

RCT CHILDCARE TEAM NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 01 • JUNE 2021

HELLO AND WELCOME

TO OUR NEW RCT CHILDCARE TEAM NEWSLETTER.

Issued three times a year, the newsletter will keep you up to date with the team and what we are doing to support your business.

We welcome any feedback so please get in touch.



Our closed facebook page is a great way to get regular updates on issues that affect the Childcare sector, information on upcoming training, signposting to other services and many other benefits.

Join here...

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/childcareteamRCT> or search for RCT Childcare Team in the Facebook search facility.

Mae croeso i chi gyfathrebu â ni yn y Gymraeg / You are welcome to communicate with us in Welsh.

Meet the Team...

Denise Humphries

Denise manages the team and is responsible for all strategic childcare developments, such as the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment and childcare related capital projects.

Universal Childcare Development Team:

Sian Wood

Sian leads the universal childcare development team. She can support you with all aspects of your business and training. She also leads on developing new provision in areas of identified need.

Rachael Holley & Sian Sutton

Rachael & Sian support all aspects of childcare development, such as arranging training, supporting CIW registration and helping settings to improve/expand their businesses. Rachael also leads on keeping our Facebook page up to date.

Childcare Offer for Wales team:

Rhys Picton

Rhys deals with all aspects of Childcare Offer administration and leads on processing provider funding claims and delivering portal training.

Cathryn Herbert & Rachel Gunter

Cath and Rachel deal with all aspects of Childcare Offer administration. Cath also works with Registered Education Providers (REPS) and Admissions to allocate pre-nursery children and Rachel leads on exclusive use leases for settings based on school sites and supports the Childcare Offer Small Capital Grants scheme.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

Childcare Offer for Wales / FPN education

Please encourage the parents of your 3 & 4 year olds to check their eligibility and apply at www.rctcbc.gov.uk/childcareoffer. Applications for September starters open on 5 July 2021 (children who are 3 before 31 August 2021).

As the Childcare Offer is combined with pre-nursery FPN education parents should also apply for their education place. Signpost parents to www.rctcbc.gov.uk/schooladmissions for more information.

It can be confusing for parents as they have to apply for different things at different times so please encourage them to read the Starting School Booklet (available on the school admissions webpage) for information on what to apply for and when.

Grants

During 2020-21, Welsh Government provided funding to support you through the effects of the pandemic. We were able to offer you a range of grants to support you implement COVID safety measures, make more use of the outdoors, and maintain social bubbles. Grants offered included:

Childcare Provider grant – to support you with losses incurred due to COVID, such as closures due to positive cases, additional expenses, and significant financial hardship.

ICT Grant – to update ICT equipment, particularly vital now that most meetings are online.

Resources Grant – a range of resource packs to support use of the outdoors and maintain bubbles.

PPE Packs – essential equipment to help you keep your settings clean and your staff safe.

Feedback has been really positive:

“We are very grateful for these resources. The children enjoy discovering all the new items and playing with them!”

“Part of Christmas has arrived in my setting....thank you very much. I have very excited children today”

“After our meeting last night, I just wanted to say thank you for all you do. The PPE and funding has been a great help, the information emails are great, keep them coming. But mostly knowing you're at the end of the phone or email and will always find an answer to our questions or problems.”

Please monitor your emails and join our Facebook group to receive updates on possible further grants during 2021-2022.

Training

We offer funded training, such as Safeguarding, Food Hygiene, Paediatric First Aid, as well as CPD courses such as Leadership & Management and Managing Challenging Behaviour. These are currently online, with face to face training sessions strictly limited.

We value your feedback so please tell us if there is training that you need, and we don't currently offer.

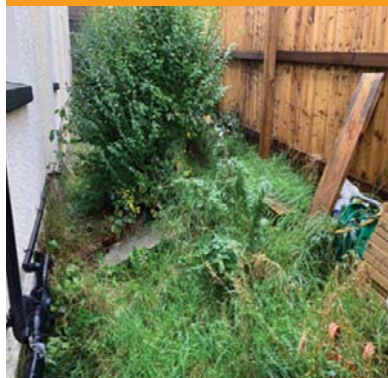
Rhys has also been delivering Childcare Offer training. More sessions will be held throughout the year so keep an eye on your emails and Facebook for upcoming dates.

RCT Childcare Offer Small Capital Grant Scheme 2020/21

We received capital funding to support settings to make adjustments to their settings to help deliver the Childcare Offer, and particularly to make more use of the outdoors and other COVID compliant measures.

31 applications were approved or partially approved in Round 2. An example of one project is below:

BEFORE:



AFTER:



Home From Home Children's Day Nursery, Porth

Contact Us ...



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www.rctcbc.gov.uk/childcareteam



Childcare Team:

childcareteam@rctcbc.gov.uk

Childcare Offer for Wales (Providers only):

ChildcareofferProviders@rctcbc.gov.uk



RCT Childcare Team

