



**IN THIS ISSUE:** News and Developments | Barnardos Publications, Training and Library | Upcoming Events

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## Welcome to the latest issue of Early Years eNews

In this issue of Childcare eNews we bring you news of the publication of the latest report from the 'Growing Up in Ireland' study, which found that there is no difference to a young child's cognitive abilities whether they are looked after by their parents or sent to early years care and education settings. We also bring details of the new programme aimed at providing supports to children with disabilities in preschools as well as the expansion of the Community Childcare Subvention Programme.



We also include information about the launch of the Barnardos publication *Reflective Practice for Early Childhood Professionals* by Dr Harold Hislop, Chief Inspector at the Department of Education, and details of Barnardos Rise Up conference and campaign.

We wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Regards

Sinéad



## 10% off all publications

To thank you for being a loyal customer of Barnardos, we would like to offer you [10% off all our publications on our new Online Shop](#). The shop contains a range of publications produced by Barnardos, with titles suitable for professionals working with children.

This discount applies to all our publications and will expire on Friday 18 December – so don't miss out! To avail of the discount, simply **use this code at the checkout:**

**PROFESSIONAL**

Please feel free to share this offer with colleagues and contacts.

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## News and Developments

### Publications Launch - Reflective Practice for Early Childhood Professionals

In October, Dr Harold Hislop, Chief Inspector in the Department of Education, launched a new Barnardos publication *Reflective Practice for Early Childhood Professionals*. Speaking at the launch Dr Hislop said, 'This book has the



potential to be a really useful and accessible tool for early years teams as they grapple with reviewing and improving their own practice, and as they seek to share their reflections with the parents of the children that they serve. From how to analyse the strengths in an early years setting, to advice on how to document and report on reflective practice, the book clearly complements the approach advocated in Síolta and indeed in the self-evaluation practices that we are encouraging in schools.' [Read Dr Hislop's full speech at the launch here.](#)

[You can buy the book from our website.](#)

*(Photo L to R: Fergus Finlay, Dr Harold Hislop, Heino Schonfeld)*

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### Rise Up: Barnardos Conference

New research launched by Barnardos at the Rise Up conference at the end of November

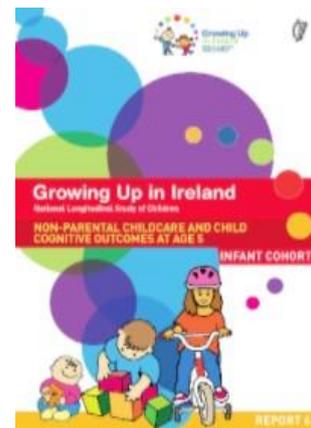


uncovers the impact of inequality on Ireland's children. On the eve of 2016 and the centenary of our promise to 'cherish all children' equally, Barnardos invited international experts, national authorities and young people themselves to discuss the impact of inequality and highlight how things can change for the better if the right choices are made in 2016. [Read more about the conference and our campaign here.](#)

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## **Growing Up in Ireland Study**

At the beginning of December, Dr. James Reilly, TD, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, launched 'Non-Parental Childcare and Child Cognitive Outcomes at Age Five' - the latest in a series of reports from Growing Up in Ireland, the National Longitudinal Study of Children.



Using data from a representative sample of 9,000 children aged 5 years, this report investigates whether childcare arrangements at age 3 can impact on children's later cognitive outcomes development as they start primary school. The report also examines children's participation in free pre-school education provided under the Early Childhood Care and Education Programme.

[Download the full report here.](#)

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## **Supporting Access to the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Programme for Children with a Disability**

A major new programme aimed at providing supports to children with disabilities in free pre-school was launched on 18<sup>th</sup> November by the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Dr James Reilly, along with the Minister for Education and Skills, Jan O’Sullivan, and Kathleen Lynch, Minister of State from the Department of Health whose responsibilities include the area of disability.

The model of supports include: enhanced continuing professional development for early years practitioners; grants for equipment, appliances and minor alterations, increased capitation for certain complex cases, as well as access to therapeutic intervention. A Cross-Sectoral Implementation Group has been established to oversee implementation, and to monitor and review progress as the new model is embedded across the system, to develop a pre-school sector that is truly inclusive.

[Read the full report here.](#)

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## **Budget 2016 – Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) Programme Expansion**

Under Budget 2016, The Department of Children and Youth Affairs has announced a major package of strategic investment in affordable, quality and accessible childcare. Part of this package involves expansion of the CCS Programme and these are currently being rolled out in phases:



- Phase 1: Lifting the FTE Caps within existing CCS services (with effect from October 2015)

- Phase 2: Expansion of the CCS Programme to Community/Not-for-Profit childcare providers (with effect from November 2015)
- Phase 3: Expansion of the CCS Programme to a targeted number of private childcare providers (with effect from early 2016).

[Read about the details here.](#)

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## **Learner Fund 4**

DCYA have announced funding of €1.5 million for the 'Learner Fund 4' to assist practitioners in early childhood care and education to upgrade their qualifications. Pre-school providers will be able to submit an online application, on behalf of their staff member, for a subsidised training course under the 'Learner Fund 4'. To be eligible, the staff member must be currently working directly with children in a registered Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme setting and meet the criteria for the Learner Fund 4, which will be set out in the application process. A maximum of one staff member per ECCE setting will be eligible to receive funding under Learner Fund 4.



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## **A Review of Research on the Effects of Early Childhood Education and Care on Child Development**

A comprehensive literature review has just been published on the impact of early care and education services on children's development. The literature review was written by a cross-European

team of researchers, as part of an EU project called CARE, which is developing an evidence-based framework for quality, curriculum and policy. [Find out more information here.](#)

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## Videos of Early Childhood Education and Care International Policy Event

Videos from the recent Early Childhood Education and Care International Policy Event hosted on the 28<sup>th</sup> October are now up on [Pobal YouTube channel](#).

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## ChildLinks - Play

Barnardos has published the latest issue of our journal Childlinks, which looks at the issue of Play. Play is one of the key features in how a child learns and is an important factor in their social, emotional and cognitive development. Play situations give young children the opportunity to explore the world around them, learn new skills and build connections with others, both socially and emotionally.



[Buy this issue on our website.](#)

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## Barnardos Training and Consultancy

We hope 2016 will be an exciting year for Barnardos Learning and Development Service and specifically our Training Team who will organise a variety of public training events including:



- Children First Child Protection Training
- Designated Liaison Person Training
- Making the Most of Supervision (for Supervisors)
- Giving Evidence in Family Law Proceedings
- Reflective Practice for Early Years Professionals
- Supporting Special Needs in the Early Years
- Legislation and Governance for Early Years Services
- And more.....

We are delighted to offer training that is tailored specifically for your organisation too. Please contact Ger McHugh on [training@barnardos.ie](mailto:training@barnardos.ie) for more information.

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Below is a testimonial from earlier this year, on our Children First Child Protection training.

*'I chose Barnardos to provide us with Children First, Child Protection Training because I see them as the first port of call for services that support children. The volunteers found the training to be very informative. They felt relaxed and enjoyed the day. The training has helped people in their roles by encouraging a shared understanding of child protection issues and providing them with knowledge of procedures for reporting concerns.'*

## Barnardos Library and Information Service

### New Child Development DVD Collection

Barnardos Library and Information Service now has a selection of DVDs from UK company, [Siren Films](#), who produce [specialist documentaries](#) focusing on child development and behaviour. The collection includes the following DVDs and booklets and are available to borrow by all members of the Library and Information Service.



- [The Wonder Year – 1st year & shaping the brain](#)
- [Attachment & Holistic Development: the first year](#)
- [The Two Year Old – At home & nursery](#)
- [Life at Two – Attachments, key people & development](#)
- [The Three Year Old](#)

Review of [Life at Two – Attachments, key people & development](#)

*'It provides quality information on the importance of attachment for young children and gives an overview of how the key person appearance is used to build a relationship between parent, child and early years practitioner. A triangle of trust, if you will.'*

*Good video footage of the child developing relationships in the early years setting and the sensitive interactions that support her to transition from home to shared care.'*

Michele McDermott, Regional Development Worker, Barnardos

To access the above DVDs, please email [resources@barnardos.ie](mailto:resources@barnardos.ie).

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