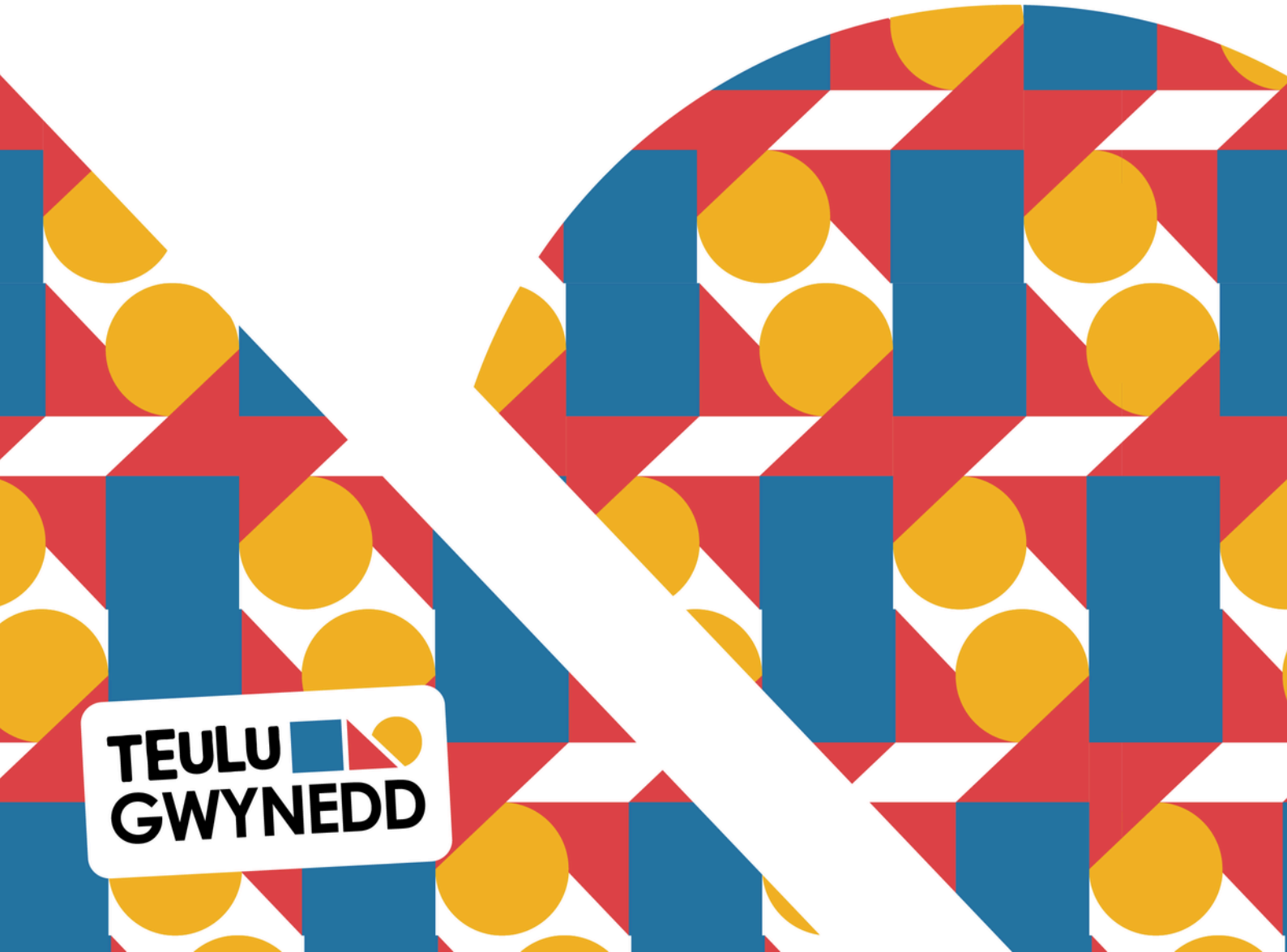
Childcare and Nursery Education Information Booklet

Information booklet containing guidelines regarding childcare schemes and information about services, training and support for staff members.



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Flying Start

Flying Start offers support and opportunities for families with children under four years of age who live in specific communities within Gwynedd. Flying Start offers support to parents as their children grow and develop.

The provision has to be within a specific area where Flying Start is offered. By signing the Flying Start contract, you agree to collaborate with the Early Years Advisory Teacher.

For parents to receive Flying Start support and childcare, an application form will have to be signed with their Health Visitor. Then, a member of the Childcare Team will contact the provision to ascertain whether there is a place available for the child to attend. The provision will then contact the parent to arrange a start date for the child.

Up to 12.5 hours of childcare will be offered over 5 days, i.e. 5 morning or afternoon sessions. The children's attendance will be reported on a monthly basis through a monitoring form.

If the child turns 2 years of age between...	The child can start to receive Flying Start childcare...
1 September – 31 December	Beginning of the term on or after 1 January
1 January – 31 March	Beginning of the term on or after 1 April
1 April - 31 August	Beginning of the term on or after 1 September

Information on how you will claim child hours will be discussed with you once you have registered as a Flying Start provision.

For more information please contact **dechraundeg@gwynedd.llyw.cymru**

2 year old Childcare

Families living within specific postcodes can get up to 12.5 hours of free Childcare in the term following the child's second birthday. The 12.5 hours of childcare will be offered over 5 days, i.e. either 5 morning or afternoon sessions.

If the child turns 2 years of age between...	The child can start to receive 2-year-old childcare...
1 September – 31 December	Beginning of the term on or after 1 January
1 January – 31 March	Beginning of the term on or after 1 April
1 April - 31 August	Beginning of the term on or after 1 September

In order to offer the 2-year-old Childcare, the provision **must be on the list of Cyngor Gwynedd approved childcare providers** and within a **specific area** where the 2 year old Childcare is offered.
It is also required that the provider works with an Early Years Advisory Teacher before receiving, and signing a contract, to provide Childcare for two-year-olds.

Parents' applications will be assessed by the Childcare Team and a member of the team will contact the preferred provider to check whether there are sessions available, before confirming with the parent.
Once the parent has received confirmation, the provider and parent will need to make the commencement arrangements together.

Information on how you will claim child hours will be discussed with you once you have registered as a provision for 2-year-old Childcare.
For more information please contact **gofalplant2oed@gwynedd.llyw.cymru**

Nursery Education

Every child in Gwynedd is entitled to 10 hours a week of part-time Nursery Education in the term following their third birthday.
It is possible to divide the 10 hours of nursery education as follows:

- **2 hours over 5 days, or;**
- **2.5 hours over 4 days.**

If the child turns 3 between...	**The child can start to receive nursery education...**
1 September – 31 December	Beginning of the term or after 1 January
1 January – 31 March	Beginning of the term or after 1 April
1 April - 31 August	Beginning of term or after 1 September *

*

Points to remember:

1. If a child attends a Nursery Class in school, the child cannot receive his/her entitlement to Nursery Education in your provision.

2. It is possible for a child to split his/her 10 hours over two providers. However, the child cannot attend the two providers on the same day, e.g. a morning in provision 1 and afternoon in provision 2.

3. Parents are required to register to receive their entitlements to Nursery Education with you as a provision. A specific registration form is available by contacting the Childcare and Play Officer, Childcare Unit, on the e-mail below.

4. You are required to share information about the children who receive their entitlement to Nursery Education with the Childcare Unit every term. The Childcare and Play Officer will send you information every term.

Information on nursery education provision criteria and information on termly payments are available in your nursery education contract.

For more information please contact
gofalplantachwarae@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

The Childcare Offer for Wales

What is the Offer?
The Welsh Government's Childcare Offer for Wales means that many parents of 3 to 4 year olds can receive help with childcare costs. This means 30 hours of early education and childcare in Wales for eligible parents. The 30 hours is made up of a minimum of 10 hours of early education a week and a maximum of 20 hours a week of childcare.

The Offer is available for 48 weeks of the year, meaning that it can help you with childcare costs for some of the school holidays.

To be eligible for the Offer, each parent must:

- Live in Wales
- Have a child aged 3 or 4 years old
- Earn less than £100,000 per year
- Be employed and earn at least, on average, the equivalent to working 16 hours a week at the National Minimum Wage or Living Wage
- Or be enrolled on either an undergraduate, postgraduate or further education course that is at least 10 weeks in length

The offer is available from the term following the childs 3rd Birthday (please see table below) until the September after they turn 4. The child will then be eligible for a full time education place

If the child turns 3 between...	**The child can start to receive the childcare offer...**
1 September – 31 December	Beginning of the term or after 1 January
1 January – 31 March	Beginning of the term or after 1 April
1 April - 31 August	Beginning of the term or after 1 September

Since January 2022 the childcare offer has become digital. Please see the link in order to register, and for more information Providers get help with the Childcare Offer for Wales | GOV.WALES
or contact **cynniggofalplant@gwynedd.llyw.cymru**

Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion (ALN&I)

To ensure that you have the latest information about the ALN Act, please follow the steps below.

1. Download a copy of the 'Provision Map' document from the ALN&I website. Provision Map (google.com)

2.Get acquainted with the ALN&I website, and specifically with 'The Early Years Service' section. Many of the documents referred to in the provision map document above are available to download from the ALN website.

Complete the following compulsory training programme:

Processes and procedures
To whom? Leaders

Module 1 and 2 : Delivery Map Processes and Procedures including ALN

- Face-to-face training
- Held in September and as needed for New or Leader leaders who need a revisit

Module 1 and 2 updates: Update relating to Provision Map processes and procedures including ALN

- Annual virtual training (September)

Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion (ALN&I)

Background information: language development and support methods **To whom**? Leaders and Key Workers	1. Watch a training video, 'Can I join you? 2. Picture including text, screenshot, software, web page AI-generated content can be inaccurate. An introduction to speech, language and communication - Speech and Language UK: Changing young lives
Provision for children with ALN **To whom**? Key Workers	**Module 3:** Resources and strategies to support children with ALN • **Seasonal:** Face-to-face training for key workers (part of the INSET Early Years programme)
	Tailored resources and strategies to support children with IDP in your setting • **Regular** (if there is a child with IDP in the setting): Visits by the Early Years ALN Team

For more information please contact: **GweinyddolADYaCh@gwynedd.llyw.cymru**

Family Information Service and Dewis Cymru

The first point of contact for children, families and professionals who are looking for information, advice or support relating to children and families is the **Family Information Service.**

The service provides the childcare list by using the Dewis Cymru database.

They provide guidance to parents on childcare, services that help pay for childcare, support services and family matters.

They could join you during information sessions for families with a stall or you can refer parents directly if they are looking for information.

They are happy to try to help in all cases. Up-to-date information is shared daily on their **social media** sites, as well as on the official **Hwb Teuluoedd Gwynedd**

For more information please contact - **ggtgwyneddfis@gwynedd.llyw.cymru**

Dewis Cymru

Dewis Cymru is a website that is a directory of services throughout the country, including childcare. It is used as a database resource for families to find services and resources across all counties in Wales.

Childcare List

All providers should have a **DEWIS** account, in order to ensure that your information is all up to date on the Gwynedd Childcare list and in order to gain access to the training courses list.

It is your duty as a provider to ensure that the information on the **DEWIS** website is up to date.

Training

The Childcare Unit now uses the **DEWIS** website to book places on training courses. If you do not have log-in details for DEWIS, we kindly ask you to ensure that you follow the instructions on the link below.

How do I add my information to Dewis Cymru? - Dewis Cymru

The **Childcare Unit** offers a number of training courses for childcare providers during the year. Some courses will be designated as 'essential', e.g. First Aid and Safeguarding. Interest in training courses can be expressed at any time, to find out the process for submitting an application, follow the link - **how to access the DEWIS programme**

You are asked to complete an "expression of interest" form for every Training, **ensuring that the full name of the staff member(s) is/are clearly noted** and the name and e-mail address of the provision.

Please note that several different dates are available for each course and an "expression of interest" is required for each one that you propose to attend.

We operate on a 'first come, first served' basis. You will then receive an e-mail from DEWIS confirming whether a place has been reserved / **OR** an e-mail stating that there is **No Place** and that you are on a waiting list.

For more information please contact
gofalplantachwarae@gwynedd.llyw.cymru.

Grants

There are a number of possible grants available from the Childcare Unit dependent on the Welsh Government's budget. It is essential that all providers are on our List of Approved Providers to receive any grants.

Start-up Grant:
Grant for registered providers to purchase resources suitable for the setting.

Resources Grant:
In accordance with the budget, a sum is set aside annually for registered providers to buy bespoke resources for the provision.

Capital Grants:
The purpose of the funding is to offer a grant to childcare providers, child minders and Flying Start centres to improve their buildings for the provision of childcare services.

For more information please contact
gofalplantachwarae@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

Contact information

- **Flying Start:** 01286 678 824
  DechraunDeg@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

- **Childcare for two-year-olds :** 01248 352436
  gofalplant2oed@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

- **Childcare Offer for Wales:** 03000 628628
  cynniggofalplant@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

- **ALNandI:** 01286 679007
  GweinyddolADYaCh@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

- **Family Information Service:**
  01248 352436 / 07976 623816
  GGTGwyneddFIS@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

- **Childcare and Play Unit:** 01286 678 824
  Gofalplantachwarae@gwynedd.llyw.cymru