

Welcome to the May edition of the WCityCC bulletin. We have kept this edition brief in which we highlight main events planned for May. We are very pleased to report that Siolta training is getting underway on 6<sup>th</sup> May in the city with a large group of practitioners who have signed up for Siolta Level 1 and a smaller group who have already completed Level 1 and will begin training at Level 2.

At this stage we would also like to flag our plans to host a Conference on outdoor play on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> June** in a venue close to the city. Full information on the conference speakers and workshops will be available in the June bulletin.

## ECCE Update

The OMCYA has invited all Childcare services operating the ECCE scheme to apply to re-enter the scheme for September 2010. These services have been asked to forward their application forms to the OMCYA by 30 April 2010. Services have been asked to confirm whether their details have changed and to provide an up to date tax clearance certificate, copies of any relevant new staff qualifications and an email contact address. It is expected that services will be in contract with the OMCYA by 4 June 2010. Services are reminded that while children may be enrolled in June it is not necessary for parents to fill in the registration forms until September as PPS numbers cannot be kept by the childcare service.

**Qualified Staff:** if there are staff in ECCE services who wish to complete their FETAC level 5 or 6 in the WCFE and wish to apply for a subsidy please fill in the Expression of Interest Form with this bulletin and return to the CityCC.

The City CC has received a series of leaflets on the ECCE scheme in a variety of languages English, Irish, Polish, Mandarin, Russian, French, Spanish and Hindi. Please contact the office if you require copies of the leaflets.

**An information session on the free pre-school scheme for parents will be hosted on 1<sup>st</sup> June in the Tower Hotel from 7.30pm to 9.00pm. Services are asked to inform all parents.**



## Well done to local Childminders for the Sponsored Walk in aid of Haiti

As part of National Childminding Week and in association with Childminding Ireland childminders, parents and children linked to Waterford City Childcare Committee took part in a sponsored walk in aid of women and children in Haiti. The amount raised is **€717** which will be a major contribution to a good cause. Sincere thanks to all.

## Siolta in Waterford City

### Siolta for ECCE Childcare Services

Many Providers in Waterford City are engaging with the Siolta training not only to meet requirements of the ECCE and CCS Schemes, but also to support their services in providing a quality service to children and families. Siolta will begin rollout in Waterford City on 6 May. Many providers have expressed an interest in taking part in the training and it will be run on 2 levels:

**Level 1:** This level will be facilitated by the Development officers of WCityCC, Deirdre Lindy and Maire Cooke. Level 1 involves attendance at information sessions where providers are introduced to the concept of the Siolta Quality Framework, the principles and the 16 standards. Providers are facilitated to reflect on their own practice in relation to the framework. Due to large numbers, level 1 will be held in 2 groups running concurrently from May-December.

**The first session for Level 1: Woodlands Hotel, Dunmore Rd., Waterford  
Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup> 7pm-9pm & Tuesday May 11<sup>th</sup> 7pm-9pm**

**Level 2:** This level will be facilitated by Marie Willoughby, Siolta Co-ordinator, Barnardos. A small group of providers who have completed level 1 have signed up and they will be looking at the following: Reflective practice, gathering evidence, documenting evidence, completing a baseline assessment of your service, action planning and portfolio building. Services will work on one standard at a time and implement the above processes.

**The first session for Level 2:**

**WCityCC Offices, Manor Village, Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup> 7pm-9pm**

## Network/Training Events

Event	Facilitated by	Date/Time	Venue	Cost
<b>Síolta Level 1 workshop Group 1</b>	M Cooke and D Lindy	6 may 7-9 pm	Woodlands Hotel	No charge
<b>Síolta Level 2 workshop</b>	Marie Willoughby, Barnardos	6 May 7-9 pm	WCityCC offices	No Charge
<b>Síolta Level 1 workshop Group 2</b>	M Cooke and D Lindy	11 May 7-9 pm	Woodlands Hotel	No charge
<b>Childminding Network Meeting</b>	Susan Power	13 May 7.30pm	WCityCC Offices	No Charge
<b>Play morning for Childminders and children</b>	Susan Power	14 May 10.30 on	Kidzone, Ardkeen	€2 per child
<b>Play morning for Childminders and children</b>	Susan Power	25 May 10.30 on	Run Amuk, Tramore	€2 per child
<b>Preschools in National Schools Network Meeting</b>	Deirdre Lindy	5 May 2pm	WCityCC Offices	No Charge
<b>Community Providers Network Meeting</b>	Deirdre Lindy	10 May 6.15pm	WCityCC Offices	No Charge

### Community Childcare Subvention (CCS) Scheme

As of 1<sup>st</sup> September the CCSS will be superseded by the new CCS scheme. The scheme is open to Community based not-for-profit childcare services and through it parents may qualify for subsidised childcare costs depending on their circumstances. From Sept the CCS year will be in line with the ECCE scheme. An information booklet which has been sent to the services operating the scheme is available from the CityCC.

#### Síolta Information Session for Childminders

An information meeting on Síolta for Childminders will be held on **Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> June** at 8pm in the Presentation Community Development Centre, Dungarvan. It will be hosted by Patricia Murray CEO Childminding Ireland & Síolta Coordinator. The meeting will introduce the revised Síolta Implementation Toolkit, including the steps in the process and portfolio building. This meeting will be of interest to:

- Waterford City and County CC Voluntary Notified Childminders
- Small scale ECCE providers, as per the OMCYA List, registered as delivering the scheme to five or fewer children, who are not members of Childminding Ireland
- Childminding Ireland* members and other Childminders in the area who are interested in engaging with Síolta.

#### Garda Vetting Information Session

All childcare workers are required to undergo a Garda Vetting process and this includes HSE notified childminders. Voluntary notified childminders are also strongly encouraged to undertake the process. In collaboration with WCoun-tyCC and Barnardos we have organised an information session for all childcare workers, staff and childminders. Suzanne Tompkins, Barnardos designated officer will present information on how to complete the forms and how to address the results returned from the vetting section of the Gardai. The information session will take place on **Wed 12<sup>th</sup> May**, 7.30pm – 9.30pm in Presentation Community Development Centre, Dungarvan. Please call the office to book your place.

#### Childminders Child Welfare & Protection Training

Child Welfare & Protection training is a core requirement for childminders who are Voluntary Notified to WCityCC. 18 childminders from the city and county completed the training in April. The training aimed is to provide information and raise awareness of child protection and the areas covered included legal obligations, signs and symptoms of abuse, how to deal with disclosure or allegation and how to make a report of suspected abuse.

#### REMINDER TO PARENT AND TODDLER GROUPS

Grants available for toys, equipment & books, training for parents, children's activities and limited funding towards insurance and rent.

**Dates for completed applications are 30<sup>th</sup> June & 30<sup>th</sup> Sept 2010.**

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