

International Family Day Care Organisation

Conference – 23 July 2009

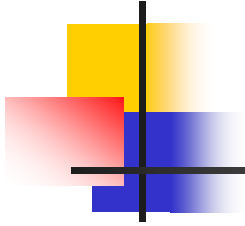
Sylda Langford

Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs



Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs

- Formulating Policy
- Advising the Minister
- Consulting the Sector
- Bring relevant people together to work on issues
- Research

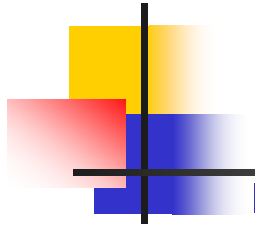


- Creation of Office was a milestone
- Brings together people working in areas such as
 - - Health
 - - Education
 - - Justice



Equal Opportunities Childcare Programme 2000 – 2006

- Capital and Staffing Grants for childcare facilities
- Funding for quality measures



■ Establishment of City / County Childcare Committees

- - attuned to local needs
- - approachable
- - one stop shops



National Childminders Initiative

- National Guidelines
 - - personal suitability
 - - physical environment
 - - health & safety
 - - well-being of child



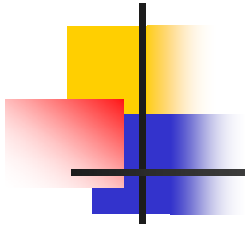
National Childminders' Initiative

- CCC Staff include Childminder Advisory Officers.
- These Advisory Officers work with childminders to provide them with :
 - Access to training and other supports
 - Home visits
 - A self-evaluation framework

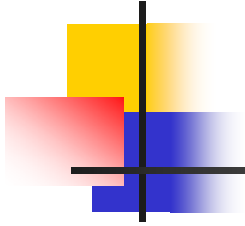


National Childminders' Initiative

- Quality Awareness Programme
- 5 sessions, 10 hours
- Access to grant upon completion



- Tax exemption of E15,000 p.a.
- Encourages childminders to formalise their business
- Childminders encouraged to make social security contributions



- National Childcare Investment Programme 2006 -2010
- Continued the policies developed for childminders
- New measures were subsequently introduced



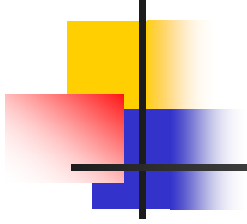
Early Childhood Care & Education scheme

- Free Year's Pre-school
- Childminders that satisfy the conditions may take part
- Children avail of 3 hours, 5 days a week of pre-school without parent being charged
- Training standards have been incorporated



Síolta: The National Quality Framework

- - sets out standards and principles for early childhood education
- - contains a special section on childminders



Thank You