

Local Early Years Settings Receive Prestigious Award

Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald visited the Bell Building in Darndale to present six local early years settings with the Síolta quality award. Síolta is the [National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education](#) and is the only nationally recognised and government accredited quality assurance programme for early childhood (Birth to 6 years).

With the support of a mentor, settings work through a twelve step process to create a quality portfolio which is then assessed by the Early Years Education Policy Unit in the Department of Education and Skills. Six settings from Dublin 5 and Dublin 17 shared their portfolios with Minister Frances Fitzgerald, TD Aodhán Ó'Ríordáin, Councillor Larry O'Toole and Dr Maresa Duignan from the Department of Education and Skills, before being awarded the coveted Síolta plaque.



*Minister Frances Fitzgerald, Noel Kelly
Preparing for Life Programme Manager
and Gráinne Fagan from Darndale Belcamp
Integrated Childcare Service (Jigsaw).*

The settings who received awards on the day are Moatview Early Education Centre, [Doras Buí Parents Alone Resource Centre](#), [Darndale Belcamp Integrated Childcare Service Jigsaw](#), Bonnybrook Early Education Centre, Our Lady Immaculate SNS Early Start and Scoil Íde Early Start.



The participants of Preparing for Life's Síolta Quality Assurance Programme with Minister, Frances Fitzgerald, Preparing for Life Programme Manager Noel Kelly and Preparing for Life Síolta Mentors Cindy Lawson and Sandra O'Neill



Participants from Doras Bui receiving their Síolta Award.

From L-R Rachel Ivie, Louise Mc Guirk, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald, Tanya Ennis and Deirdre Buckley.



Participants from Darndale Belcamp Integrated Childcare Service (Jigsaw) receiving their Siolta award.

L-R Maureen Crowe, Tracey Brady, Gráinne Fagan, Kelda Barnes, Irene Dunne, Jeni Moore and Siobhan Cregan.



Participants from Moatview Early Education Centre receiving their Siolta award.

L-R Yuk-kuen Cheung, Susin Sheehan, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald and Anna Kearns.



Participants from Scoil Íde JNS Early Start receiving their Siolta award.

L-R Jane, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald and Geraldine Mc Govern.



Participants from Our Lady Immaculate SNS Early Start receiving their Síolta award.

L-R Fiona Quirke, Anita Hogan, Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald, Teresa Moore, Jennifer Richie.



Participants from Bonnybrook Early Education Centre receiving their Síolta award.

Manager Úna Hill and her team with Minister for Children and Youth Affairs Frances Fitzgerald.



Dr. Maresa Duignan, Early Years Education Specialist at the Early Years Education Policy Unit, Department of Education and Skills.

For more information about Preparing for Life, please [click here](#). For more information about Preparing for Life's early years programme contact [Emma Byrne-MacNamee](#).