



## **Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Progress Report April 2025**

**Name of Local Authority: Monmouthshire County Council**

**Name of Responsible Officer: Sue Hall, Early Years Manager**

**Date of Completion: 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

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## **GENERAL UPDATE**

In Monmouthshire, we have a preference for a mixed economy approach when it comes to meeting our statutory duties around Flying Start Childcare and Early Education, so we offer both maintained and non-maintained provision and allow parents to choose the setting that best meets their needs. By the end of the financial year 2024-25, there were 4 maintained settings, 31 non-maintained settings and 10 childminders registered to offer Flying Start childcare places. More than half of our sessional and day care providers (25 settings) are approved to offer Early Education, and we are anticipating this will increase to around 65% (an additional 3 or 4 settings) from September 2025 following procurement. Four non-maintained Early Education providers were jointly inspected by Estyn and CIW during this financial year and two of them were rated excellent for all six areas. The other two settings also received ratings of excellent for one or more areas and good for all other areas.

Take up of Early Education, Childcare Offer and Flying Start childcare is high in Monmouthshire and is still on the rise, this has resulted in an increase in demand for childcare places and the need to develop additional childcare provision in some areas of Monmouthshire.

Childcare settings have been increasingly vocal around funding rates for Flying Start, Early Education and Childcare and how this is affecting their ability to be financially viable. Several of them have expressed concerns that they won't be sustainable next year once the increases to national minimum wage and NI contributions come into effect; nevertheless, we have only awarded four sustainability grants this year.

The workforce is another barrier to developing childcare provision, as there is a shortage of suitably qualified staff. This has been one of our priorities in 2024-25, so we have produced a Careers in Childcare booklet and promotional material and have attended events and careers fairs to promote childcare. We have also been working with our four secondary schools to introduce the Level 2 CCLD course as part of their post 16 curriculum and we have a cohort of 8 students that have expressed an interest in completing this from September 2025.

During this financial year, we have delivered or facilitated 67 training opportunities for childcare practitioners across 25 different courses. These range from statutory courses such as Paediatric First Aid, Safeguarding and Manual Handling, to best practice courses including ALN Modules, Early Communication, Gestalt Language Processing, Attachment, Positive Approaches to Behaviour, Team Teach, Risk Assessment, Froebel and Curriculum for Wales. Monmouthshire have been working closely with the Autism Education Trust to develop and deliver Autism training and support for all schools and settings. During the financial year 2024-25, Making Sense of Autism training was delivered to 372 early years practitioners, and 38 out of 44 settings have accessed this whole setting training.

Small capital grants totalling £374,414 were awarded to 55 childcare providers in 2024-25 to enable them to maintain their premises and make improvements to their learning environment. We also completed our first purpose built childcare setting funded by the CC&EY Capital Scheme.

## **PROGRESS MADE AGAINST TARGETS**

The table below details the progress that has been made in 2024-25 against the CSA Action Plan that was revised in April 2024.

<b>Target</b>	<b>Why is it Required?</b>	<b>How will it be Achieved?</b>	<b>How will it be Monitored?</b>	<b>Progress 2024-25</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Develop 3 full day care or sessional care settings or extend existing provision to offer more places for two year olds.	Places for children under 5 years of age are tight in some areas of Monmouthshire and, although there are vacant sessions, it is not always possible to offer a full time place. The rollout of free childcare for all 2 year olds is likely to exacerbate this situation.	Monitor take up of places in full day care and sessional care through take up of Flying Start, Early Education and Childcare Offer, as well as regular communication with providers. Offer advice and support along with financial incentives to develop new provision or increase places.	Number of settings will be monitored through CIW monthly reports and take up of places will be monitored termly.  Development grants will be monitored through CSG quarterly reports.	One of our existing nurseries closed at the beginning of this academic year but there is a new day nursery in Caldicot that has been registered with CIW. One of our existing sessional care providers has changed their CIW registration to full day care to enable them to extend their opening hours and an existing after school club extended their CIW registration to include wrap around childcare for the school nursery.  We have continued to work with existing childcare providers so they are able to offer Flying Start childcare places. There are currently 4 maintained settings, 31 non-maintained settings and 10 childminders signed up to offer Flying Start childcare places.	September 2025

Develop an after school club in the Caldicot and Abergavenny areas or increase the number of after school places offered at existing settings.	Feedback received from parents is that there is a shortage of after school places in some parts of Caldicot and Abergavenny, particularly those that operate until at least 5.30pm to meet the needs of working parents.	Childcare Development Officer will work closely with Clybiau Plant Cymru to develop additional after school provision. Development grants will be offered as an incentive.	Number of settings will be monitored through CIW monthly reports and take up of places will be monitored termly.  Development grants will be monitored through CSG quarterly reports.	One of our out of school clubs in Abergavenny closed in the summer term, but this was replaced at the start of the autumn term. The new provider is not offering before school provision; however, the school has established a free breakfast club with before school childcare. We have also had two newly registered holiday clubs in Abergavenny.  One of the primary schools in Caldicot is in conversations with an existing out of school childcare provider and is planning to develop after school provision on site from September 2025.	September 2025
Encourage and support existing out of school clubs and any new childcare settings that are developed to register with CIW.	Parents and carers are unable to access funding to support with the cost of childcare if settings are not registered with CIW. In unregistered settings, it is difficult to ensure childcare is of a sufficient standard.	Childcare Development Officer to support existing clubs and new settings to take them through the CIW registration process. Training to be funded if this is the barrier preventing settings from registering.	Number of registered settings to be monitored through CIW monthly reports. Take up of training to be monitored through CSG quarterly progress reports. Staff qualifications to be monitored annually.	There has been no progress on encouraging existing out of school clubs to register with CIW. The main barrier is finding suitably qualified staff, as several of our after school clubs are run by Teaching Assistants, who don't have a childcare or play qualification.  The new after school club in Abergavenny has registered with CIW.	March 2027

Register 10 new childminders across Monmouthshire and support existing providers to at least maintain the current level of provision.	There is always a high turnover of childminders due to the transient nature of the job, but this was even more of an issue during the pandemic and the total number of childminders has reduced significantly. Childminders are best placed to provide childcare during atypical hours.	Work in partnership with PACEY Cymru to provide childminder briefing sessions and ongoing support through the registration process and on a campaign to recruit more childminders. Continue to offer financial support for pre-registration training and start-up grants.	Number of newly registered childminders and de-registered childminders will be monitored through CIW monthly reports.  Monitor take up of pre-registration training through monthly PACEY support logs and record number of childminder start-up grants awarded on a termly basis.	We have recruited three new childminders during this financial year; however, two childminders have closed their registration and a further five childminders have suspended their registration. Hence, the total number of childminders has actually reduced from 32 to 28.  One of our newly registered childminders offers a Welsh language provision.	March 2027
Establish a cylch meithrin in Monmouth and Chepstow so that there is Welsh medium childcare provision in each of the four clusters.	There is currently no Welsh medium pre-school provision in the Monmouth or Chepstow clusters. Lack of Welsh medium provision and distance from existing provision has been raised by parents as a reason for not accessing Welsh medium childcare.	Monmouthshire Early Years will work closely with Mudiad Meithrin to develop additional Welsh medium pre-school provision.  Offer financial incentives such as development and sustainability grants to cover start up costs and a proportion of running costs.	The number of Welsh medium childcare places is included in the Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) and this is reviewed termly.	There isn't sufficient space on the site of Ysgol Trefynwy to establish a cylch meithrin, so we have extended the offer of full time nursery places within the school for another year.  There hasn't been sufficient demand or a suitable location in Chepstow to develop a cylch meithrin.  We have attended the Usk Show and two fun days to promote Welsh medium education and childcare. We also promote Welsh language groups and activities regularly through social media.	September 2026

Extend the number of places, opening hours or services offered by our existing Welsh medium childcare settings.	There is not sufficient Welsh medium childcare provision, in particular full day care and childcare during school holidays, to meet the needs of working parents.	Monmouthshire Early Years will work closely with Mudiad Meithrin and the existing providers to extend Welsh medium childcare provision.  Development grants will be offered as an incentive to support settings to extend their provision.	The number of Welsh medium childcare places is included in the Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP), this is reviewed termly.	A seedling Welsh medium school opened in Monmouth in Sept 2024 offering full time nursery places. This has given working parents living in and around Monmouth the opportunity to access Welsh medium education.  Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni will be moving to the Deri View site from Sept 2025, this will give them the opportunity to expand their age range to include children aged under two years of age.	March 2027
Provide Welsh training and activities to enable at least 10 providers to change from English only to English with some bilingual elements.	There are a number of providers that describe themselves as English only and don't offer any bilingual elements. We are required to actively promote speaking Welsh.	Identify a suitable Welsh course, cover the cost of the training and promote with childcare providers. Produce a bank of Welsh activities for all ages to share with providers.	Attendance lists will be kept and follow up will be carried out to assess the impact this has had on settings.  Annual SASS data will be used to monitor, if it is available to the Local Authority.	We haven't held Welsh language training this financial year as demand was low. We have, however, signposted childcare providers to the Welsh language training that is offered by Cwlwm partners.  One of our newly registered childminders offers a Welsh language provision.	March 2027
Attend at least 6 events to promote childcare training opportunities and careers in childcare.	There is a lack of qualified childcare practitioners and this limits the development of additional childcare places, as well as	Produce a Careers in Childcare Booklet and share this widely through the website, social media and face-to-face meetings.	Number of events attended, social media posts and any other forms of promotion will be recorded.	Since April 2024, we have attended two meetings with job centre advisers in Monmouthshire to update them on pathways to a career in childcare and training /	Ongoing

	<p>threatening the viability of existing childcare provision.</p> <p>We need to do what we can to encourage more people to take up training in order to increase the childcare workforce.</p>	<p>Attend Careers Fairs and similar events to promote careers in childcare.</p> <p>Work with the four secondary schools to establish the Level 2 Childcare qualification as part of their post 16 curriculum.</p>	<p>Enquiries regarding childcare training or childcare job opportunities will be logged.</p>	<p>support that is available. We have also attended three career fairs arranged by the job centres, open days at three of our secondary schools and the Usk Show to promote careers in childcare and childcare training.</p> <p>We have facilitated a taster day for Year 11 students at King Henry VIII 3-19 School that had expressed an interest in childcare and, as a result, more than 8 students have indicated their intention to complete the Level 2 Childcare qualification from Sept 2025.</p> <p>We have also created a Careers in Childcare booklet and promotional materials.</p>	
<p>Continue to promote the Family Information Service and advertise the availability of financial support to assist with the cost of childcare (including Flying Start, Childcare Offer, Early Education &amp; Tax-Free Childcare).</p>	<p>According to the parental survey and consultation with stakeholders, affordability is the main barrier to accessing childcare in Monmouthshire. There are many schemes available to support with the cost of childcare.</p>	<p>The Family Information Service will continue to promote new and existing childcare and the availability of financial support for childcare through our section of the MCC website and across our social media channels.</p>	<p>The Family Information Officer produces monthly reports including details of promotional activities. Users of the FIS website complete evaluation forms.</p> <p>Take up of Flying Start, Early Education and</p>	<p>During this period, the FIS has used email and social media to advertise the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Childcare Offer, early education &amp; financial support</li> <li>• Childcare job vacancies and careers in childcare</li> </ul>	Ongoing



		Childcare Financial Support Booklet will be shared widely.	Childcare Offer are monitored termly.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awards for childcare practitioners and settings</li> <li>• Childcare places available and open days</li> <li>• Nursery and school admissions</li> <li>• Welsh medium groups and events</li> <li>• Holiday activities and active play sessions</li> <li>• Baby &amp; toddler groups</li> <li>• ABUHB antenatal support including Pregnancy Yoga class</li> <li>• Breastfeeding Peer Support</li> <li>• Health Visiting survey</li> <li>• Parenting workshops</li> <li>• Talk With Me</li> </ul>	
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## **CHILDCARE SUPPLY**

The table below shows the supply of childcare provision in Monmouthshire at the end of March 2025 compared with the previous year. This includes both registered and unregistered provision, as some out of school clubs run for under two hours and are not registered with CIW.

Type of Childcare	Child-minders	Full Day Care	Sessional Care	Out of School Care	Open Access Play	Crèches	Nannies	Total
March 2024	32	36	8	21	0	0	5	102
March 2025	28	37	7	22	0	0	6	100
Difference	-4	+1	-1	+1	0	0	+1	-2

The total number of childcare providers (excluding nannies) has reduced to 94 and this has been almost entirely due to the fall in the number of registered childminders. Despite our best efforts, we have only recruited three new childminders this year and we have seen seven existing childminders close or suspend their registration with CIW. The total number of registered childminders in Monmouthshire has decreased by more than 36% since the last full Childcare Sufficiency Assessment was carried out in March 2022.

One of our day care settings in Monmouth closed at the end of the summer term 2024 but an after school club in Monmouth extended their opening hours to provide wrap around childcare for children attending the school nursery. One of our existing providers in Caldicot opened a third setting this year and one of our sessional care providers has changed to full day care and is now offering longer sessions. Therefore, despite there being no change to the combined number of full day care and sessional care providers, there are more childcare places available and there is the opportunity to access longer hours in some areas than previously.

We have lost a longstanding out of school club this year that offered before and after school childcare, but an after school club has been developed to replace it, and the school is now offering a breakfast club with a childcare element. We have also seen two newly registered holiday clubs. There is some open access play provision but it is ad hoc or runs under two hours a day, so it is not required to register with CIW.

Supply of Welsh medium childcare provision is low as we only have two cylch meithrin settings, one after school club and one childminder who offer Welsh language childcare provision; there are also three LA maintained Meithrin in Welsh medium schools offering Early Education.

## **CHILDCARE DEMAND**

Demand for childcare is assessed based on a combination of enquiries to the Family Information Service, take up of places and feedback from childcare providers. The majority of enquiries to the Family Information Service have been for general information and advice or relate to funding that is available to cover the cost of childcare. Since the expansion of Flying Start childcare, there has been an influx of enquiries from parents wanting to know if they are eligible, when it will be rolled out in their area and how they can access this funding. It is rare for us to receive an enquiry from a parent or carer that is struggling to find any suitable childcare in their area.

Despite the fact that the birth rate is dropping in Monmouthshire, take up of Early Education places increases slightly every year and approximately 96% of eligible children accessed Early Education in the autumn term 2024. Since the introduction of the Childcare Offer, there has been a reduction in the number of children accessing their Early Education at a school nursery and for each term of 2024-25, around 60% of children accessed their Early Education with a non-maintained provider rather than an LA maintained school nursery. There was also a significant increase in the take up of the Childcare Offer in 2024-25.

Flying Start has expanded further during 2024-25 and we now have 4 maintained settings, 31 non-maintained settings and 10 childminders registered with Flying Start to offer funded childcare places. One of our maintained Flying Start childcare settings has moved to the site of the new King Henry VIII 3-19 school in Abergavenny; this has enabled them to extend the length of their sessions to coincide with the school day and they have increased their age range, so they are able to offer wrap around childcare for children attending the school nursery. This should help meet demand, in addition to enhancing transition from Flying Start childcare to school nursery.

We opened a Welsh medium seedling school in Monmouth in September 2024 that includes a Meithrin. There is currently no room on site to develop a cylch meithrin, so children attending the school meithrin are able to access full days rather than sessional care. There has been an increase in demand for Welsh medium early education and childcare provision, in the spring term 2025 there were 82 children accessing Welsh medium early education in school nurseries, which is an increase of more than 20% on the previous year. Despite the increase, this number remains relatively low compared with neighbouring local authorities.

The number of children accessing early education and childcare identified with additional learning needs (ALN) or emerging needs has increased over the last five years. We don't have specialist provision in Monmouthshire for Early Years children, instead we have focussed on equipping all settings to meet the needs of individual children at their setting. We have an extensive ALN training package and a team of three ALN Advisors that facilitate person centred meetings for individual children and support providers to implement appropriate interventions.

## **SUMMARY**

We have a good spread of different types of childcare across Monmouthshire; however, despite the fact that we are recruiting a small number of childminders each year and developing additional provision, we are also losing existing provision and the total number of childcare providers is on a downward trend.

The introduction of the Childcare Offer resulted in an increase in demand for wrap around childcare places and a preference for non-maintained provision rather than maintained nursery, where the hours are fixed and there is less flexibility for working parents / carers. The expansion of Flying Start childcare has further increased demand for early years childcare places. Although there are currently sufficient places in most areas of Monmouthshire, we are seeing instances where children are unable to access their full entitlement for Early Education if they opt for a non-maintained setting. In response to this, we are hoping to increase the number of approved Early Education and Flying Start childcare providers in our next procurement round.

Every primary school in Monmouthshire apart from one has access to before school care on site and they are all are run by school staff prior to the commencement of the free breakfast club. Almost two thirds of all primary schools also have an after school club on site or arrangements with a provider in the area to collect from their school. There is limited after school provision in the Caldicot area but we have been working closely with one school to develop after school provision on site and it is looking likely that this will commence in September 2025. There are still four after school clubs that are not registered with CIW and can only run for under two hours. This is an issue for some working families as this isn't always long enough and they are unable to use childcare vouchers or tax-free childcare at unregistered provision. We have seen an increase in the number of holiday clubs registered with CIW to provide childcare for primary school aged children. Nevertheless, demand for registered childcare during school holidays tends to be low, as families opt for the MonGames or SHEP and open access play provision, as this is much cheaper or even free of charge.

We have been working closely with Pacey Wales to promote childminding as a career and to offer support to childminders whilst they are going through training and the registration process. As a result, we have seen three individuals complete their training and register with CIW this year. Unfortunately, there is still an issue with retention of existing childminders and the number of registered childminders in Monmouthshire has actually reduced by 4 to 28 and is lower than it has been for more than 20 years. This is an area of concern, particularly as they are the only childcare providers that can realistically offer flexible childcare to meet the needs of shift workers or those who work atypical hours.

We have been unable to make much progress in relation to increasing the supply of registered Welsh Medium childcare in Monmouthshire, although we do now have a registered childminder that offers Welsh medium provision and take up of Welsh medium early education and childcare at existing settings has increased. There is still a long way to go to meet the target in our Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) of having a cylch meithrin in each of the five main areas of Monmouthshire, as we currently only have two cylch meithrin. We are still unable to open a cylch meithrin on the site of the Welsh medium seedling school in Monmouth as the planned building work didn't go ahead. We are working closely with Mudiad Meithrin and WEF to identify a way forward, as there is a need for a cylch Meithrin to feed the school and to provide wrap around childcare for the school nursery. We are also working with the WESP Promotion Subgroup to raise the profile of Welsh medium education and promote the benefits of being bilingual.

The lack of qualified childcare staff continues to be an issue that prevents us from developing additional childcare places. Some settings aren't working to their full capacity or aren't able to expand, as they can't recruit suitably qualified staff in order to meet the ratios required to comply with the CIW National Minimum Standards for Childcare. The situation has improved slightly since the change to regulations that allows settings to include a percentage of their staff that are working towards qualifications within their ratios. Nevertheless, we aren't seeing large numbers of young people joining the workforce, so we need to do more to promote careers in childcare.

The main barrier that prevents families from accessing childcare continues to be the cost of childcare. If a family doesn't live in a Flying Start area and both parents aren't working, the only financial support they can access is 10 hours of early education a week term time only from the term following their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

Taking all of this into account, priorities for the upcoming year have barely changed and are as follows:

- *Increase the number of childcare places available for children under five years of age;*
- *Develop out of school provision, particularly in the Caldicot and Abergavenny areas;*
- *Support existing unregistered after school clubs and encourage them to register with CIW;*
- *Continue to recruit and retain childminders;*
- *Develop Welsh medium childcare provision in Monmouth and Chepstow;*
- *Continue to promote the benefits of bilingualism and support Welsh medium childcare providers to expand their provision;*
- *Promote careers in childcare to increase the childcare workforce;*
- *Continue to promote the Family Information Service and financial schemes to help with the cost of childcare including the Childcare Offer, Early Education, Flying Start Childcare and Tax-Free Childcare.*

## **REVISED ACTION PLAN**

<b>Target</b>	<b>Why is it Required?</b>	<b>How will it be Achieved?</b>	<b>How will it be Monitored?</b>	<b>Timescale</b>
Develop 3 full day care or sessional care settings or extend existing provision to offer more places for children under five years of age.	<p>Places for children under five years of age are tight in some areas of Monmouthshire and, although there are vacant sessions, it is not always possible to offer a full time place.</p> <p>The rollout of free childcare for all two year olds is likely to exacerbate this situation.</p>	<p>Monitor take up of places in full day care and sessional care through take up of Flying Start, Early Education and Childcare Offer, as well as regular communication with providers.</p> <p>Offer advice and support along with financial incentives to develop new provision or increase places.</p>	<p>Number of settings will be monitored through CIW monthly reports and take up of places will be monitored termly.</p> <p>Development grants will be monitored through CSG quarterly reports.</p>	March 2027
Develop an after school club in the Caldicot and Abergavenny areas or increase the number of after school places offered at existing settings.	<p>Feedback received from parents is that there is a shortage of after school places in some parts of Caldicot and Abergavenny, particularly those that operate until at least 5.30pm to meet the needs of working parents.</p>	<p>Childcare Development Officer will work closely with Clybiau Plant Cymru to develop additional after school provision.</p> <p>Development grants will be offered as an incentive.</p>	<p>Number of settings will be monitored through CIW monthly reports and take up of places will be monitored termly.</p> <p>Development grants will be monitored through CSG quarterly reports.</p>	September 2026
Encourage and support existing out of school clubs and any new childcare settings that are developed to register with CIW.	<p>Parents and carers are unable to access funding to support with the cost of childcare if settings are not registered with CIW.</p> <p>In unregistered settings, it is difficult to ensure childcare is of a sufficient standard.</p>	<p>Childcare Development Officer to support existing clubs and new settings to take them through the CIW registration process.</p> <p>Training to be funded if this is the barrier preventing settings from registering.</p>	<p>Number of registered settings to be monitored through CIW monthly reports.</p> <p>Take up of training to be monitored through CSG quarterly progress reports.</p> <p>Staff qualifications to be monitored annually.</p>	March 2027

Register 10 new childminders across Monmouthshire and support existing providers to at least maintain the current level of provision.	<p>There is always a high turnover of childminders due to the transient nature of the job, but this was even more of an issue during the pandemic and the total number of childminders has reduced significantly in the last five years.</p> <p>Childminders are best placed to provide childcare during atypical hours.</p>	<p>Work in partnership with PACEY Cymru to provide childminder briefing sessions and ongoing support through the registration process and on a campaign to recruit more childminders.</p> <p>Continue to offer financial support for pre-registration training and start-up grants.</p>	<p>Number of newly registered childminders and de-registered childminders will be monitored through CIW monthly reports.</p> <p>Monitor take up of pre-registration training through monthly PACEY support logs and record number of childminder start-up grants awarded on a termly basis.</p>	March 2027
Establish a cylch meithrin in Monmouth and Chepstow so that there is Welsh medium childcare provision in each of the four clusters.	<p>There is currently no Welsh medium pre-school provision in the Monmouth or Chepstow clusters.</p> <p>Lack of Welsh medium provision and distance from existing provision has been raised by parents as a reason for not accessing Welsh medium childcare.</p>	<p>Monmouthshire Early Years will work closely with Mudiad Meithrin to develop additional Welsh medium pre-school provision.</p> <p>Offer financial incentives such as development and sustainability grants to cover start-up costs and a proportion of running costs.</p>	The number of Welsh medium childcare places is included in the Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) and this is reviewed termly.	September 2026
Extend the number of places, opening hours or services offered by our existing Welsh medium childcare settings.	There is not sufficient Welsh medium childcare provision, in particular full day care and childcare during school holidays, to meet the needs of working parents.	<p>Monmouthshire Early Years will work closely with Mudiad Meithrin and the existing providers to extend Welsh medium childcare provision.</p> <p>Development grants will be offered as an incentive to support settings to extend their provision.</p>	The number of Welsh medium childcare places is included in the Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP), this is reviewed termly.	March 2027

Attend at least 6 events to promote childcare training opportunities and careers in childcare.	<p>There is a lack of qualified childcare practitioners and this limits the development of additional childcare places, as well as threatening the viability of existing childcare provision.</p> <p>We need to do what we can to encourage more people to take up training in order to increase the childcare workforce.</p>	<p>Produce and publicise a Careers in Childcare Booklet and share this widely through the website, social media and face-to-face meetings.</p> <p>Attend Careers Fairs and similar events to promote careers in childcare.</p> <p>Work with the four secondary schools to establish the Level 2 Childcare qualification as part of their post 16 curriculum.</p>	<p>Number of events attended, social media posts and any other forms of promotion will be recorded.</p> <p>Enquiries regarding childcare training or childcare job opportunities will be logged.</p> <p>Number of students enrolling on the Level 2 Childcare course will be recorded.</p>	Ongoing
Continue to promote the Family Information Service and advertise the availability of financial support to assist with the cost of childcare (including Flying Start, Childcare Offer, Early Education & Tax-Free Childcare).	<p>According to the parental survey and consultation with stakeholders, affordability is the main barrier to accessing childcare in Monmouthshire.</p> <p>There are many schemes available to support with the cost of childcare.</p>	<p>The Family Information Service will continue to promote new and existing childcare and the availability of financial support for childcare through our section of the MCC website and across our social media channels.</p> <p>Childcare Financial Support Booklet will be shared widely.</p>	<p>The Family Information Officer produces monthly reports including details of promotional activities. Users of the FIS website complete evaluation forms.</p> <p>Take up of Flying Start, Early Education and Childcare Offer are monitored termly.</p>	Ongoing



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