

What your Local Library can offer Early Years Educators

Please get in touch with your local library to find out more about what is on offer.

Visit www.librariesireland.ie to find contact details for your local library.





What's on offer for ELCs at the local library?

Did you know, your local library can provide a range of supports and services to Early Learning and Childcare settings, Childminders, and the children they care for?

Libraries want to help you in developing children's literacy and numeracy skills and in fostering a love of reading and learning from an early age.

What we can offer

- **Supports on an ongoing basis** and **opportunities to work together**
- **Free membership for all ages** – and **no late fees**
- **An educator's card for all early years educators**, which allows you to borrow sets of books or other items for your room
- **Advice and support** on choosing books for different age groups and abilities
- If you need advice on setting up a library space in the ELC, we may be able to help, and you can also access an online guide at LibrariesIreland.ie
- **Guidance on assessing your book collection** and selecting books that reflect topics and communities within your ELC area to make sure all children are included and represented - this guide is available at LibrariesIreland.ie and direct support may be available from your local library service too



- **Class visits** to your local library, by arrangement
- **Outreach visits** or presentations on local library services at your ELC, by arrangement. Visits will showcase library services and may include storytime sessions for children, presentations on books available, story sack resources, etc.
- **Spaces for stories, reading and sensory activities** at the library
- **A range of reading and curriculum support materials**, including materials in Irish - check with your local library to see what is available
- As well as books to borrow at the library, there are a range of **e-books and e-audiobooks** for children available through BorrowBox
- **Regular storytime** and other activities for children in your local library or online
- **Library programmes and events for children throughout the year**, including Spring into Storytime in April, Summer Stars from June to August, Children's Book Festival in October, and Family Time at Your Library in December
- **Resources and supports for parents** to help them support and strengthen children's literacy and numeracy skills

