

RCT CHILDCARE TEAM NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 04 • JULY 2022

HELLO AND WELCOME

TO THE SUMMER EDITION OF OUR NEWSLETTER.

We hope you find it useful. Have a lovely summer everyone and remember to get in touch with us for any queries, issues or support.

New member of the team

Ann Evans joined the team in June 2022, replacing Rachel Gunter who has moved to another role within the Education department. Ann has joined us from the Test, Trace, Protect team. Prior to this, Ann has worked in a range of roles within Local Government and brings a wealth of experience with her. She will be working with Rhys and Cath to administer the Childcare Offer, including parent applications, provider queries and rechecks.



Childminding Forum

A private Facebook group has been set up for childminders to exchange ideas, support and inspire each other to provide open ended play opportunities. Search for *Curious Adventures, Learning Through Play*.

If you are a childminder in RCT and wish to join please send a request to *Curious Adventures, Learning Through Play*. It is run by childminders for childminders.



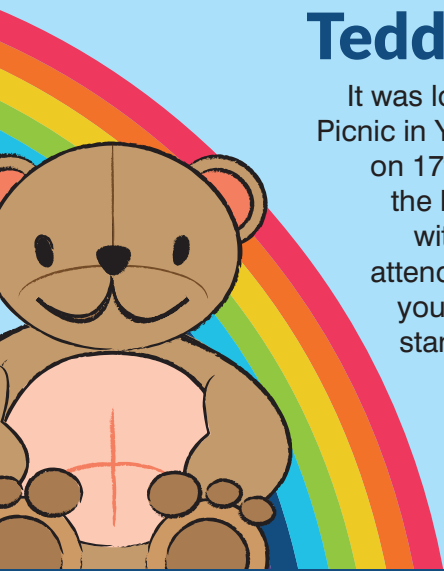
Expansion of Flying Start childcare

The phased expansion of Flying Start will start from September 2022. Childcare places will be available in commissioned Flying Start settings, but full details of the expansion in RCT are not yet available. If you are interested in applying to deliver this scheme in the future, please get in touch with flyingstartchildcare@rctcbc.gov.uk for more information.

Further information will be available in the next issue but check <https://gov.wales/phased-expansion-early-years-provision> for the latest information from Welsh Government.

Teddy Bears Picnic

It was lovely to attend the Teddy Bears Picnic in Ynysangharad Park, Pontypridd on 17th June. It's been 3 years since the last event and we were blessed with beautiful weather and record attendance. If you were there, I hope you came to say hello to us on our stand. The event runs every June, and for the first time this year, tickets were completely free. Hopefully this will continue in future years so mark it on your calendar for next year!



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



Family Information Service

FIS are currently contacting all providers whose accounts on DEWIS are dormant to reactivate, or delete, the accounts. Remember, FIS is a fabulous, FREE, way to advertise your business to parents and professionals. All our information is also emailed out via the FIS distribution list. So if your business isn't listed on the FIS database, you're missing out on parent hits on your profile but also missing important updates from us.

To register or update your account, please email fis@rctcbc.gov.uk.

Training

Our mandatory training schedule for September – November 2022 was released on 27th June.

This includes:

- Paediatric First Aid
- Safeguarding
- Manual Handling
- Managing Challenging Behaviour

Please book all training via the links advertised on our Facebook page and emails from FIS. All training is fully funded and is on a first come first served basis. Remember to let us know if you can't attend so we can offer your place to someone else.

Food Allergens and Food Safety training courses are also available on a rolling basis. If you require these, send an email to childcareteam@rctcbc.gov.uk to request your space.

If there is any training not listed that you think may be useful please let us know at childcareteam@rctcbc.gov.uk.

Remember our closed Facebook page is a great way to stay in touch with the latest news from the team and other partners.

To join, go to...

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



Childcare Offer for Wales

Applications for children who are 3 years old before 31st August 2022, and will be eligible from September, open on Monday 4th July. Parents can check their eligibility and apply at www.rctcbc.gov.uk/childcareoffer.

Please continue to promote the offer to parents and get in touch if you want any flyers to display in your setting. Now that restrictions are easing, we are also coming out to parent meetings and other public venues. If you have any events that you'd like us to attend, please get in touch.

More information on the new digital system will be available in the next issue of our newsletter.



Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

The next five year CSA has been written and once approved by Cabinet, will go out to public consultation in August 2022. This will be widely publicised on our Facebook page and also emailed to you with details of how you can submit comments. Please have a look through the report and let us know your thoughts! The CSA action plan will direct our childcare development priorities for the next five years.

Contact Us ...



01443 570048



www.rctcbc.gov.uk/childcareteam



Childcare Team:

childcareteam@rctcbc.gov.uk

Childcare Offer for Wales (Providers only):

ChildcareofferProviders@rctcbc.gov.uk



RCT Childcare Team

