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Welcome to the latest issue of Early Years eNews

In this issue of Early Year eNews we bring you information about significant developments in the early years sector including the launch of Tusla Early Years Inspectorate's Quality and Regulatory Framework (QRF). The QRF will be an invaluable support to early years services to comply with the Early Years Regulations 2016. Barnardos have worked with Tusla to develop supports for services in developing policies to meet the requirements of the Early Years Regulations 2016, including a guidebook, policy samples/templates and other documents.

This issue also brings you updates about other developments in the early years sector as well as issues relating to children and families. We also have information about Barnardos training events, new publications 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

News from Barnardos

Barnardos CEO

Fergus Finlay is retiring from Barnardos after 13 years as CEO on 4th October 2018. Barnardos incoming CEO is Suzanne Connolly.

Suzanne, a social worker and expert in the fields of childhood development and child protection, has held the role of Director of Children's Services for 17 years in Barnardos and looks forward to stepping into the new role of CEO in October 2018.

Barnardos Annual Report

Barnardos has launched our [Annual Report 2017](#) which shows that we provided practical supports and services to a record number of 15,300 children and families in 40 centres across Ireland. The 2017 figure brings the total number of children and families helped in the last 10 years to 86,585.

Our Mission is to help transform children's lives
through our services, support parents, and challenge society where it fails children

How we work

- with children building resilience
- with families strengthening parenting skills
- with schools developing social & emotional skills to support learning
- with communities connecting families and providing support

Who did we help in 2017?
15,347 children & families in 40 centres

Age range of children: 24% (13-18 yrs), 32% (0-5 yrs), 44% (6-12 yrs)

Over the last 10 years we have helped **86,585** children and families

Our Vision: every child is able to reach their full potential

Our services provide: Learning, Care, Stability, Nurture, Security, A Safe Space

Barnardos

If I was In Charge of Ireland's Money...

We asked children who we work with what they would do if they were in charge of Ireland's money. [Watch our video to hear what they had to say.](#)



Other News and Developments

Tusla Quality and Regulatory Framework



On 5th September, Tusla Early Years Inspectorate launched a Quality and Regulatory Framework (QRF) to support registered Early Years Services to comply with the Early Years Regulations 2016. The QRF sets out the core regulatory requirements in a transparent way, bringing together evidence-based, national and international research and best practice in early years. The QRF is child-centred, with a specific focus on the quality and safety of the care provided directly to children using the services. There is a [dedicated webpage on the](#)

[Tusla website](#) where all the relevant information on the QRF can be found. On this webpage you will find:

- The Quality and Regulatory Framework for each service type.
- Quality and Regulatory Framework Bibliography.
- Developing Policies, Procedures and Statements in Early Childhood Education and Care Services: A Practical Guide.
- Templates and samples of policies, procedures and statements, developed with Barnardos.
- Templates and samples of childminding policies, procedures and statements.
- Report of Consultations on the Development of the Quality and Regulatory Framework.
- The press release on publication of the QRF.

As part of the implementation, the sector will be supported with:

- Nationwide briefing sessions in October
- A suite of targeted aids such as, a dedicated webpage, hard copies of the QRF, an online interactive searchable QRF and a frequently asked questions and answers document
- Training options to assist with QRF implementation such as e-learning programmes

Early Years Policy Development

Barnardos and Tusla have worked in collaboration to produce [a guidebook, policy samples/templates and other documents](#) to support early years providers to develop a set of policies, procedures and statements to meet the requirements of the Early Years Regulations 2016. These resources offer an additional support to the information provided on the core requirements in the appendices of the [Tusla Quality and Regulatory Framework](#) (QRF).



All of the documents can be accessed on the [Barnardos website](#)

Quality Improvements in the Early Years Sector

Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Dr Katherine Zappone has announced a range of measures to improve the quality of care and education delivered to children across the country in setting-based services and with childminders. These include:

- €1.2m funding to provide first aid training for every registered childcare service in the country.
- Certain childminders to be supported to register with Tusla with new training bursary.
- Nine additional Tusla Early Years Inspectors to be recruited.

[More detail is available here.](#)

Transition to Primary School

The National Council for Curriculum and Assessment (NCCA) are finalising a set of reporting templates for early years providers to ease the transition process of children to primary school. The design of the reports has been helped by an NCCA pilot with nine pre-schools and eight primary schools in Galway, Laois, Limerick, and Tipperary. They worked with families and teachers to help children experience a positive transition to primary school, with an emphasis on positive relationships between both settings. This follows a report published in May [The Transition to Primary Education: Insights from the Growing Up In Ireland Study](#).



New Report from the Children's Rights Alliance on Homelessness

A new report from the Children's Rights Alliance [Home Works: A Study on the Educational Needs of Children Experiencing Homelessness and Living in Emergency Accommodation](#) provides an important insight into the impact that homelessness is having on children's education. There are nearly 4,000 children who are homeless in Ireland right now in the midst of a national housing emergency. The report, carried out for the Children's Rights Alliance by Dr. Geraldine Scanlon and Grainne McKenna of Dublin City University (DCU) Institute of Education, captures the educational-related experience of children aged two to 15 years and involved interviews with parents and educational professionals.

Maternal Employment and the Cost of Childcare in Ireland

A [new report](#) by Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and State agency Pobal has found that parents with one child aged three typically spend about 12 per cent of their disposable income on childcare. This figure rises to 16 per cent for lone parents and to 20 per cent for those from lower-income households. [The report](#) mined data from the ESRI's 2011 *Growing up in Ireland* survey and also tracked the employment patterns of mothers during the first five years of their child's life.

DOES THE COST OF CHILDCARE AFFECT MATERNAL LABOUR SUPPLY?



Data on costs was collected in 2011 when the study child was age three, before they enrolled for the free pre-school year. Calculations are for average costs based on one child. Paid care for additional children is likely to have a greater impact on working hours.

What type of childcare do parents use?

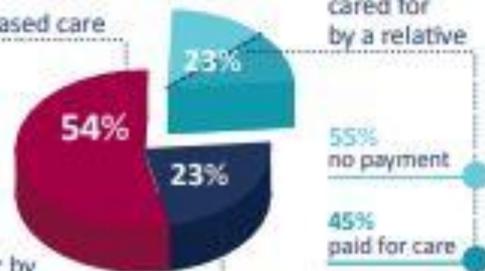
50% Use childcare for at least 8 hours per week

Average number of hours of paid care per week

24

centre-based care

cared for by a relative



€ How much does childcare cost for parents?

€5.70 PER HOUR
Childminder in the family home
€6.13 in 2017 prices

€4.43 PER HOUR
Childminder outside the family home
€4.76 in 2017 prices

€4.48 PER HOUR
Centre-based care
€4.82 in 2017 prices

Average share of disposable income spent on childcare (for one child aged three)

Across all families

12%

Lone parents

16%

Low-income families

20%



Increased childcare costs lead to fewer paid working hours for mothers

10% increase in childcare costs leads to a **30** minute reduction in hours of work per week



Barnardos Training and Consultancy

Barnardos will be holding autumn open training events on the following:

Children First, Child Protection Training

[6 Oct, Dublin 1](#)

[19 Oct, Cork](#)

[24 Oct, Dublin 1](#)

[21 Nov, Dublin 8](#)

Making the Most of Supervision for Supervisors

[12, 13 Oct & 10 Nov, Cork](#)

[17, 18 Oct & 15 Nov, Dublin 1](#)

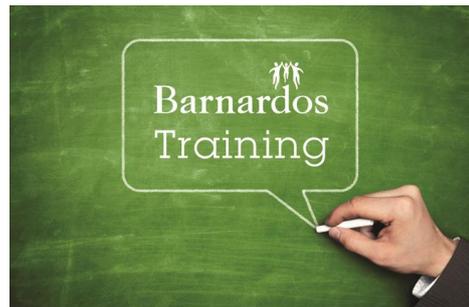
Designated Liaison Person Training

[31 Oct, Dublin 8](#)

[1 Nov, Cork](#)

[14 Nov, Dublin 8](#)

[5 Dec, Dublin 8](#)



For more information on any of the above events or to book your place go to the [Barnardos website](#). If you require in-house training for your team contact Ger on training@barnardos.ie /01 4530355

What other organisations say

We have chosen Barnardos to deliver Children First, Child Protection Training on a number of occasions over the past two years. The feedback from the participants' states that the training was very informative, the tutor was excellent and training was delivered using a variety of methods including group discussions. The overall impact the

training had on the group was that the training provided the participants who attended with certification, the knowledge and skills to recognise definitions, signs of abuse, the impact of child abuse, the importance of recording concerns appropriately and reporting procedures.

Pamela Latimer Education & Training Manager and Kathleen Dowd
CE Supervisor, Longford Women's Link

Free Online Course - Learning Environments in Early Years

[Learning Environments in Early Years](#) is a FREE online course designed to help you, the early years educator, to provide quality environments for the children you work with. [Sign Up Now.](#)

Barnardos Library and Information Service

Meet our new Library Coordinator

Hello, my name is Colin O Keeffe and I have been working for Barnardos since mid-August as the Library and Information Service Coordinator. I've been working in the library sector for nearly 13 years and hope to bring the skills I've learnt in previous roles into Barnardos. The Library and Information Service Coordinator role really appeals to me as it allows me to undertake various tasks rather than specialising in just one. My interests in librarianship include the teaching of information literacy and the use of open source systems and tools. Outside of the library world, I am a keen traveller and have an interest in history. I was able to combine the two this year by visiting several history museums in Russia. If you have any queries or suggestions in relation to the Library and Information Service please feel free to contact me on colin.okeeffe@barnardos.ie.



New Early Years Titles in the Library

The following titles have been added to the [Barnardos' Library catalogue](#) and are available to borrow by members of the library.

[The A-Z of therapeutic parenting: Strategies and solutions](#)

Naish, S., Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2018

[Can I go and play now? Rethinking continuous provision for the early years](#)

Bottrill, G., Sage Publications 2018

[Fun games and physical activities to help heal children who hurt: Get on your feet!](#)

Powell, B., Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2018

[Parenting with theraplay: Understanding attachment and how to nurture a closer relationship with your child](#)

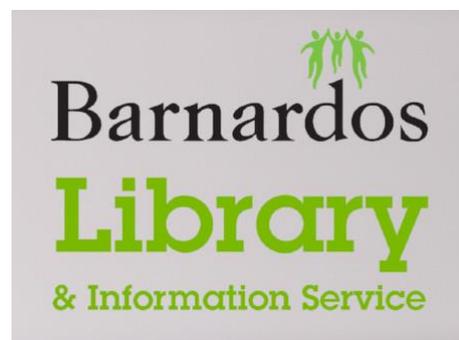
Norris, V. & Rodwell, H., Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2017

[A practical guide to gender diversity and sexuality in early years](#)

Price, D., Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 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

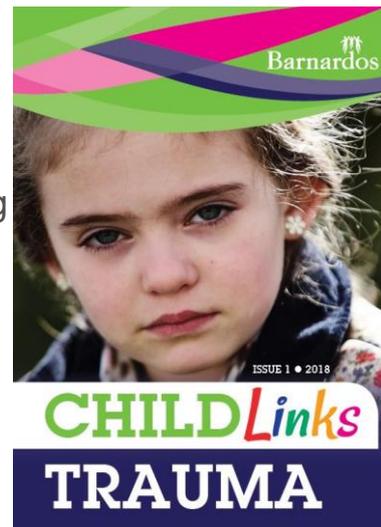
Contact the Library for more details. Tel: 01 4549699 or email: resources@barnardos.ie

Barnardos Publications

ChildLinks- Issue 1, 2018 Trauma

This issue of ChildLinks look at how trauma can impact on children's daily life and their ability to function and interact with others. It also considers how interventions, where young children and their families learn about the impact of trauma and what they can do about it, can support children to develop the skills they need to be resilient no matter what adversity comes their way. Included are articles from The National Child Traumatic

Stress Network in the US, the Evaluation of the TLC Kidz Programme for Children and Mothers Recovering From Domestic Abuse, the Irish Childhood Bereavement Network, PIP UK and TraumaSmart among others.



COMING SOON - The time of their lives: Nurturing babies' learning and development in early childhood settings

Working with babies is complex. What babies experience from moment to moment is what drives their development and emotional well-being in the present and the future. Written by Dr Geraldine French, this publication aims to inspire those who work with our youngest citizens to appreciate the wonder, joy, learning and development of babies in the first eighteen months of their life. It provides an understanding of theory, coupled with practical strategies, to enhance the learning and development of babies responsively, respectfully and sensitively. It presents up-to-date research, encourages the development of reflective practice and supports meaningful engagement with babies. Keep an eye on [Barnardos website](#) for more information.

Upcoming Events

Irish Steiner Kindergarten Association Conference

When: 7 October 2018

Where: An Grianan Termonfeckin, Co Louth

The theme for this ISKA conference is gifts and challenges of the children of our time. There will be will four workshops on the day, run by international kindergarten teachers. For more information see www.iskaireland.org

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.

Growing up in the digital environment - Annual Conference of the Children's Research Network

When: 6 December 2018

Where: Chartered Accountants House, Dublin

Contemporary children and young adults are distinct from their predecessors as they are the first generation to grow up 'entirely digital' where their daily environment is continuously shaped by technology. Growing up in the digital age provides a diverse range of opportunities and risks for children and young people across many areas of their lives, and is an emergent area for policy making, practice and research with children and young adults. This conference will be a mix of practical workshops and traditional presentations. More information including a full list of subthemes is available [here](#).

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