



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

Welcome to the latest issue of Early Years eNews

In this issue of Early Years eNews we bring you information on some recent announcements by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs including an extra €3.5m to be made available to childcare providers in the form of a 'non-contact time payment', the launch of the public information campaign on the single affordable childcare scheme, and information on funding for play and recreation projects. We also include details of the National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020, which identifies the need for affordable and quality childcare, and information on a recently published Review of Occupational Role Profiles in ECCE among other news and developments.

Further on, you can find out about Barnardos upcoming training and new publications as well as events coming up around the country over the next few months.

Barnardos would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all involved in the Leadership for Inclusion (LINC) programme, which has won the 'Best Online Learning Experience' in Ireland's Education awards.

We hope you all have a lovely summer and we'll be back with more news and information in September.

Sinéad

News and Developments

Extra None-Contact Time Payment Announced

Barnardos welcomes [yesterday's announcement from Minister for Children and Youth Affairs](#), Dr. Katherine Zappone, of an extra €3.5m to be made available to childcare providers in the form of a 'non-contact time payment'. This payment to providers of the Community Childcare Subvention (CCS and CCSP) and the Training and Employment Childcare (TEC) will make a contribution towards the administration and non-contact hour costs involved in providing quality childcare. In particular, the new funding recognises the time providers need to spend familiarising themselves with the new affordable childcare measures, signing contracts, meeting regulatory and compliance requirements and assisting parents with understanding how they can benefit. However, while this extra payment is an acknowledgement of the administrative demands on providers it is likely to be insufficient to reflect the true need.

Single Affordable Childcare Scheme

In May, the Minister Zappone [launched a public information campaign](#) about the Government's plans to deliver more affordable childcare to families from September. This campaign will target thousands of families who will qualify for enhanced childcare supports from



The image shows a screenshot of a website banner for the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. The banner features the department's logo and a search bar. The main heading is "More Affordable Childcare Starts September 2017". Below this, there is a sub-heading: "From September, your child may qualify for childcare supports. If you are a parent with a child in registered childcare and would like to find out more, please click below for further information." The banner is divided into four colored boxes, each with a photo of a child and a question: "I have a child under 3 years old" (green), "I currently get DCYA Childcare Supports" (purple), "Can I get help with my childcare costs?" (blue), and "I am a childcare provider" (orange).

September. It also will also target more than 4,000 childcare providers throughout the country. As part of the information campaign, The Department of Children and Youth Affairs has launched the [single affordable childcare scheme website](#).

Play and Recreation Projects

Also in May, Minister Zappone announced funding for children's play and recreation projects across Ireland. The projects, funded by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs, include the upgrade and redevelopment of older play spaces, as well as new projects such as: the development of a percussions sensory play installation; the establishment of a youth water sports and adventure programme that targets disadvantaged, at risk and disabled youth; and the provision of accessible playground equipment that will enable children with disabilities to use and enjoy their local playgrounds. The total value of the Scheme is €250,000.

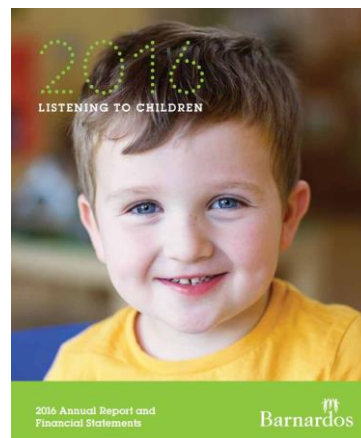
Review of Occupational Role Profiles in Ireland in Early Childhood Education and Care

[Review of Occupational Role Profiles in Ireland in Early Childhood Education and Care](#) by Matthias Urban, Sue Robson and Valeria Scacchi of the University of Roehampton Early Childhood Research Centre has been published. This review will feed into a wider review of national education and training provision in early childhood care and education in Ireland.

Barnardos Annual Report 2016

Barnardos has published [Annual Report 2016](#). In 2016, Barnardos worked with more than 14,100 children and families - more children and families than ever before in our history, providing:

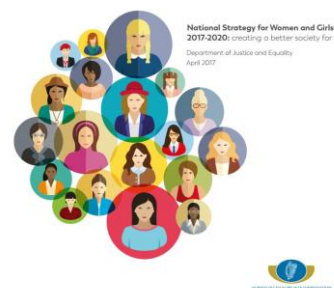
- Twenty three Family Support projects providing one-to-one parent child work, working with the whole family to offer practical support
- Seven early years projects for children in the two-five years age range (targeted early years intervention)
- The Partnership with Parents programme – one-to-one work with parents in the home tailored to meet the needs of the children and family
- Four Teen-Parent Support Programmes
- A range of tailor-made supports to families such as the Homemaker Service, Home Maintenance and Crisis Intervention services
- Specialist services include Guardian ad Litem, Post Adoption, Bereavement Counselling for Children, Roots of Empathy (a classroom-based programme) and Wizards of Words (a paired reading programme)



National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020

The Department of Justice and Equality has published [National Strategy for Women and Girls 2017-2020: Creating a Better Society for All](#). The Strategy sets out six key objectives to advance gender equality over the next few years:

1. Advance socio-economic equality for women and girls



2. Advance the physical and mental health and wellbeing of women and girls
3. Ensure the visibility in society of women and girls, and their equal and active citizenship
4. Advance women in leadership at all levels
5. Combat violence against women
6. Embed gender equality in decision-making

The report also identifies 'the need to ensure the availability of affordable and quality childcare' and proposes an action to 'Conduct and publish an independent review of the cost of providing quality childcare in private and community settings, consistent with the principle of ongoing professionalization of the sector.'

Professor of Play

The University of Cambridge has appointed a world-leading researcher as the first LEGO Professor of Play in Education, Development and Learning. [The Centre for Research on Play in Education, Development and Learning \(PEDAL\)](#) was established in 2015 with a £4 million grant from the [LEGO Foundation](#) which also funded the leadership role which will be taken up by Professor Paul Ramchandani. [More information is available here.](#)

Better Start AIM Early Years Specialists

Better Start has announced that all of its AIM (Access & Inclusion Model) Early Year Specialists are to undertake the



Forbairt Cáilíocht
Luathbhlianta Náisiúnta
National Early Years
Quality Development

Leadership in Inclusion in the Early Years (LINC) Programme. The programme, which will be customised for the specialists' role, will facilitate a shared understanding of the approach and ensure consistency across the sector. By undertaking this programme, the Better Start team will

support Inclusion Coordinators in transferring knowledge to practice and ensure consistency in creating inclusive environments in their settings, as well as supporting settings who do not yet have a LINC trained Inclusion Coordinator in place.

Ombudsman for Children Annual Report

[The Ombudsman for Children's Office Annual Report 2016](#) was launched in May. The report states that the OCO received 1,682 new complaints in 2016 on topics including education, child protection and welfare, health, justice, housing and planning, and finance and welfare.



Brows for Barnardos

Brows for Barnardos is running in participating salons from 15th to 24th June and we have 151 salons signed up from all across the country ready to donate 20% of the cost of an eyebrow shape to Barnardos. Check out a [participating salon](#) near you.



Save the Date - Barnardos National Collection Day

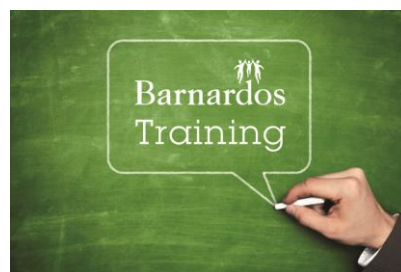
Barnardos National Collection Day, supported by Dell, takes place on Friday 15th September 2017. We urgently require volunteers to take part in organised bag packs and on-street collections in communities around the country. Donating just an hour or two of your time will help create brighter futures for children in Ireland. [Get in touch](#) today to hear what's happening in your area and how you can get involved.



Barnardos Training and Consultancy

Barnardos are holding the following Public Training Events in the coming months:

- Children First, Child Protection Training (22 June)
- Designated Liaison Person Training (28 June)
- Children First, Child Protection Training (8 July)
- Giving Evidence in Court Proceedings (24 Oct)



Places can be booked now through our [online shop](#).

We will be running courses on the topics below this autumn so keep an eye on our [website](#) for dates and details or email training@barnardos.ie if you would like to find out more:

- Making the Most of Supervision Training for Supervisors
- Reflective Practice for Early Years Professionals
- Designated Liaison Person Training for Early Years Professionals

Our members chose Barnardos Reflective Practice training because it was a resource we found useful and interesting. We found the course

very positive; we particularly appreciated the workshop being divided into two half days. Members could take back tools learned for implementing new practices and return to the second day workshop to discuss, explore and highlight the Reflective Practice which is a new concept for many members.

Nicola Reynolds, Childcare Support & Development Worker, Leitrim
County Childcare Committee

Barnardos Free Online Courses

Barnardos introductory elearning courses are free to use and are suitable for anyone working with young children.

Learning Environments in the Early Years

[Learning Environments in the Early Years](#) is a new free online course from Barnardos designed to support early years educators to provide quality environments for the children they work with.

ACCESS THIS
COURSE NOW

Introduction to Child Protection

[Introduction to Child Protection](#) gives an overview of key aspects of Children First, National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children. The course includes the different categories of abuse, some myths and truths about child protection and information on reporting and the role of the designated liaison person.

ACCESS THIS
COURSE NOW

Barnardos Library and Information Service

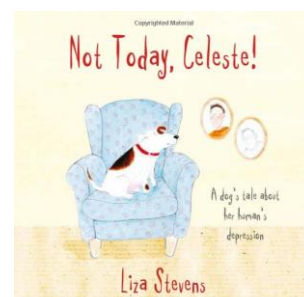
The Library & Information Service has wide variety of [early years resources](#) available to [members](#). Below are some of resources we have recently acquired. More online resources are also available to members via

the library's online databases. If you don't have time to find the information yourself, we are happy to do it for you. Just email us at resources@barnardos.ie for details.

[Not today, Celeste! A dog's tale about her human's depression](#)

Stevens, L.

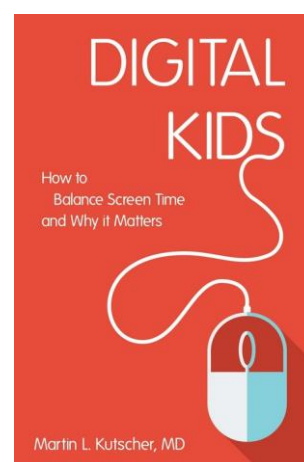
Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2016



[Digital kids: How to balance screen time, and why it matters](#)

Kutscher, M. & Rosin, N.

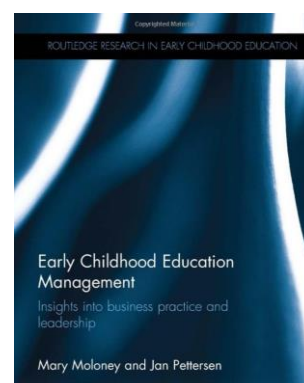
Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2017



[Early childhood education management: insights into business practice and leadership](#)

Moloney, M. & Pettersen, J.

Routledge 2017



Barnardos Publications

Available at the end of June - ChildLinks

The first issue of ChildLinks for 2017 is on the home learning environment (HLE). The quality of the HLE during a child's first years of life impacts on their school readiness and social-emotional competence, as well as having a long-term positive impact on their academic attainment, progress and learning behaviour. Keep an eye on www.barnardos.ie for more details

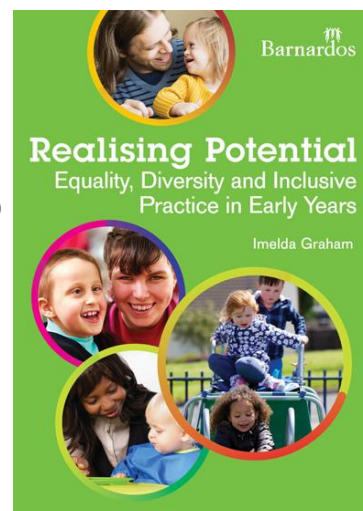


Now Available

Realising Potential: Equality, Diversity and Inclusive Practice in Early Years

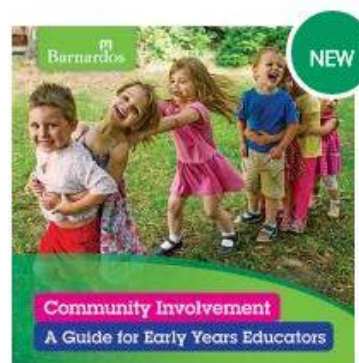
[This publication](#) seeks to challenge, to inform and to support early years educators in addressing equality, diversity and inclusion issues.

[This book is available to buy from our online shop for €25.](#)



Community Involvement: A Guide for Early Years Educators

This [free booklet](#) outlines the benefits of community involvement for young children in early years settings and addresses some of the practical approaches that educators can



implement within the service. You can [download this booklet now for free](#) or order hard copies by contacting us at resources@barnardos.ie

Quality Early Years Care and Education: What to Look for in an Early Years Service

This [free booklet](#) will help parents make decisions about the best early years care and education setting for their child. It has detailed information about why quality really matters in the early years and looks at how young children learn and what they need in order to be able to learn best. It includes a set of questions parents can ask a service to help them out about the quality of the service. You can [download this booklet now for free](#) or order hard copies by contacting us at resources@barnardos.ie



Upcoming Events Nationwide

Coder Dojo Coolest Projects

Where: RDS, Dublin

When: Saturday 17 June

Barnardos Learning & Development Team will be at the [Coolest Projects](#) showcase at the RDS on Saturday. Please join us as we promote digital citizenship and cheer on the next generation of technological innovators.



Find out more about Barnardos [Internet Safety](#) and [Cyberbullying](#).

Parental Pathways Literary Event

Where: The National Library of Ireland

When: Saturday 17 June, 9.30am – 4.45pm

[Parental Pathways](#) are hosting their Inaugural Conference [Children's Literature, Building Resilience](#) celebrating the imaginative impact children's literature plays in building a child's resilience. This conference has been planned and designed for parents, grandparents, teachers, librarians, therapists, writers, illustrators, animators, social workers and other healthcare professionals. There are a [limited number of tickets still available](#).

EECERA 27th Conference

Where: Bologna, Spain

When: 29 August to 1 September 2017

The theme of the [EECERA 27th conference](#) is 'ECE beyond the crisis: social justice, solidarity and children's rights'. [The conference](#) aims to create a forum where a thought-provoking discussion on the value of early childhood education services in contemporary times takes place, by challenging and problematising the competing paradigms that are currently influencing research, policies and practices in the ECE field.

Future Proofing Youth Mental Health

When: 24 to 26 September 2017

Where: Clayton Hotel, Burlington Rd, Dublin

[This conference](#) will address research, practice, policy, advocacy and

community and youth engagement from the many different sectors that work across young people's mental health and wellbeing.

Future directions for child protection and welfare: where to and why?

When: 27 October 2017

Where: University College Cork

With the introduction of mandatory reporting, the implementation of the NCCIS software system, the adoption of a new national approach to practice in child protection and welfare in Tusla, the mainstreaming of prevention and family support (PPFS), more separated children fleeing from conflict, a new edition of Children First and a proposed review of the Child Care Act 1991, child protection and welfare in Ireland is heading into a series of significant changes in the next 12-36 months.

This [conference](#) asks the question - Are all of these changes bringing child protection and welfare in the right direction?

Attachment and Psychopathology

When: 6th to 8th April 2018

Where: DCU All Hallows campus, Grace Park Road, Dublin

[This event](#) examines development from infancy to adulthood and the process of adaptation and developmental pathways that carry risk for psychopathology. It focuses on development, prevention and treatment of psychological disorder.

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