



Considering providing wraparound childcare?

This guide gives information to those considering setting up new childcare provision or extending to include wraparound care and has been produced by Cwlwm (see table at end for details of Cwlwm partners). There are many ways wraparound care can be provided.

The formal definition of Wraparound childcare is a service provided by settings registered with Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) who provide childcare for children usually aged, 3 or 4 years old. This is for children who attend a school or setting part time for their early education place and then require childcare before and/or after this¹.

These services can be provided by independent childcare providers or by registered childcare provision within schools. There is also **good practice** to be found where independent childcare providers have worked with schools to offer this service.

Why is wraparound childcare needed?

For many parents, the availability of high quality, affordable childcare is vital so that they can work or access training. Childcare providers and schools have an important part to play in facilitating this as they are often at the heart of the community. Wraparound childcare provides a **flexible model that meets these needs of families**. Wraparound childcare may be accessed within a Pre-School Playgroup, a Cylch Meithrin, a Day Nursery or at a Childminder or through development of provision in Out of School childcare clubs. The introduction of the [Childcare Offer](#) by the Welsh Government will see an increase in demand for wraparound services from working families.

Benefits:

Wraparound childcare helps to:

- Ensure continuity of care for the child and family
- Support transition for children into full time education
- Support working families to start/continue to work/train.
- Support business sustainability for childcare settings

¹ In practice this term is often more widely used by the sector for childcare that takes place around a part time funded Foundation Phase education session, funded Flying Start session or other privately paid for childcare sessions. This does NOT include extra-curricular activities such as sports clubs, music lessons or other activities.

What you need to know about providing wraparound care

Generally childcare that operates for more than 2 hours per day for children up to the age of 12 years is required by law to register with the [Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales](#) (CSSIW) and must comply with the relevant regulations and the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Child Care.

The first step in developing a wraparound childcare service or extending your current services to include wraparound childcare is to identify whether this type of childcare is needed or wanted by the families in your local community. There are a number of ways in which you can determine this, including:

- Contact your local Family Information Service who will have a recent Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report (CSA) which will support you in identifying local need and will support you to get a picture of childcare provision locally
- If you are a current registered childcare provision or school consider use of a questionnaire to parents asking them about their childcare needs to gain further evidence of need and record requests from parents to provide such a service.
- Contact your relevant **Cwlwm childcare umbrella organisation** for information or further support and guidance in developing this service (see contact details at end of this guide) who may also be able to facilitate contact between childcare providers and schools. Business Wales can also provide support with business planning.
- Consider the benefits of working in partnership with other childcare settings or schools to complement services you/they provide.
- Schools looking to establish new wraparound childcare services should first consider the provisions currently available within the local community. This can help to strengthen local community childcare provision, ease the burden of developing new provisions and avoid displacing current childcare provision. Please see our separate leaflet on '*A closer look at establishing wraparound on a school site*' for further information.

A full set of up to date childcare policies and procedures are required when any new childcare setting is being established. Existing policies and procedures will need to be revised for any settings extending services. For guidance and support on developing these, please contact the relevant Cwlwm childcare umbrella organisation.

Key areas for consideration when developing wraparound childcare

Staffing

Those managing and working in registered childcare settings in Wales must have the appropriate childcare qualifications in line with the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Childcare (NMS). The NMS also state clearly the adult to child staffing ratios required for childcare settings. Anyone thinking of providing a wraparound service needs to ensure they comply with these.

It is also important to consider robust recruitment, induction and supervision for any employed staff. Guidance and support for this can be found on the [Social Care Wales](#) (formally Care Council for Wales) website.

Premises

It is important to ensure that you consider the use of suitable premises for any childcare services. As an example consider how the following CSSIW requirements could be met and remember the number of children allowed within the provision is determined by the space available.

Access to appropriate toilet facilities

Outdoor play space

Storage of materials and resources owned by the childcare setting

Access to a suitable food preparation area

Security measures

You also need to consider any requirements that may affect the service you offer as these have specific requirements in addition to the ones outlined by CSSIW. This includes for example the requirements of Local planning, Fire Service and Environmental Health.

Funding, Fees and Sustainability

In order to develop and maintain an effective and sustainable childcare provision, a robust business plan should be in place, which should also include detailed financial planning.

Fees should be the main source of income for the setting. These can be privately paid by parents or funded through other sources for example Foundation Phase or Flying Start. Ideally they will generate sufficient income to cover all the costs of providing the service. The fee level will be determined by the costs of running the service including staff wages and other ongoing revenue costs, however local needs should also be taken into account e.g. number of working families, income levels, availability of alternative childcare (including family). Please see contact section for organisations that can support with your business plan.

To supplement fee income (and help to keep the costs of providing the service down), some childcare settings undertake fundraising events and apply for external grant funding where relevant, though ideally settings should not be reliant on this. **N.B.** privately managed organisations are unable to apply to the vast majority of grant schemes due to their business structure.

Where the setting is registered with CSSIW, working families may be eligible to receive financial support through [UK Government initiatives](#). There is further information on this also on the Welsh Government website '[Help Paying for Childcare](#)'

Next Steps

If you would like any more information, or would like to move forward with your plans, please use the contact details below for those referred to within this guide.

It is worth considering the benefits of becoming a member of one or more of the relevant Cwlwm childcare umbrella organisations. Benefits of membership vary between organisations but can include access to training and Continuous Professional Development (CPD) opportunities, support and guidance, representation of members at a national level, networking opportunities, regular updates and communications, appropriate as well as competitively priced insurance and advertising of vacancies on their websites. Details for Cwlwm childcare umbrella organisations can be found below and also on the Cwlwm website www.cwlwm.org.uk

Contact Details – Cwlwm Childcare Umbrella Organisations

Organisation	Telephone	Email and website
Mudiad Meithrin: Supporting Welsh medium Pre-school provision for children aged 2-5 years	01970 639639	post@meithrin.cymru www.meithrin.cymru
Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs: Supporting out of school childcare for children aged 3-14 years	029 2074 1000	info@clybiauplantcymru.org www.clybiauplantcymru.org
National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA Cymru): Supporting full day childcare nurseries and the early years and childcare workforce	01824 707 823	wales@ndna.org.uk www.ndna.org.uk
Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years (PACEY Cymru): Supporting all those working in childcare and early years with a focus on registered childminders in Wales.	0845 880 1299	paceycymru@pacey.org.uk www.pacey.org.uk
Wales Pre-School Providers Association (Wales PPA): Supporting Pre-school provision for children aged 2-5 years	029 2045 1242	info@walesppa.org www.walesppa.org

Useful links to contact

Business Wales	https://businesswales.gov.wales/
Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW)	0300 7900 126 www.cssiw.org.uk
Social Care Wales	https://socialcare.wales
Family Information Services (FIS)	http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/children-and-young-people/parenting-support-guidance/help/familyinformationservices/
HM Revenue & Customs(HMRC)	www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-revenue-customs