

Phased Re-Opening of Services: Provider Survey

Department of Children and Youth Affairs

The Government Roadmap for Reopening Society and Business sets out Ireland's plan for lifting COVID-19 restrictions. Plans for the phased re-opening of early learning and care and school-age childcare services is being guided by this Roadmap:

- Phase 3 (29 June), opening of crèches, childminders and pre-schools for children of essential workers in a phased manner with social distancing and other requirements applying.
- Phase 4 (20 July), opening of crèches, childminders and pre-schools for children of all other workers on a gradually increasing phased basis and slowly increasing thereafter.

Plans for re-opening will also be underpinned by the Government's Return to Work Safely Protocol, expert advice, available evidence and consultation with early learning and care and school-age childcare stakeholder representatives, providers and practitioners themselves. An Advisory Group, chaired by the Minister, has been established.

In order to inform planning, a series of surveys will be administered to parents, providers and practitioners over the coming weeks along with a call for submissions.

This is the first in a series of surveys for providers. This survey is for **providers who usually operate in July and August**. A separate survey for other providers will follow.

The data from this survey will provide critical information to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs in developing and costing plans for re-opening. Your participation in this survey is strongly encouraged and appreciated.

Screening Question

Q1. Is your service usually open in July or August? SINGLE CODE

Yes	1. Continue
No	2. Close

NOTE: Services usually closed in July or August will be issued with a separate survey in the coming weeks.

In addition, a call for submissions on the phased re-opening of Early Learning and Care and School-Age Childcare (ELC and SAC) services will be open from 25-29 May 2020.

Service Details

Q2. What is the usual operating times of your service in July and August? NUMERIC

From HH/MM to HH/MM

Q3. What services do you offer? PROBE TO PRECODES. MULTI CODE.

Early years services	1.
School-age services (in term)	2.
School-age services (out of term) ...	3.

FOR EACH SERVICE AT Q3, ASK:

Q3a. And for these services, do you provide. PROBE TO PRECODES. MULTI CODE.

- | | |
|----------------------|----|
| Drop in | 1. |
| Breakfast club | 2. |
| Half Session | 3. |
| Session am | 4. |
| Session pm | 5. |
| Part Time | 6. |
| Full Day | 7. |

Q4. Does your service offer transport? SINGLE CODE

- | | |
|-----------|----|
| Yes | 1. |
| No | 2. |

Rooms:

Q5. How many rooms are available in your service for the provision of early learning and care and school age childcare? SINGLE CODE

- | | |
|----------------|-----|
| 1 room..... | 1. |
| 2 rooms | 2. |
| 3 rooms..... | 3. |
| 4 rooms | 4. |
| 5 rooms..... | 5. |
| 6 rooms | 6. |
| 7 rooms..... | 7. |
| 8 rooms | 8. |
| 9 rooms..... | 9. |
| 10 rooms | 10. |
| 11 rooms..... | 11. |
| 12 rooms | 12. |
| 13 rooms..... | 13. |
| 14 rooms | 14. |
| 15 rooms..... | 15. |

FOR EACH ROOM AT Q5, ASK:

Q5a. What size in metres squared in [Room 1]? NUMERIC

____ metres squared

Q5b. Before the closure of your service in March due to COVID-19, what was the maximum number of children in [Room 1] at any one time on a typical day? NUMERIC

____ children

Q5c. Before the closure of your service in March due to COVID-19, what was the typical age group of children in [Room 1] PROBE TO PRECODES. SINGLE CODE.

- | | |
|-------------------|----|
| Pre-ECCE age..... | 1. |
| ECCE age | 2. |
| School age..... | 3. |
| Combination | 4. |

Q5d. Before the closure of your service in March due to COVID-19, what was the maximum number of staff in [Room 1] at any one time on a typical day? NUMERIC

____ staff

Q5e. Does [Room 1] have a sink in the room or in an adjoining room. SINGLE CODE.

- | | |
|------------------|----|
| Yes | 1. |
| No | 2. |
| Don't know | 3. |

Q5f. Does [Room 1] have a child's toilet in an adjoining room. SINGLE CODE.

- | | |
|------------------|----|
| Yes | 1. |
| No | 2. |
| Don't know | 3. |

Q5g. Does [Room 1] have a changing facility in an adjoining room. SINGLE CODE.

- | | |
|------------------|----|
| Yes | 1. |
| No | 2. |
| Don't know | 3. |

Q5h. Does [Room 1] have direct access to the outdoors. SINGLE CODE.

- | | |
|------------------|----|
| Yes | 1. |
| No | 2. |
| Don't know | 3. |

Q6. How many other rooms are available in your service? NUMERIC

____ other rooms

Entrances

Q7. How many entrances are there to your service that could be used for dropping off/ picking up children? NUMERIC

____ entrances

Outdoor area

Q8. Does your service have an outdoor area? SINGLE CODE.

- | | |
|-----------|----|
| Yes | 1. |
| No | 2. |

IF THE SERVICE HAS AN OUTDOOR AREA ASK Q8a

Q8a. And what is size is the outdoor area in metres squared? NUMERIC

____ metres squared

Staff

Q9. Before the closure of your service in March due to COVID-19, how many staff were employed in your service? NUMERIC

____ staff working directly with children
____ ancillary staff

FOR EACH STAFF AT Q9, ASK:

Q9a. Before the closure of your service in March due to COVID-19, how many hours per week would (STAFF 1) have been expected to work in July and August? NUMERIC

____ hours per week

Q9b. Will [STAFF 1] be available for work from 29 June? PROBE TO PRECODES. SINGLE CODE

Yes	1.
No	2.
Maybe	3.
Don't know	4.

Q9c. If no, do you know the reason why [STAFF 1] is not available? PROBE TO PRECODES. MULTICODE

Staff member does not ordinarily work in July and August.....	1.
Staff member has their own childcare needs	2.
Staff member is moving to another service.....	3.
Staff member has left the sector.....	4.
Staff member is not currently in Ireland	5.
Staff member has COVID-19 related concerns.....	6.
Staff member or a member of their household has health issues	7.
Unknown	8.
Other (please specify).....	9.

Places

Q10. Before the closure of your service in March due to COVID-19, how many places would you have had available in July and August (places available include filled places and vacancies)? NUMERIC

____ full time places
____ part time places
____ sessional places

Q11. Before the closure of your service in March due to COVID-19, how many places would you have expected to fill in July and August? NUMERIC

____ full time places filled
____ part time places filled
____ sessional places filled

Q12. To the best of your knowledge, how many children attending your service prior to closure in March have parents are classified as essential workers? NUMERIC

____ children

Re-opening

Q13. Subject to availability of funding and public health guidance, are you planning on re-opening your service? PROBE TO PRECODE. SINGLE CODE

Yes 1.
No 2.
Maybe 3.
Don't know 4.

IF THE SERVICE PLANS ON RE-OPENING ASK Q13b.

Q13a. And when are you planning on re-opening your service?

29 June (in line with Phase 3 of the Framework for Reopening Business and Society) 1
20 July (in line with Phase 4 of the Framework for Reopening Business and Society) 2
September 3
Other (please specify) 4

IF THE SERVICE IS NOT PLANNING ON RE-OPENING OR ARE UNDECIDED, ASK Q13b.

Q13.b If you are not planning on re-opening your service or are undecided, please give details?

Thank you for your assistance with completing this survey. This information will assist the Department in developing and costing proposals for the phased re-opening of early learning and care and school-age childcare services.

A separate call for submissions on the phased re-opening of early learning and care and school-age childcare services will be open from 25-29 May 2020. You and your staff are strongly encouraged to also participate in this.