

# Parent Statement for Partner Services

## 1. Welcome to our Partner Service

Links Childcare, Corn Mill, Distillery Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 3, 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 07:30 to 18:30 Monday to Friday for 51 weeks per year.

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

<input type="checkbox"/>	Sessional pre-school under the ECCE (Free Pre-school)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Full day Care/part time care for Early Learning & Care (ELC)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Term Time School Age Childcare
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Out of term School Age Childcare

[Choose all that apply]

## 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:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	National Childcare Scheme (NCS)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) programme
<input type="checkbox"/>	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.

Links 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/>

### Optional:

This service also has an Inclusion Coordinator, N/A who has a special qualification focused on supporting the inclusion of all children in the service.

## 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).

Links 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 the [Accounts Department](#) who will provide additional clarification as required.

3.1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>a) Facilities that were in existence in September 2021</b> 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.
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>b) Facilities that have been established since September 2021</b> As a Partner Service, we are committed to operating the 'fee freeze' for Programme Year 2022/2023. This means that we will not increase our fees during this year.

**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.**

**a) The fee policy we are going to implement for year 2022/2023 is the same as the fee policy that we had in place on September 30th 2021.**

**3.5.1 Our Fees Policy applicable on September 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 was as follows:**

#### **ECCE Contract Only Fee Policy**

Here at [Links 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 (€)
				0.00				
				0.00				
				0.00				
				0.00				
				0.00				
				0.00				

**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 (€)
Baby Care	0-1 Yr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	No	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	5.00	55.00	07:30	18:30		€259.12	€286.62
Baby Care	0-1 Yr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	No	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	4.00	44.00	07:30	18:30		€230.69	€252.69
Baby Care	0-1 Yr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	No	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	3.00	33.00	07:30	18:30		€190.73	€207.23
Baby Care	0-1 Yr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	No	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	2.00	22.00	07:30	18:30		€135.31	€146.31
Wobbler Care	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	No	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	5.00	55.00	07:30	18:30		€232.96	€255.46
Wobbler Care	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	No	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	4.00	44.00	07:30	18:30		€209.54	€227.54
Wobbler Care	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	No	Yes	9 hours NCS funding	11.00	3.00	33.00	07:30	18:30		€170.88	€184.38

	4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>			assumed per day									
Wobbler Care	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	No	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	2.00	22.00	07:30	18:30		€120.00	€129.00	
Toddler Care Pre-School Care	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	5.00	55.00	07:30	18:30	€186.12	€228.12	€250.62	
Toddler Care Pre-School Care	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	4.00	44.00	07:30	18:30	€171.55	€205.15	€223.15	
Toddler Care Pre-School Care	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	3.00	33.00	07:30	18:30	€142.22	€167.42	€180.92	
Toddler Care Pre-School Care	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes	9 hours NCS funding assumed per day	11.00	2.00	22.00	07:30	18:30	€100.66	€117.46	€126.46	
Pre-School Half Day Care (9am to 2pm)	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes		5.00	5.00	25.00	09:00	14:00	€86.19	€138.19	€150.69	
Pre-School Half Day Care (9am to 2pm)	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes		5.00	4.00	20.00	09:00	14:00	€76.02	€117.62	€127.62	
Pre-School Half Day Care (9am to 2pm)	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes		5.00	3.00	15.00	09:00	14:00	€62.61	€93.81	€101.31	
Pre-School Half Day	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes		5.00	2.00	10.00	09:00	14:00	€42.97	€63.77	€68.77	

Care (9am to 2pm)	2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>												
Pre-School Half Day Care (9:30am to 1pm)	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes		3.50	5.00	17.50	09:30	13:00	€51.30			€115.53
Pre-School Mixed Care 4 Full Days & 1 Half Day (9am to 2pm)	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes	Hours per day are based on average of 4 days of 11 hours, and 1 days of 5 hours	9.80	5.00	49.00	07:30	18:30	€172.50	€216.50		€237.00
Pre-School Mixed Care 3 Full Days & 2 Half Days (9am to 2 pm)	0-1 Yr <input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 2-3 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/> 3-6 Yrs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4-15 Yrs <input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	Yes	Hours per day are based on 3 days of 11 hours, and 2 days of 5 hours	8.60	5.00	43.00	07:30	18:30	€158.65	€204.65		€223.15

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

Type	Description	Additional Details/Conditions
Deposits	The deposit relevant to your child’s particular care is required along with a completed application form before a child’s place is secured. A portion of the deposit will cover an initial booking administration fee and is non-refundable. The deposit balance will be held onto separately, for the duration of a child’s attendance at Links Childcare. Please also refer to the Deposit and Billing Termination Agreement Form which is provided on enrolment.	The deposit amount is reviewed by management regularly and is subject to change. The deposit will be refunded once the terms of our termination and billing agreement have been met and all balances on your account are paid in full. The deposit will be refunded in the month following a child’s finishing date
Optional Extras	A regular extra hour or part thereof attended daily at a cost of €8.43 may be available on request subject to availability.	
Optional Extras	An adhoc extra hour or part thereof attended daily at a cost of €12.04 may be available on request subject to availability.	
Choose an item.		
Choose an item.		
Choose an item.		

**Section C - Other Additional Information**

Links Childcare’s full Fees Policy, which includes details on the payment of fees, changes of care, termination of care is available on our website, at <https://linkschildcare.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/6.-Links-Childcare-Fees-Policy.pdf>

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\* These are entirely optional to parents

**3.5.2 (a) The changes to our Fees Policy as applicable on September 30th 2021 are as follows:**

The following **new Service Types ARE available:**

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 (€)
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					

**3.5.2 (b) The following Service Types are NO LONGER available:**

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 (€)
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					
	Choose an item.	Choose...	Choose...				0.00					



## 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
Baby Room	2 QQI Level 7, 2 QQI Level 6
Wobbler Room	3 QQI Level 7, 2 QQI Level 5
Toddler Room	4 QQI Level 7
Pre-School Room 1	2 QQI Level 7, 2 QQI Level 6
Pre-School Room 2	1 QQI Level 8, 1 QQI Level 7, 1 QQI Level 6

### 4.2

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