



An Ghníomhaireacht um
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

27th February 2018

A Chara,

First Aid Response (FAR) Training Certification:
Requirement date extended to 31st May 2020

As you are aware the revised Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) Regulations 2016 commenced on the 30th June 2016. Regulation 25: First Aid of these regulations require that a registered provider ensures that there is a **person trained in First Aid for Children immediately available at all times to the pre-school children** attending the early years service.

The Early Years Inspectorate recognise the first aid training course: **First Aid Response (FAR) Education and Training Standard approved by the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC)** and delivered by a training provider approved by PHECC as meeting the required standard for compliance with the revised regulation in early years registered services. All successful course participants are given joint PHECC/Recognised Institution FAR certificates. The certificate expires after two years at which time candidates may recertify.

Currently

Currently the Early Years Inspectorate is accepting evidence of certification of training in First Aid for children on inspection. Such certification is from a wide variety of training. Where a service provides evidence of a person(s) trained in First Aid for children and available to the children at all times the regulatory requirement is deemed to have been met. This will continue to be acceptable under the **31st May 2020**.

From 1st June 2020 – (Note revised date)

From the 1st June 2020 in order to meet the regulatory requirement for Regulation 25, there must be at least one person(s) who has undertaken the **FAR (First Aid Response)** by a trainer approved by the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) immediately available to the children at all times. The number of people trained in first aid for children (FAR) and available for first aid response is based on the service's risk assessments, including the size of the service and the hazards identified. Where a service provides evidence of a person(s) trained in FAR and is available to the children at all times the regulatory requirement will be deemed to be met.

This comes into effect on the **1st June 2020**.

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The early years inspectorate welcomes any additional First Aid training/support for staff in services which enhances the wellbeing, health and safety of the children attending the service.

Documentary evidence of in date certification is required in all instances.

Additional Information:

1. The Early Years Inspectorate Q & A document Q 229 to Q230 set out the position regarding the requirement on commencement of the revised regulations on the 30th June. The Q & A document can be accessed at:
<http://www.tusla.ie/services/preschool-services/early-years-pre-school-inspection-services/questions-asked-to-the-hse-from-the-early-years-sector>
2. Further Information regarding the FAR standard can be found at:
<https://www.phecit.ie/>

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Fiona McDonnell'.

Fiona McDonnell
National Manager
Early Years Inspectorate