An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach
Child and Family Agency

Children's Services Regulation,
Early Years Inspectorate,
2nd Floor, Estuary House,
Henry Street,
Limerick.
Tel: 061 461700
Email: ey.registration@tusla.ie

15 September, 2021

Re: Early Years Provider Forums

Dear Registered Provider,

We hope this letter finds you well and that you are settling back into the new term. At the Tusla Early Years Inspectorate we are establishing two provider's forums, which will afford an opportunity for discussion between early years service providers and our team. The forums- one for service providers who operate large chains/multiples, and one for smaller providers, will ensure that we have a good balance across service types and will provide an opportunity to share knowledge and discuss best practice and issues.

The work of these forums will include:

- How best to achieve compliance with the Early Years Regulations, 2016.
- Explaining inspection and enforcement functions.
- Discussing technical updates on compliance.
- Listening to the needs of the sector (relating to Regulation) .
- Examining how we can improve communications with the sector.

These forums will provide members with the opportunity to both give and receive information. We anticipate that each forum will meet three times per year , with two virtual meetings and one annual face to face meeting, subject to public health guidelines. Minutes will be taken at each meeting, circulated to all members and posted on the Tusla website once agreed. The first meeting will be held in late October and a terms of reference will be agreed with the group.

If you are interested in becoming a member of a forum you are invited to submit an Expression of Interest form, which is attached. Each forum will include up to 15 members. If we receive a large volume of expressions of interest, we will endeavour to ensure we have a mix of registered provider service type (private and community) , service size and geographic location.

Completed submissions, or any queries you may have, can be e-mailed to: sile.lorigan2@tusla.ie by the 30 September.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Eibhlin O'Leary

Head of Inspection and Assessment

Children's Service Regulation