

Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership

Action Plan to address gaps in Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2017

Priority 1: Explore existing, new childminders and approved nannies to provide flexible childcare to include atypical working hours. E.g. early mornings, late evenings, weekend and shift pattern working parents					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility & other officer involvement	Update – March 2018
Develop a Childminding scheme to offer flexible childcare to parents/carers	Minimum of 10 Childminders are recruited to the scheme	June 2017 – June 2018	Existing core Funding	Debbie Maule – LR	Flexibility discussed at Childminder Briefing Sessions.
	Childminders offer flexible hours to meet the needs of parents	June 2017 – June 2018		Becky Wickett	
	Childminders sign up to and achieve the Quality Standards for Childcare Providers	June 2017 – December 2018		Sue O'Neill	
	Parents are able access available childcare to meet their needs	September 2017 onwards		Rebecca Satherley-Thomas	
	Family Information Service makes available information on flexible childminders via website				
					Information for parents and providers is provided on the FIS website where details of each childminders' flexibility are provided. New FIS Wales Database will also provide this.

Working in partnership with organisations e.g. colleges, to promote the Home Approval Scheme	Newly qualified childcare students are informed of the approval scheme Subsidised CPD training provided to support prospective approved nannies	September 2017 – June 2018	Existing core funding	Becky Wickett	April 2018 - Outreach planned at Cardiff and Vale College to promote flexible hours to new intake / newly qualified students.
Recruit approved nannies by offering the Home Approval Scheme to perspective childminders	Providing information in the Childminding Briefing Sessions Prospective approved childcares have access to CYPOP5 and subsidised CPD training	June 2017, October 2017 and February 2018	Existing core funding	Sue O'Neill	Home Approval Scheme promoted at Childminder Briefing Sessions April 2018 - Outreach planned at Cardiff and Vale College to promote scheme to new intake / newly qualified students.

Priority 2: To explore the local need for further childcare through the medium of Welsh					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update
Research the local need for childcare through the medium of Welsh	Consultations are carried out and data gathering exercise with parents and key partners	June 2017 – October 2017	Existing funding allocated via Local Authority	Sian Lewis, Menter Bro Morgannwg Lowri Bell, Mudiad Meithrin	Menter Bro Morgannwg consults regularly with service users and members of the wider community to gather feedback evaluate services and measure the demand for new Welsh-medium services. There is currently no extra funding allocated to establish more Welsh-medium childcare provision.
Explore the potential for a Welsh nursery in	Consultation with Local Authority	June 2017		Sian Lewis, Menter Bro Morgan	FIS - Consultation information shared with families and

existing Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg	Learning and Skills department				professionals Menter Bro Morgannwg held a consultation during December 2017 – Ionawr 2018. 317 responses were received which showed a clear demand by parents, prospective parents and the wider community to have a Welsh-medium Day Nursery established on the site of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg. A report outlining the results of the Needs Assessment Survey has been distributed and discussions will need to be continued with the VOG Council, Menter and other key partners.
Actively promote Cymraeg I Blant for kids information to parents/carers on choosing Welsh medium childcare	Parents/carers are provided with information to understand the benefits of Welsh medium education and childcare	June 2017 ongoing		Becky Wickett, Family Information Service Lowri Bell, Mudiad Meithrin	Cymraeg I Blant promoted through web / social media and outreach sessions. Welsh Medium Education and Childcare information offered and promoted to all enquirers to FIS.

Priority 3: To explore ways to introduce Welsh language to children in childcare providers					
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update
Pilot Ticw bear' project to introduce Welsh Language via books, stories,	Children are engaged in books, stories and activities through the medium of Welsh	September 2017 – July 2018	Childcare Strategy funding	Debbie Maule	Due to time limitations and staffing resource, it has not been possible to implement this action. However, it will be given priority after Easter to progress this priority

activities etc. to children in childcare providers	Additional Welsh is spoken within childcare providers				
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Priority 4: To explore the need for holiday childcare/activity clubs for children aged 10 – 14yrs					
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Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update – March 2018
Engage with children & young people via Primary and Secondary school councils regarding their views on holiday childcare/activity clubs	Information is gathered from pupils on the need for holiday childcare/activity clubs	September 2017 – March 2018	Existing Childcare Strategy funding	Debbie Maule Rebecca Satherley-Thomas	Due to time limitations and staffing resource, it has been difficult to carry out this priority this year. However, discussions are underway with colleagues and partners as to putting this into action in readiness for summer holidays.
Engage with parents/carers regarding the need for holiday childcare/activity clubs for children aged 10 – 14yrs	A questionnaire is formulated and distributed to parents/carers via parent pay, social media, family information service to gather their views on the need for holiday childcare/activity clubs	September 2017 – March 2018		Debbie Maule	Due to time limitations and staffing resource, it has been difficult to carry out this priority this year. However, discussions are underway with colleagues and partners as to putting this into action in readiness for summer holidays.

Priority 5: To investigate with parents/carers childcare needs for children with disabilities and/or additional needs and promote existing support schemes

Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update
Research the local area regarding the need for childcare for children with disabilities and/or additional needs	Carry out focus groups within existing parent support groups e.g. Sunshine Club, Consult via the Index with parents of children with additional needs	June 2017 onwards September 2017	No funding required, existing staff time	Debbie Maule/Family Information Service	Consultation undertaken with families in Sunshine Club, Families First Holiday Schemes, Cwtch Barry and via The Index. Report on consultation produced – 60% said that they had struggled to find childcare to cater for their child’s requirements
Promote existing childcare and support schemes to parents/carers	Information is provided via the Disability Index and newsletter Parents and childcare providers are provided with information on the Assisted Places scheme which supports children with a disability/additional need within childcare Details of those childcare settings that can cater for children with disabilities is supplied to Family	July 2017 – and quarterly 2017 - ongoing Dec 2017 – and annually	No funding required, existing staff time	Debbie Maule Becky Wickett Candice Ringer	The Index Newsletter and The Index eNews promote existing support schemes to parents/carers. Childcare is promoted via FIS Childcare Directory. Assisted Places scheme promoted via Dewis Cymru and signposting. New FIS Wales database will hold information on “confidence level” of settings / providers rather than asking “are you able to cater for children with additional needs”

	<p>Information Service annually and promoted to parents</p> <p>Parents of children with additional needs are consulted as to how they would like to receive information on childcare settings (via focus groups and the Index) Information from childcare settings as to their experience of caring for children with additional needs is reviewed and gathered by FIS</p>	<p>Ongoing via enquiries to the FIS and DIS</p>			<p>Report on consultation produced (see recommendations).</p>
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Priority 6: To encourage childcare providers to complete their Self Assessment of Service Statement (SASS)

Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update – March 2018
Identify those childcare providers who require support to complete their SASS and signpost to the appropriate organisation	Information is provided to childcare settings in order for them to complete their SASS Completed SASS data is submitted to CSSIW	May 2017 – June 2017	No funding required, existing staff time	Rebecca Satherley-Thomas Sue O’Neil	Family Information Service provided regular newsletters which included SASS support provided by Umbrella Organisations. FIS were also able to give advice over the phone and/or signpost to the relevant organisation to those who were unable to attend any workshops provided by Umbrella Organisations. Support was also provided by the Childminding network co-ordinator and EY & Childcare monitoring officer for the Vale of Glamorgan.

Priority 7: To consult with childcare providers and schools with regards to their capacity to support the 30 hours Childcare Offer and with parents whose children will potentially take up the offer

Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update – March 2018
Engage with childcare providers regarding their capacity to support additional childcare	A variety of childcare providers across the Vale are able to provide additional childcare to meet the needs of the offer	June 2017 – ongoing	No funding required, existing staff time	Debbie Maule Rebecca Satherley-Thomas	Both childcare providers and primary school Heads were invited to a 30 hour childcare offer event which took place on 6 February 2018 – 74 delegates attended. Presentations were provided by Welsh

	Childcare providers are able to offer flexible childcare to meet the needs of parents				Government, Rhondda Cynon Taff LA and Caerphilly LA to show what the offer was about and how the 2 'early Implementer' local authorities had put the offer in motion. Further sessions planned with childcare providers and schools to discuss the next stage in terms of capacity, sustainability, signing up etc.
Engage with schools regarding their capacity to support additional childcare	A variety of schools across the Vale are able to offer childcare on school sites Schools are able to offer flexible childcare to meet the needs of parents	September 2017 – ongoing	No funding required, existing staff time	Debbie Maule Rebecca Satherley-Thomas	As above
Engage with parents to promote the 30 hour Childcare Offer A questionnaire is formulated and distributed to parents/carers via schools, social media avenues, etc. Focus groups are set up for parents regarding their views on the childcare offer	Parents are provided with information on the 30 hour Childcare Offer Information is gathered from questionnaires as to the needs of parents Information is gathered from focus group as to the needs of parents	September 2017 – ongoing September 2017 – ongoing September 2017 - ongoing	No funding required, existing staff time	Debbie Maule Rebecca Satherley-Thomas	In preparation for the 30 hour offer to be implemented in the Vale, 1 hour workshops/focus groups for parents are being planned from April 2018 onwards so they can gain further information on criteria, eligibility and when the Vale is likely to be on board. In addition to focus groups/workshops, a questionnaire is also being prepared to be distributed via schools websites, social media routes etc. for parents who may be unable to attend a workshop/focus group or would like to provide further information.

Priority 8 to provide a wide range of information and advice to parents and prospective parents, including affordability of childcare

Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update – March 2018
Pilot FIS School Certificate with partner organisations and childcare settings	At least 1 partner organisation and 1 childcare setting achieves FIS Certificate and staff and parents have access to more information	June 17 – March 18	Existing FIS funding Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett Becky Wickett	FIS Certificates Childcare: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red Robin (achieved) • Butterflies (achieved) • Teddy BearsTrust (ongoing) • Ladybirds (ongoing) Partnerships Organisations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flying Start (achieved) • Gibbonsdown C/C (ongoing)
Work with the Local Data Unit and FIS in Wales to develop a national standalone database, linked to the Dewis Cymru website	Database and web portal available Information on children & young people’s activities transferred to the Dewis Cymru website and providers encouraged to take ownership of their information	April 17 – Mar 18 July 17	Existing FIS funding Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett Becky Wickett	FIS Wales Database will replace the existing database and web portal from 1 April 2018 All childcare information will be held on the new FIS Wales Database which will link to Dewis Cymru.
Promote national and local schemes to help parents back into work and sustain employment	Tax Free Childcare Scheme promoted to parents and childcare providers via various media PACE Project, Employment Skills	April 17 and ongoing	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	Tax Free Childcare promoted via website / social media / StaffNet Parenting. Give it time. Campaign promoted via outreach sessions funded by Welsh Government Legislative Reasonable Punishment information shared

	Programme, Assisted Places Scheme, JCP promoted to parents and carers via various media				JCP / PACE monthly sessions attended by FIS
Provide information to new and prospective parents on childcare options, services, groups and activities	Outreach and Marketing Plan in place Work with midwives, health visitors, registrars and key organisations to reach as many parents as possible	July 17 – Mar 18	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett	Outreach and Marketing Plan followed Parent Craft monthly sessions attended by FIS FIS / The Index presented to Cardiff and Vale Health Visitors
Work with Cardiff FIS to produce joint Index newsletters.	Access to information on services for children with disabilities is more widely available across Cardiff and the Vale	Apr 17, July 17, Oct 17, Jan 17	Families First Disability Strand	Becky Wickett / Julia Sky	Regionalisation of The Index post Information held on Dewis Cymru