

The key aim of the Galway Childcare Committee is to coordinate the implementation of National Childcare Policy and Programmes at local level on behalf of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY).

A key role of the Galway Childcare Committee is to facilitate and support the development of quality, accessible early learning and care and school age childcare services for the overall benefit of children and their parents by taking a child-centered and partnership approach.

The DCEDIY funds support programmes to help parents access quality early learning and care and school age childcare at a more affordable cost. Staff at Galway Childcare Committee will be able to assist parents in explaining your eligibility for the National Childcare Scheme (NCS) and the ECCE free preschool programmes and advice on which services offer these programmes in your area.

A Parent and Toddler Group is a group of parents/carers and their children that meet regularly in a suitable location, for example, a community centre, parish or sports hall. While these groups are great for giving the children an opportunity to play and socialise in a safe environment supervised by their parents, they are also very beneficial for the parents/carers who get to meet others in similar circumstances that live in their area. They provide a great support network where parents have an opportunity to share their experiences and advice. If parents are interested in attending or setting up a Parent and Toddler Group, please contact a member of our staff by phone or email, information below.

## Please see the following useful links to childcare services and resources;

Galway Childcare Committee Website; <a href="https://www.galwaychildcare.com/">https://www.galwaychildcare.com/</a>

The National Childcare Scheme; https://www.ncs.gov.ie/en/

City and County Childcare Committees; <a href="https://myccc.ie/i-am-a-parent-information-on-programmes">https://myccc.ie/i-am-a-parent-information-on-programmes</a>

First 5 Whole of Government Strategy; <a href="https://first5.gov.ie/about-first-5">https://first5.gov.ie/about-first-5</a>

For further information and support, please contact a member of staff on 091 752039 or email <a href="mail@galwaychildcare.com">mail@galwaychildcare.com</a>