

Childcare Network Newsletter June 2025

State Of The Childcare Sector Survey A Thank You!!

A BIG Thank You to childcare settings who took part in Our State of Childcare Sector Survey as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Progress Report 2025.

Based on the responses, the survey indicated some common issues amongst childcare settings in Torfaen. These are:

Increased attendance of children with ALN
Increase in children with behavioural concerns
Staff retention and stress related work pressures

Other comments included issues with:
Rising costs and insufficient funding
Difficulties releasing staff for training
Lack of promotion for non maintained settings

All comments will be reviewed and considered for actions detailed in the
Childcare Action Plan 2026-2027

If you would like any further support or have any questions, please contact
Hannah.Bedford@torfaen.gov.uk



Polite Reminder - DEWIS

As you all know, the Family Information Service uses dewis.wales to provide families and professionals with information about childcare and other services in Torfaen. If you have recently increased your prices, or made changes to your provision of service, please can you email fis@torfaen.gov.uk where we can manually update your record for you.

www.Dewis.Cymru
Cael dewis a chymryd rheolaeth



www.Dewis.Wales
Have choice and take control

Staff Vacancies

If you have staff vacancies within your provision, please email fis@torfaen.gov.uk to promote on our social media pages and website.

The Childcare Offer for Wales

Do you close over the summer holidays? Don't forget that parents wishing to start the Childcare Offer for Wales in September will need to set up their online Agreements with you before you close!

Share this link to get them started:
www.gov.wales/childcare-offer-for-wales-campaign

Or get them to call our national helpline
on 03000 628 62



**Cynnig Gofal
Plant Cymru
Childcare Offer
for Wales**



Funding and training Opportunities:

Children in Wales 2 day Online Training for Management

20 & 21 October 2025 | 9:30 AM | Via Zoom

Stepping into your first management role? Join us for this interactive online event designed to equip new managers with the confidence and skills to lead effectively.

Led by expert trainer Deryl Dix, this course covers:

- Transitioning into management
- Key responsibilities of a first-line manager
- Understanding your management style
- Performance management essentials
- Core skills for effective leadership
- Creating your personal development plan
- Applying learning in the workplace

Includes group discussions, practical activities, and Q&A.
Don't miss this opportunity to build your leadership toolkit.

Register now and take your first step into management!

If you are a member of Children in Wales, please contact training@childreninwales.org.uk to receive your 10% off discount code.



PLANT YNG NGHYMRU
CHILDREN IN WALES

Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs Expression of Interest

Are you Interested in signing up to gain gain a Playwork qualification through a 12 week course that inspires and informs an already skilled workforce to understand and implement the Playwork approach? If so Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs would like you to register your interest [here](#)



Funding and training Opportunities:

General funding opportunities:

Please click on the following links for further information on general funding opportunities

Up to £10,000 Available for Community Tree Planting Projects (England, Scotland, and Wales) closing date 31st July 2025.

Funding to Support Disabled & Disadvantaged Children (UK)

The next deadline to apply is mid-August 2025 for the September meeting of Trustees.

Grants of up to £5,000 Available for Social Welfare Projects (UK)

Applications must be received by the end of August 2025 to be considered at the Spring meeting.

Funding for Projects that Have a Positive Impact on Communities, People, or the Environment (UK)

Funding is awarded every three months and the next deadline for the next funding round is the 15th September 2025.

Grants for the Planting of Trees, Hedges & Orchards (UK)

The closing date for applications is midnight on the 14th November 2025.

Funding to Enhance Educational Outcomes for Disadvantaged Children and Young People Under 26 (UK)

Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis and the next closing date for applications is the 15th July 2025.

Funding Announced for Local Community Heritage Initiatives (UK)

Funding to Encourage Volunteering Amongst Young People (UK)

The deadline for submissions is 5pm on the 2nd July 2025.



Links and Resources

Books Build a Brighter Future | BookTrust

BookTrust and the Waterstones Children's Laureate Frank Cottrell-Boyce have launched Reading Rights: Books Build a Brighter Future. The report calls for national provision so that every child has access to books and reading from their earliest years. It calls on national and local leaders in early years, health, education and culture to come together to make reading a part of daily life for every child in the first seven years of life.

Please watch this quick video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wtFaVo6S0rQ>



Good News Story

NDNA Wales Nursery of the Year

A BIG Congratulations to Belle Vue Day Nursery for winning the NDNA Wales Nursery of the Year 2025.

NDNA quotes

'Bellevue Nursery has clear goals for children.

Their culture is reflected in the retention of committed staff that deliver consistency and continuity. There is a commitment to ongoing learning and working with the community to support transitions. Parents directly shape improvements and each child is known, supported and celebrated as an individual'



Save the Date

Childcare Celebration Event

25th September 2026

Following on from the success of our first event we cordially invite you to save the date for the 2nd Childcare Celebration Event on Thursday 25th September. Details to follow, but if you would like to register your interest, please email fis@torfaen.gov.uk. (regrettably we will have to limit 2 attendees per setting)

