

**TÚSLA**  
An Ghníomhaireacht um  
Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency

**EARLY  
YEARS**  
INSPECTORATE

# Early Years Inspectorate Regulatory Notice

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Ref	02/24

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## 1.0 Background

In 2018, the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CPC) issued a notice stating that they considered Amber Bead teething jewellery to be inherently unsafe and would be seeking to take action to remove these products from sale. At that time, the CPC stated that amber teething jewellery pose several serious risks including the risks of strangulation and choking/inhalation to babies and children under 3 years of age. The CPC advised parents and carers to not use amber teething jewellery and further to never put any type of cord, string or chain jewellery around a baby's neck.

This information was shared with the Early Years sector in an EYI [newsletter](#). In the [Quality and Regulatory Framework \(2018\)](#) the Inspectorate advised the sector that amber beads were not permitted in services.

In June 2024, the CPC updated its position on the use of amber teething jewellery. In addition to the previously highlighted risks of choking, strangulation and inhalation, the CPC has highlighted a number of additional risks associated with amber teething jewellery including:

- Infection
- Restricting blood flow
- Allergic reactions

The CPC has instructed retailers/businesses to immediately remove products marketed or actively sold as amber teething aids from the market as they do not comply with safety regulations and are dangerous products.

The CPC also advised that consumers should not buy amber jewellery marketed or sold as 'teething aids'. Those who already use amber jewellery as 'teething aids' should immediately stop using it.

## 2.0 Decision of the Early Years Inspectorate

In response to the guidance issued by the CPC the following decisions have been made

1. **Amber bead teething jewellery is prohibited for use in early years services for children under 3 years old.**
2. **Registered providers must remove this amber teething jewellery (necklaces, bracelets, anklets and beads) from their services if currently in use.**
3. **Providers can contact the [CPC](#) if they see these products being offered for sale.**
4. **If a parent reports that they are concerned about their child's teething, registered providers should refer them to information on teething on the [HSE website](#).**