

## Points to Consider



- Is there a range of appropriate materials and equipment freely available to facilitate play opportunities?
- Is there an organised programme of activities designed to cater for the individual needs of each child?
- What are the service's policies on issues such as bullying, discipline, illness, child protection, etc.?
- Is there a mixture of both adult and child sized furniture and equipment?
- How is the space organised?
- Is there provision made for completion of homework and is assistance given?
- What is the arrangement for collection from school?
- Is food provided?

A school-age childcare services is provided for and takes responsibility for children when they are not in the school setting e.g. before school, after school, during school holidays.

For further information & list of useful publications contact:

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Coiste Cúram Leanaí Chontae Thiebraid Árainn Thuaidh



## School-Age Childcare Services

Information for parents/guardians, providers  
and schools

## For Providers & Schools

### How can we assist?

- Support to schools, individuals and/or groups that wish to provide school-age childcare services in schools or other premises
- Information on funding and how to set up and develop your service
- Assistance with funding applications
- Advice regarding training and development
- Help with developing policies & procedures for your school-age childcare service
- Supports through our providers network

School-age childcare services should be fully staffed and operated on the basis of an agreement between parents/guardians, children and staff, which includes the hours/days that the children will attend and the type of programme offered.



## For Parents/Guardians

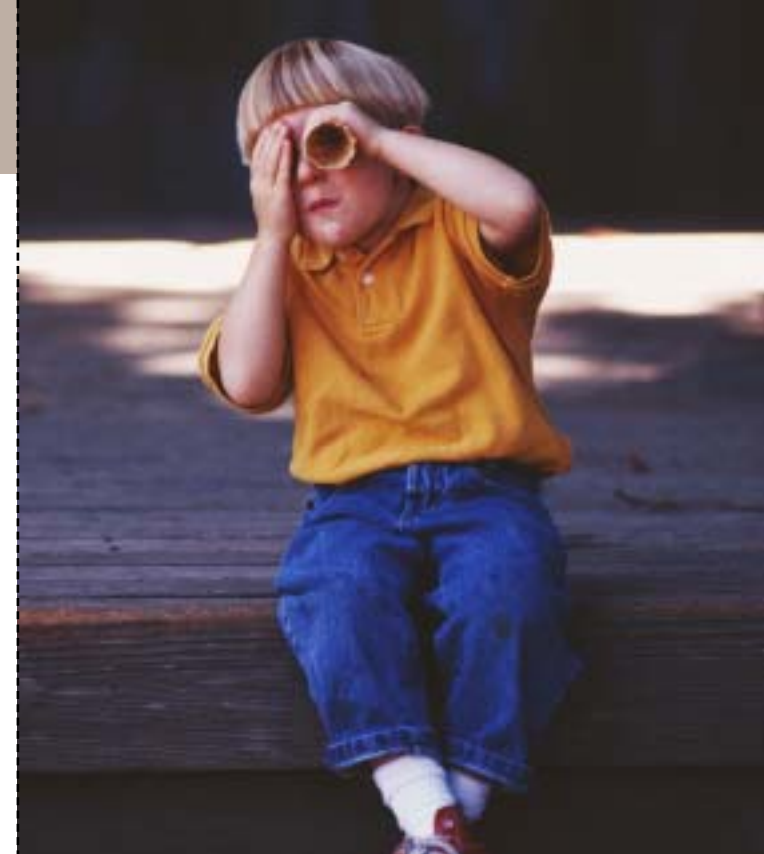
A school-age childcare service can provide activities for school aged children during school holidays, days off from school, before school starts and after school in the evenings.

A service can be organised in many ways and settings:

- A setting where children can play and are cared for in a safe, secure play & recreational environment.
- Mixed environments where children can play, do homework and are supported in all activities

School-age childcare services may be provided by a variety of centres, groups or private individuals

- Childminders
- Community Groups
- Child day care centres, crèches
- Family resource centres
- Schools
- Pre-school providers



### SCHOOL-AGE CHILDCARE SERVICES PROVIDE

#### For children;

An opportunity to be with friends and take part in activities in a safe, supportive and fun environment

#### For parents/guardians;

A safe, supervised environment, where their children want to be, which has regular and consistent opening hours and provides opportunities for the children to do their homework and take part in play and recreational activities.

School-age childcare services should reflect a combination of educational activities, homework completion and social and creative activities. The emphasis should be on providing a relaxed, recreational environment which allows the child to explore, investigate and develop emerging skills in a safe, secure environment