

26th October 2017

**To: City and County Childcare Committees**

**Re: Review of Rules for DCYA Funding Programmes Document (Version 1.1)**

The Early Years Unit has completed a review of the 'Rules for DCYA Childcare Funding Programmes' 2017/2018 document in consultation with the Rules Consultation Group and PPOP. This reviewed document is identified as Version 1.1 (or V1.1) and will be published on the DCYA website today.

There have been a number of clarifications made to the rules document to remove ambiguity or misinterpretation and also, amendments made to a few rules in the document.

**Pertaining to all programmes:**

- The attendance records rule has been clarified and reiterated in each chapter. (Ref attached letter).
- The implications of inadequate attendance records were included. (Ref attached letter).
- The booking deposits rule has been clarified and an example provided to support the clarification, and reiterated in each relevant chapter.

**ECCE**

- There have been a couple of changes to ECCE rules pertaining to exemptions; both overage exemptions and split exemptions.
  - **For the 2017/2018 programme year only**, overage exemptions may be granted where the child has been assessed by a medical specialist as having a special/additional need.
  - The provision of split exemptions was deemed to be a rule and not an FAQ, and a third proviso was included on the split exemption rule to include allowing a split placement where the parents working arrangements necessitate it.
- The actual monetary value of the ECCE capitation and higher capitation had been omitted and is now included.

**CCS/CCSP**

- The new automated statement printing facility (on the Department of Employment and Social Protection's website) was included as another option in the 'required documents' rule as an alternative method of eligibility validation, particularly where clients are experiencing difficulties obtaining a letter from that Department.

The Appendix 1 table was incorrect in one field,(CCS and CCS) and was amended to 'yes'

Please note that the reference numbering will have changed from Version 1 throughout the document to facilitate these changes and amendments.

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs would like to thank the Rules Consultation Group and PPOP for their assistance in this 'Rules' review exercise.