

Parent Statement for Partner Services

1. Welcome to our Partner Service

YMCA Childcare, 53 Aungier St, Dublin 2, is a Partner Service, working together with the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, and parents to deliver high quality, affordable, inclusive Early Learning and Care (ELC) and/or School Age Childcare (SAC) services for children. As part of that partnership, this statement outlines some of the important things you can expect from us, a Partner Service.

1.1 About Us

Here are some of the basic things to know about us:

A typical week for us is **08:00** to **17:30** Monday to Friday for **51** weeks per year.

At **YMCA Childcare** we offer the following services to children and their families:

Sessional pre-school under the ECCE (Free Pre-school)
Full day care/part time care for Early Learning & Care (ELC)
Term Time School Age Childcare
Out of term School Age Childcare

2. Early Childhood Care and Education Programme (ECCE), Access and Inclusion Model (AIM) and National Childcare Scheme (NCS).

This Partner Service is in contract to deliver the:

National Childcare Scheme (NCS)
Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme
Community Childcare Subvention Scheme Plus (CCSP)

Early Childhood Care and Education Programme (ECCE):

ECCE provides for 15 hours per week of preschool provision over 38 weeks per year before children start primary school at no charge to parents.

YMCA Childcare will support you in registering your child for the ECCE programme in our service if your child meets the eligibility criteria. Further information about ECCE is available here - <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/2459ee-early-childhood-care-and-education-programme-ecce/>

Access and Inclusion Model (AIM):

The goal of AIM is to create a more inclusive environment in pre-schools, so all children, regardless of ability, can benefit from quality early learning and care. The model achieves this by providing universal supports to pre-school settings, and targeted supports, which focus on the needs of the individual child, without requiring a diagnosis of disability.

Further information about AIM is available here - <https://aim.gov.ie/>

National Childcare Scheme (NCS)

NCS provides subsidies to parents to offset the costs of ELC and SAC. There are three types of NCS subsidies which are all available for children up to the age of 15.

This service welcomes children who are entitled to any category of NCS subsidy. Further information about the NCS is available here - <https://www.ncs.gov.ie/en/> or contact the NCS Parent Support Centre on 01 906 8530 (Monday to Friday from 9am to 5pm).

YMCA Childcare will support you in applying for support under the NCS for your family.

3. Fees Policies

As a Partner Service, we operate a Fees Policy that is transparent and understandable to all of our parents, the objective of which is to prevent any and all misunderstandings where possible. Please do not hesitate to contact **Russell Wilbourne, Childcare Manager** who will provide additional clarification as required.

3.1 As a Partner Service, we are committed to operating the 'fee freeze' for Programme Year 2022/2023. This means that we will not charge our parents more for the same service than what we were charging in September 2021.

3.2 Donations - We will not request or accept any donations, voluntary or otherwise from parents/guardians, in respect of the ELC/SAC services being provided.

3.3 Deposits - We will not charge any non-refundable deposits to parents/guardians in the respect of their ELC/SAC service where the parent/guardian takes up the service for which the deposit was paid.

3.4 In order that you can understand what this fee freeze means for you, we have outlined our fees and associated fees policy below.

This Fees Policy will be published widely.

3.5.1 Our Fees Policy applicable on September 30th 2021 was as follows:

ECCE Contract Only Fee Policy

Here at **YMCA Childcare** we offer the ECCE programme to all eligible children. ECCE is free to all eligible children.

Additional information about the ECCE Programme Rules are available here -

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/2459ee-early-childhood-care-and-education-programme-ecce/>

SECTION A: ECCE ONLY SERVICES OFFERED

Session Type Name	Session Type	Number of Hours per day	Number of days per week	Number of hours per week	Session Start time	Session Finish Time	ECCE – 3 Free Hours (€)	Full Fee – Non-ECCE Eligible Children (€)
ECCE Session only 9:00 -12:00	AM	3	5	15.00	9:00	12:00	€0	€64.50

FEE POLICY TABLE FOR ALL SERVICES EXCLUDING ECCE ONLY

Session Type Name	Age Range	ECCE Available for ECCE eligible children?	Meals Included?	Additional Info	Number of Hrs per day	Number of days per week	Number of Hrs per week	Session Start time	Session Finish Time	Fee (less ECCE 3 Free Hrs) (€)	Fee less NCS Universal Subsidy (€)	Full Fee (€)
Full time (08:00 - 5:30)	6 months - 60 months	Yes	Yes		9.5	5	47.50	08:00	17:30	€162.50	€204.5	€227
Full time (08:00 - 5:30)	6 months - 60 months	Yes	Yes		9.5	4	38	08:00	17:30	€145.4	€178	€197
Full time (08:00 - 5:30)	6 months - 60 months	Yes	Yes		9.5	3	28.5	08:00	17:30	€128.30	€152.75	€167
Part Time session in ECCE room (09:00 - 13:00)	2 - 5 years	Yes	Yes		4	5	20	09:00	13:00	€28.5	€90.50	€93
Afterschool Part Time for Juniors	4+ years	No	Yes		5	4	20	13:30	17:30	n/a	€141	€151

Afterschool Part Time for Seniors	6+ years	No	Yes		5	3	15	14:30	17:30	n/a	€143.50	€151
Part time AM	6 months - 60 months	Yes	Yes		5	5	25	08:00	13:00	€86.50	€138.50	€151
Part time PM	6 months - 60 months	Yes	Yes		5	5	25	13:30	17:30	€86.50	€138.50	€151
Afterschool Part Time 4 days	4+ years	Yes	Yes		4	4	20	13:30	17:30	n/a	€123	€133

SECTION B - FEES EXTRAS: DEPOSIT / DISCOUNT / OPTIONAL EXTRAS* / ADDITIONAL SERVICES*

Type	Description	Additional Details/Conditions
Discount	10% discount offered to parents who are students	
Discount	10% family discount offered to a second and subsequent children in the same family	
Discount	25% staff discount under 1 year of service	
Discount	50% staff discount for over 1 year of service	
Refundable Deposit	A weeks fee required to secure placement (does not apply to ECCE Sessions)	Only refundable upon receipt of 4 weeks notice
Booking Fee	€80 booking fee charged to cover admin costs	Non-refundable
Late Collection Fee	Children must be collected by 17:30, otherwise a late collection fee will be charged.	

Note: Discounts and Refundable Deposit and Booking Fee only apply to full time care.

Section C - Other Additional Information

1. The service closes for one week over the Christmas period and families are charged for this week.
2. If a child is absent or on holidays, families are still charged.
3. Refund policy - Depending on bank processing times, it can take up to 6 weeks for refunds to be confirmed and processed.
4. A refundable deposit is required upfront to secure a child's space. The space is not secure until deposit is received.
5. When leaving the service, a notice period of 4 weeks is required in order for the refundable deposit to be returned. Notice must be communicated in writing.
6. A non-refundable booking fee is charged to cover associated admin costs when a child first starts at the service.
7. It is the responsibility of the parents/guardians to ensure CHICK details remain up to date. If a CHICK expires, the full fee will be charged until new CHICK details are received.
8. In line with NCS regulations, if a child does not regularly attend the same number of funding hours they claim from NCS, their funding may be decreased and their fee will increase.
9. Weekly payments are to be received by direct debit. Exceptions may be made under special circumstances.
10. If a child is attending our ECCE only room (9:00-12:00), they also have the option of attending an extra hour per day (9:00-13:00) for an extra fee.
11. Full time care over the summer is offered as an option to children in Afterschool.
12. Families must let the service know by the end of April if the child will not be attending over the summer but their Afterschool space is to be held for the following September, otherwise the space in September is not guaranteed.
13. Children must be collected by 17:30. A late collection fee will be charged for late collection.

¹ * These are entirely optional to parents

14. There are non-term weeks during the ECCE calendar in which ECCE funding is not received. On these weeks, children attending full time who avail of ECCE will be charged the difference which ECCE would normally cover.
15. Optional non-term care during the ECCE calendar is offered to children in our ECCE only room. It is €93 to attend from 9:00 - 13:00. This must be agreed at the start of the ECCE calendar year. If agreed to, it will be charged unless 4 weeks notice is given.
16. ECCE funding does not run during the summer. If a child in our ECCE only room wishes to attend over the summer, confirmation of this must be received in writing by the end of April. Otherwise a summer space can not be guaranteed for them.

4. Quality measures

As a Partner Service, we are committed to delivering quality for children and families. There are number of ways we can show this.

4.1 Our staff have the following qualifications:

Room/Session	Qualification
Babies Room	Community Care Fetac Level 5; Childcare Fetac Level 5; Early Childhood Care & Education Fetac Level 6; Early Childhood care and Ed - BA Honours - Level 7+
Tiny Tots Room	Higher technician in Early Childhood Ed - HDip in Teaching Practice - Level 6; Degree in Primary Ed - Level 7+; Degree in Early Childhood Ed - Level 7+; Early Childhood Ed - BA Honours - Level 7+; Early Childhood Care and Education Fetac Level 6
Toddlers Room	Degree in Early Childhood Education - Level 7+; Degree in Early Childhood Education - Level 7+; Leadership for Inclusion in the early years - Level 6; Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education with Upper Second Class Honours, - Level 7+
Preschool Room	Early Childhood Care and Education - Fetac Level 5; Degree in Primary Ed - Level 7+; Early Childhood Care and Education - Fetac Level 5; Early Childhood Care and Education - Level 6; Degree in Early Childhood Ed - Level 7+; Degree in Primary Education - Level 7+
ECCE/Afterschool Room	Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education with Second Class Honours, First Division - Level 7+; Degree in Early Childhood Education - Level 7+; Degree in Primary Education - Level 7+
Float Staff	Childcare Fetac 5; Early Childhood Care and Education - Level 6; Degree in Early Childhood Care and Education - Level 7+

4.2

We are actively working to implement our Quality Action Plan and we will report on progress at the end of the year