

# ECCE: Early Childhood Care and Education

## What is the ECCE scheme?

The Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Scheme is a universal childcare programme designed to give children access to 2 years free pre-school education before they start primary school. The programme is delivered to children of pre-school age (2 years 8 months to 5 years 6 months) prior to commencing primary school.

All children are entitled to 2 full academic years (76 weeks) on the ECCE scheme. The ECCE scheme operates for 38 weeks of the year, 5 days a week, 3 hours a day. Children must be 2 years 8 months by 31 August to start on the ECCE scheme.

### Eligible Age Range

The eligibility ages are outlined below:

| To avail of the ECCE Programme with effect from: | Children must have been born between the following dates (both date inclusive): |
|--|---|
| September 2018 - June 2019                       | 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2014 - 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2015                   |
| September 2019 - June 2020                       | 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2015 - 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2016                   |
| September 2020 - June 2021                       | 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2016 - 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2017                   |
| September 2021 - June 2022                       | 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2017 - 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2018                   |

## Access and Inclusion Model (AIM)

The Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) is a child-centred model, involving seven levels of progressive support, moving from universal to the targeted, based on the needs of the child and the pre-school provider.

AIM is designed to enable children with disabilities to access and fully participate in the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Programme.

Further information is available at Access Inclusion Model website <http://aim.gov.ie/>

## ECCE Guide for Parents



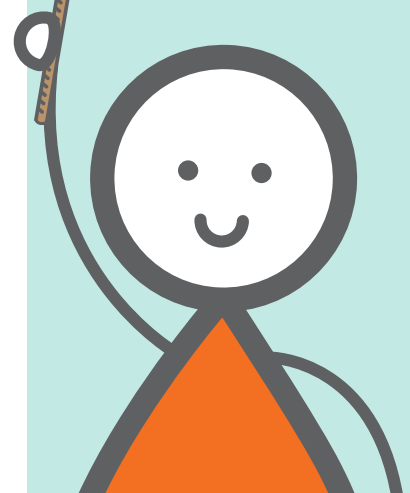
What should I look for when choosing an early years' service?



Go to ECI Website: <http://bit.ly/ChoosingChildcare>



Check out the ECI Childcare Search: <http://bit.ly/ChildcareSearch>



## Children born in 2014

| Birth month and year | Entry Point | Number of weeks 2016-2017 | Entry point | Number of weeks 2017-2018 | Entry Point | Total eligible weeks | Start school year | Start school age |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Jan 14               | Apr 17      | 12                        | Sep 17      | 38                        | Sep 18      | 88                   | Sep 19            | 5.8              |
| Feb 14               | Apr 17      | 12                        | Sep 17      | 38                        | Sep 18      | 88                   | Sep 19            | 5.7              |
| Mar 14               | Apr 17      | 12                        | Sep 17      | 38                        | Sep 18      | 88                   | Sep 19            | 5.6              |
| Apr 14               | -           | 0                         | Sep 17      | 38                        | Sep 18      | 76                   | Sep 19            | 5.5              |
| May 14               | -           | 0                         | Sep 17      | 38                        | Sep 18      | 76                   | Sep 19            | 5.4              |
| Jun 14               | -           | 0                         | Sep 17      | 38                        | Sep 18      | 76                   | Sep 19            | 5.3              |
| Jul 14               | -           | 0                         | Sep 17      | 38                        | Sep 18      | 76                   | Sep 19            | 5.2              |
| Aug 14               | -           | 0                         | Sep 17      | 38                        | Sep 18      | 76                   | Sep 19            | 5.1              |
| Sep 14               | -           | 0                         | Jan 18      | 23                        | Sep 18      | 61                   | Sep 19            | 5                |
| Oct 14               | -           | 0                         | Jan 18      | 23                        | Sep 18      | 61                   | Sep 19            | 4.11             |
| Nov 14               | -           | 0                         | Jan 18      | 23                        | Sep 18      | 61                   | Sep 19            | 4.10             |
| Dec 14               | -           | 0                         | Jan 18      | 23                        | Sep 18      | 61                   | Sep 19            | 4.9              |

## Children born in 2015

| Birth month and year | Entry Point | Number of weeks 2017-2018 | Entry Point | Number of weeks 2018-2019 | Entry Point | Total eligible weeks | Start school year | Start school age |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Jan 15               | Apr 18      | 12                        | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 88                   | Sep 20            | 5.8              |
| Feb 15               | Apr 18      | 12                        | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 88                   | Sep 20            | 5.7              |
| Mar 15               | Apr 18      | 12                        | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 88                   | Sep 20            | 5.6              |
| Apr 15               | -           | 0                         | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 76                   | Sep 20            | 5.5              |
| May 15               | -           | 0                         | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 76                   | Sep 20            | 5.4              |
| Jun 15               | -           | 0                         | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 76                   | Sep 20            | 5.3              |
| Jul 15               | -           | 0                         | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 76                   | Sep 20            | 5.2              |
| Aug 15               | -           | 0                         | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 76                   | Sep 20            | 5.1              |
| Sep 15               | -           | 0                         | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 76                   | Sep 20            | 5                |
| Oct 15               | -           | 0                         | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 76                   | Sep 20            | 4.11             |
| Nov 15               | -           | 0                         | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 76                   | Sep 20            | 4.10             |
| Dec 15               | -           | 0                         | Sep 18      | 38                        | Sep 19      | 76                   | Sep 20            | 4.9              |

## Children born in 2016

| Birth Month and year | Entry Point year 1 | Number of weeks 2019-2020 | Entry point year 2 | Number of weeks 2020-2021 | Total number of weeks | School start year | Start school age |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Jan 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 5.8              |
| Feb 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 5.7              |
| Mar 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 5.6              |
| Apr 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 5.5              |
| May 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 5.4              |
| Jun 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 5.3              |
| Jul 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 5.2              |
| Aug 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 5.1              |
| Sep 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 5                |
| Oct 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 4.11             |
| Nov 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 4.10             |
| Dec 16               | Sep 19             | 38                        | Sep 20             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 21            | 4.9              |

## Children born in 2017

| Birth Month and year | Entry Point year 1 | Number of weeks 2020-2021 | Entry point year 2 | Number of weeks 2021-2022 | Total number of weeks | School start year | Start school age |
|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Jan 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 5.8              |
| Feb 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 5.7              |
| Mar 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 5.6              |
| Apr 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 5.5              |
| May 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 5.4              |
| Jun 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 5.3              |
| Jul 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 5.2              |
| Aug 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 5.1              |
| Sep 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 5                |
| Oct 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 4.11             |
| Nov 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 4.10             |
| Dec 17               | Sep 20             | 38                        | Sep 21             | 38                        | 76                    | Sep 22            | 4.9              |

## Keep Up to Date!



The Early Childhood Ireland Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/earlychildhoodireland>



The Early Childhood Ireland Website:  
<https://www.earlychildhoodireland.ie/>