



27 May, 2020.

Dear Provider,

I refer to the work being done by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs with the childcare sector to achieve a phased re-opening of crèches and pre-schools from 29 June next.

We are committed to taking all possible steps to assist in this process, including supporting the advance logistics needed to prepare fully for re-opening. In this regard, I can confirm that both the Department of An Taoiseach and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs recognise and accept that essential preparations by childcare providers and their staff will include the necessity to travel to and enter childcare facilities in order to make the facilities ready for operation, and that this work will commence immediately at the discretion of providers. Providers will of course be responsible for ensuring a safe working environment for their staff and following HSE and HSA guidance and protocols.

The Minister for Children and Youth Affairs will brief the Government further on the matter when she is bringing proposals relating to the phased reopening later this week. In this regard, I can confirm that the Minister and Department regards travel to and entering of childcare facilities for the preparations to reopen as essential work which will be a key part of the steps to achieve a phased reopening of the sector from 29 June.

Yours sincerely,

Fergal Lynch,  
Secretary General.  
Department of Children and Youth Affairs.