experiences.
- Work with and involve children, families, preschools and schools in different ways in the transition process.

The national reporting templates along with a suite of support materials will be available in the autumn

Inclusive Play

AIM Inclusive Play is the latest addition to the suite of supports provided under the Access and Inclusion Model (AIM). AIM Inclusive Play is a set of sensory and educational play resources to support inclusive practice within pre-school settings. More than 6,000 Inclusive Play packs are being distributed free to pre-schools across the country. These resources have been carefully chosen to support all children, regardless of ability, within the learning environment.

The [Inclusive Play website](#) supports the appropriate and effective use of these resources.

Attitudes to Diversity in Ireland

A new report, [Attitudes to Diversity in Ireland](#), published jointly by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission and the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) looks at Ireland's increasing diversity and monitors attitudes for the period from 2002-2014. The report found that the attitudes of Irish-born people to immigrants and immigration vary significantly over time, depending on the ethnicity of

the migrants, on respondents' education and financial security, and on the level of individual contact people have with those from different ethnic backgrounds.

Safeguarding Statement

A [guide is now available](#) for all early years services in Ireland on how to develop a child safeguarding statement. The aim of this document is to provide support and guidance for early years services in developing their Child Safeguarding Statement and accompanying Child Safeguarding Policies and Procedures.



Parental Leave

The Government [has announced plans](#) to introduce two weeks' paid parental leave in this year's budget and will aim to increase it every year for the next number of years.

Cyber Security Report

The Joint Oireachtas Committee on Children and Youth Affairs' has launched [a report on cyber security for children and young people](#). Measures such as the appointment of a Digital Safety Commissioner and upholding a child's right to be forgotten online are key parts of a wider Government strategy needed to protect children online.



Barnardos Training and Consultancy

We have a number of public training events coming up in spring 2018:



Children First, Child Protection Training

[3rd May, Dublin 8](#)

[19th May, Dublin 8](#)

[30th June, Dublin 8](#)

Making the Most of Supervision for Supervisors

[2nd, 3rd, 31st May, Dublin 8](#)

Guardianship: Implications of the Child and Family Relationships Act 2015

[16th May, Cork](#)

Designated Liaison Person Training

29th May, Dublin 8 Booked out!

[12th June, Dublin 8](#)

[27th June, Dublin 8](#)

Social Media in Early Years Services

[12th June, Dublin 8](#)

Attachment & Relationship-based Practice Training

5th & 6th July, Dublin 2

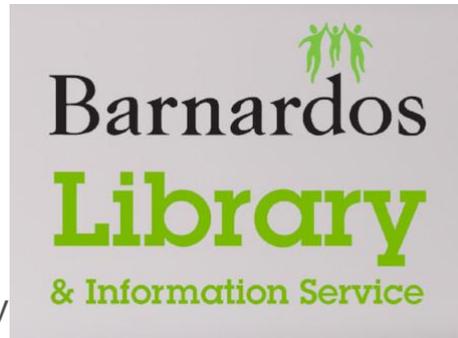
If you would like training in-house for your staff or volunteers, call Ger on 01 4530355 or email you query to training@barnardos.ie

Barnardos Library and Information Service

New Resources in Barnardos Library

[Promoting attachment with a wiggle, giggle, hug and tickle: A programme for babies, young children and carers](#)

Author: Brownlee, Fiona & Norris, Lindsay
Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2015



[The CBT art activity book: 100 illustrated handouts for creative therapeutic](#)

Author: Guest, Jennifer.
Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2017

[The mood cards: Understand deep emotions: Explore more complex emotions and behaviours for healing, happiness and inner peace](#)

Author: Harm, Andrea
Eddison Books Ltd, 2017

[Life story books for adopted and fostered children: A family friendly approach](#)

Author: Rees, Joy,
Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2017

[A therapeutic treasurebox for working with children and adolescents with developmental trauma: Creative techniques and activities](#)

Author: Treisman, Karen,
Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2017

[The baby sleep solution: The stay-and-support method to help your baby sleep through the night](#)

Author: Wolfe, Lucy
Gill Books, 2017

[Pathway to a quality support and assurance system for childminding:
Volume 1: Summary report of the working group on reforms and
supports for the childminding sector](#)

The Working Group on Reforms and Supports for Childminding
Sector, 2018

[Pathway to a quality support and assurance system for childminding:
Volume 2: Supporting documents referenced by the working group on
reforms and supports for the childminding sector](#)

The Working Group on Reforms and Supports for the Childminding
Sector, 2018

Benefits of Library Membership

- Borrowing rights to [Library collection](#)
- Full off-site access to [eBooks](#), Databases and [Research Journals](#)
- Subscription to Childlinks, Barnardos' journal (3 issues per year)
- Monthly Members' eUpdate – including updates on the latest research and reports
- Personal research and information query service - think this is the line you wanted to remove/change?
- Free events and priority invitations to publication launches & talks
- 10% discount on all Barnardos' publications

Contact the Library for more details. Tel: 01
4549699 email: resources@barnardos.ie

Barnardos Publications

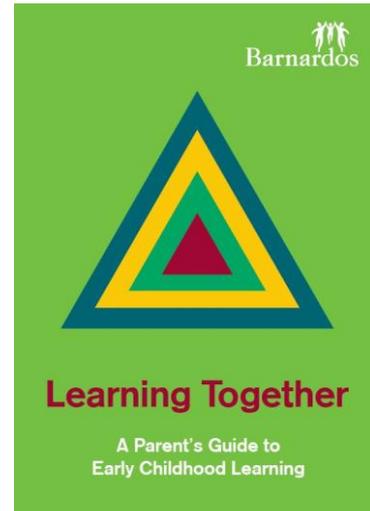


We are delighted to see Barnardos publications being used at the forest school Mikros Dounias at Lesvos Solidarity camp for refugees.

Recent publications - available free

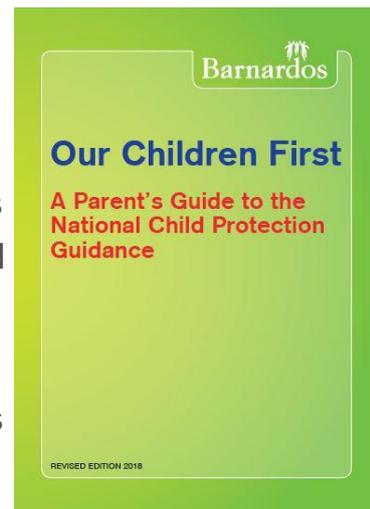
Learning Together (2nd Edition)

The aim of this free booklet is to provide parents with information about the value of early childhood learning and the impact it can have on a child's quality of life, their whole development and their future opportunities and experiences. This booklet is available to download from [our online shop](#). You can order hard copies by emailing resources@barnardos.ie



Our Children First: A Parent's Guide to the National Child Protection Guidance

Now [available online](#), this free booklet provides parents with information on child protection and welfare, based on **Children First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children**. If you would like to order hard copies please [contact us](#).



We will be publishing a number of new titles in the coming months on the topics below. Keep an eye on [our website](#) for more details.

- Nurturing Babies' Learning and Development in the Early Years
- Arts in the Early Years
- Early Years Policies, Procedures and Statements

Upcoming Events Nationwide

Irish Foster Care Association National Conference

When: 2-4 November 2018

Where: Radisson Blu Hotel, Limerick

The Irish Foster Care Association National Conference brings together all those with an interest in foster care, including general and relative foster carers, care leavers, health and social care practitioners, academics, students, teachers, policy makers, and members of the community and voluntary sector to learn together, engage in dialogue, and share their experiences and best practice. The theme of this year's conference is Fostering Stability. For more information contact IFCA Learning and Development, Maeve Healy, at maeve.healy@ifca.ie or Niamh Barrett, at niamh.barrett@ifca.ie.

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