



Careers in Childcare



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Working in Childcare, Play or Early Years



If you're passionate about working with children and love to see them thrive, a career in childcare could be perfect for you.

High quality childcare and play experiences are vital for young children to be given the opportunity to have the best possible start in life.

Childcare staff play a vital role in supporting children's development. Through research we know that good quality childcare, especially in a child's early years, has a positive impact on a child's outcomes.

Whether you're thinking about what to do when you finish school, or you're already working in the childcare sector or even looking to change your career, Monmouthshire Early Years and Childcare Team can offer you advice and guidance on childcare training opportunities and careers in the sector.

Disclosure and Barring Check (DBS)

The law stipulates that you must complete a DBS before you start working or volunteering with children.

The purpose of the DBS is to prevent unsuitable people working with children. Anyone on the barred list is banned by law from working in childcare.

To find out more information, go to <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/disclosure-and-barring-service>



Becoming a Childminder

Would you like a career which works with children and is flexible? If the answer is yes, becoming a childminder might be the right choice for you.

Childminding can be a rewarding career that suits many different lifestyles. As a childminder you will be your own boss, work from your own home and can organise your work to suit both yourself and the families you work with.

Before becoming a childminder in Monmouthshire, you will need to understand all the requirements you must meet.



Contact Coram PACEY Cymru on 02920 351407 or email paceycymru@pacey.org.uk who will help you to start the process. You can also attend a briefing session and complete online home-based childcare courses with Coram PACEY Cymru.

Monmouthshire Early Years and Childcare Hub may be able to reimburse you for part or all of the cost of the training courses upon childminder registration. Please keep any receipts.

By law, you are required to register your childminding service with the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW). They will inspect your home and individuals living with you (over the age of 16). CIW can be contacted on 0300 062 8757 or by visiting <https://www.careinspectorate.wales>



Monmouthshire Early Years and Childcare Hub may be able to reimburse you for a Coram PACEY Quality Start start up pack, which includes your first year's membership with Coram PACEY and public liability insurance. Contact childcare@monmouthshire.gov.uk for details.

Monmouthshire Early Years and Childcare Hub can also support you as you work as a childminder such as freely advertising your services to Monmouthshire families, providing access to relevant training and facilitating meet ups with other local childminders.

Registering as a Nanny

Home-based childcare practitioners working in the child's own home – or nannies – do not currently have to register with the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) but may register voluntarily under the Voluntary Approval Scheme. It may be that home-based childcare can meet the needs of some working families, such as those who do shift work or need overnight childcare.

This Voluntary Approval Scheme accredits nannies/home-based childcare practitioners to work with children aged 0-7 years, offering parents greater confidence employing a nanny and also the opportunity to claim back some of the childcare costs (if eligible) through Tax-Free Childcare.



The scheme verifies that you are over 18 years of age, hold a current paediatric first aid certificate, have undergone an enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check and have a qualification on the Social Care Wales list of required qualifications to work within the early years and childcare sector.

The required qualifications are either the Diploma in Children's Care, Learning and Development (CCLD) levels 3, 4 or 5 or the Introduction to Home-based Childcare.

For more information, including frequently asked questions about the Voluntary Approval Scheme visit careinspectorate.wales/providing-a-care-service/voluntary-approval-scheme

Childcare Qualifications

To work in childcare, you will need to work towards a relevant qualification.

Information about the qualifications you need for childcare are available at socialcare.wales/qualifications-funding/qualification-framework

or for the relevant play qualification go to play.wales/playwork/required-qualifications/



Funding opportunities are available through Welsh Government programmes so it's worth chatting to your chosen training provider.

For more information please visit: workingwales.gov.wales/change-your-story/work-in-childcare-play-and-early-years

In addition to your qualifications, further training and continuing professional development is required and will help to keep you up to date with changes in the early years and childcare sector. Training such as paediatric first aid and safeguarding is mandatory and will need to be undertaken every 2/3 years.



Volunteering and working in a Childcare Setting

The Monmouthshire Early Years and Childcare Hub welcome suitable volunteers who wish to pursue a career in childcare, we can provide you with opportunities to gain the skills and experience you will need.

If you are interested in volunteering in a childcare setting, they will be required to complete the necessary DBS check.

Contact childcare@monmouthshire.gov.uk for more information.

If you choose to work in a childcare setting, you will have the opportunity to complete relevant childcare qualifications.

Mentors will visit you at the setting to assess your ability and skills and support you as you progress in your training.

There is funding towards the cost of childcare training; however, this may depend on the number of paid hours you are employed at the setting.



Careers Wales can help you to plan your career, prepare to get a job, and find and apply for the right apprenticeships, courses, and training. Visit the careerswales.gov.uk for further details.

Training Opportunities

The Monmouthshire Early Years and Childcare Hub provide free and subsidised training for current and trainee childcare providers. Some of our training courses include:



First Aid:

It is a requirement for all childcare providers to have a paediatric first aid qualification, that needs to be renewed every 3 years. We run first aid training courses on a rolling basis, so get in touch to find out when the next course is available.

Safeguarding:

Safeguarding is about protecting children and adults from abuse or neglect and educating those around them to recognise the signs and dangers.

The level of safeguarding training required will depend on your childcare responsibilities.

Your safeguarding qualification will need to be renewed every 2/3 years.



Food safety, manual handling, autism, language and communication, IT, behaviour management, additional learning needs and welsh are examples of other training courses that might be available.

For more information, please email childcare@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Setting Up A Childcare Business

If you are thinking of opening a new childcare setting, you should research childcare supply in your area to ensure that your business will be viable, sustainable and that you are meeting the local needs of your community.

Every 5 years the Welsh Government require every local authority across Wales to undertake a Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA).

Read Monmouthshire's Latest Childcare Sufficiency Assessment at monmouthshire.gov.uk/childcare-sufficiency-assessment/



As a childcare business in Monmouthshire, you may be able to:

Register as a Flying Start provider and get support from the Flying Start team;

Register as a Childcare Offer provider and receive funding from the Welsh Government;

Register as an early years education provider and be supported by MCC, the EAS and Estyn;

Apply for funding and grants that may be available;

Advertise your business, spaces available and job vacancies at no cost through the Early Years and Childcare Hub;

Access Monmouthshire's childcare support network



Pursue your childcare career now and get in touch with:

Monmouthshire Early Years and Childcare Hub

Tel: 01633 644527

Email: childcare@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Facebook:
facebook.com/monchildcare