

CWLWM NEWSLETTER – WINTER TERM 2020



Welcome to the Cwlwm Winter Term Newsletter where you will find the latest useful information for the early years, childcare and play sector.

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# 1 Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines for Childcare Settings (2019)

Public Health Wales (PHW) have recently reviewed and updated the Infection, Prevention and Control (IP&C) guidelines for childcare settings (0-5 years) in Wales.

The importance of these guidelines is highlighted in the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Childcare: Standard 10.1 *The good health of children is promoted and positive steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection with appropriate measures taken in cases of illness*

After a period of consultation with relevant organisations, the reviewed guidelines now contain up-to-date best practice guidance in relation to the following Infection Prevention and Control practice for all Childcare Settings (0-5 years) in Wales:

- Infection risk and risk assessment
- Chain of infection
- Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs):
  - » Hand Hygiene
  - » Respiratory and Cough Hygiene
  - » Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
  - » Cleaning of the Environment
  - » Equipment cleanliness
  - » Dealing with spillages of blood and body fluids
  - » Management of Waste
  - » Linen/Laundry
- Toilet, potty and nappy changing
- Food and Drinking Water Hygiene
- Outbreak Management
- Farm Visits



The bilingual guidelines, audit tool and example templates for childcare settings are now available on the PHW Healthcare Associated Infection & Antimicrobial Resistance Programme website:

<p><b>Who should read this leaflet?</b> This leaflet is for anyone who washes their friend's or relative's clothing at home.</p> <p><b>Is there a risk of infection to myself or my family if I take clothing home from a hospital or care home?</b> The risk of infection to you and your family is low, but the information in this leaflet will help you handle the clothes safely.</p> <p><b>Who should I ask if I need extra advice on how to wash the clothes at home?</b> The staff at the ward or care home will tell you the main things you need to do, such as washing your hands or wearing gloves. They will explain this to you before you take any items home.</p> <p><b>How will I carry the clothing home?</b> Staff will put the clothing in a plastic bag which they will tie securely to stop anything leaking. You should not be able to see what is in the bag from the outside, but you may want to bring another plastic bag to put the clothing inside. If you do this, make sure there are no other items in the bag, for example food.</p> <p><b>What if my friend or relative has an infection and I have been given their clothing to take home?</b> In this situation staff may give you extra advice, for example they might tell you to use a higher washing temperature than you would normally.</p> <p><b>Is there ever a situation when I should not take clothing home?</b> In very rare circumstances, such as if the clothing is very dirty, staff may recommend that you use the laundry service in the hospital or care home, if this is available. Staff will explain this to you.</p>	<p><b>How should I handle clothing I take home?</b></p> <p><b>Step 1 – Take the items home in the tied plastic bag that the staff have provided.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wash the clothing as soon as possible.</li> <li>The clothing may have been put in a special laundry bag which has a dissolvable strip and can be put directly into the washing machine. There are special washing instructions for this situation and staff will explain this to you.</li> </ul> <p><b>Step 2 – Putting the items into the washing machine.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wash the clothing separately from your other home laundry.</li> </ul> <p><b>Items in laundry bag with dissolvable strip</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the items have been placed in a laundry bag with a dissolvable strip, put the bag directly into the washing machine.</li> <li>The bag's soluble tape and seam will dissolve during the washing cycle. For this to happen the hotter the temperature the better, however the water-soluble bag will open automatically at any temperature.</li> <li>At the end of the washing cycle remove the bag and put it in your usual household bin.</li> </ul> <p><b>Normal laundry</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove the items from the bag and put them directly into the washing machine, if possible without sorting them. If you have to sort the clothes wear rubber gloves and wash these</li> </ul>	<p>and your hands with soap and warm water afterwards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check the washing instructions on the labels in the clothing carefully.</li> <li>Always hold the clothing away from you to avoid spreading germs onto your clothes.</li> <li>Do not shake the clothing as this may cause germs to spread.</li> <li>Do not overload your washing machine as this will not wash the clothes as well.</li> </ul> <p><b>After putting the laundry into the washing machine</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Throw away the plastic bag you used to carry the clothing home and put it into your usual household bin.</li> <li>Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and warm water.</li> <li>Clean the area around your washing machine such as the door of the machine and worktops with your usual kitchen cleaner.</li> </ul> <p><b>Step 3 – Wash the clothing using the highest temperature you can and following the washing instructions.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use your normal washing powder or detergent and follow the instructions on the correct amount to use.</li> </ul> <p><b>Step 4 – Tumble-dry the clothes (if possible) following the washing instructions.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If you cannot tumble-dry the items, dry them in the way you would normally, for example on a washing line or clothes horse.</li> </ul>
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<https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/harp/infection-prevention-and-control/guidance/>



In late 2018, a small working group in Public Health Wales (PHW) Health Protection Team (HPT) convened to review their IP&C guidelines for Childcare Settings in Wales (2014). Their ultimate aim was to ensure that those involved with the provision of care in all childcare settings (0-5 years) in Wales had access to consistent, up-to-date and standardised policies/guidelines to support their IP&C practices.

Through collaborative working with Health Protection Scotland (HPS), who had already completed a comprehensive review of their 'IP&C in Childcare Settings (Day Care and Childminding Settings)' in 2018 the PHW working group were fortunate to obtain full consent from HPS to adapt their guidance for use in Wales.

For any queries relating to the revised guidelines or other IP&C related issue, please contact the HPT All Wales Acute Response (AWARe) Team on 0300 003 0032 or email [AWARe@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:AWARe@wales.nhs.uk)

## 2 All Wales Induction Framework for early years and childcare

### The All Wales Induction Framework for early years and childcare

was developed to help boost the confidence and skills of early years and childcare workers. The framework was launched in October 2018 by Huw Irranca-Davies AM, the then Minister for Children, Older People and Social Care.



Gofal Cymdeithasol Cymru  
Social Care Wales

The induction framework aims to make sure that workers in the sector have the skills, knowledge and confidence they need to carry out their role competently.

#### It will help workers to:

- understand their role – what is required of them and what support they can expect
- get to know their work environment and the information they need to do their job well
- get to know their colleagues and develop good working relationships
- understand how they can best support those they will be working with.

#### What does it include?

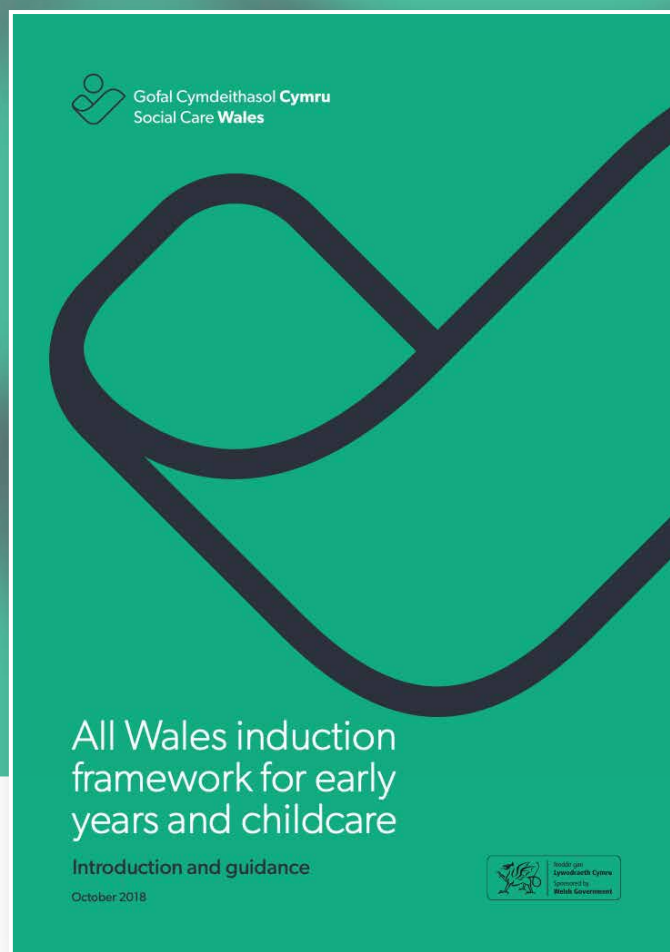
There are 5 sections in the induction framework, with a workbook and progress log to support completion:

- Principles and values
- Health, well-being, learning and development
- Professional practice as an early years and childcare worker
- Safeguarding children
- Health and safety in children's care, learning, development and play

## How can it be used?

The framework will support managers to provide effective induction by providing a clear process and tool to assess your workers' skills, knowledge and experience, and identify their strengths and development needs. The framework will also be advantageous as a tool for existing staff in relation to their continuing Professional Development (CPD) training.

For those who are not in an employed role (for example, registered childminders), the induction framework is useful to support self-reflection on entry to the sector or following a change of role.





### 3 Voluntary Approval Scheme



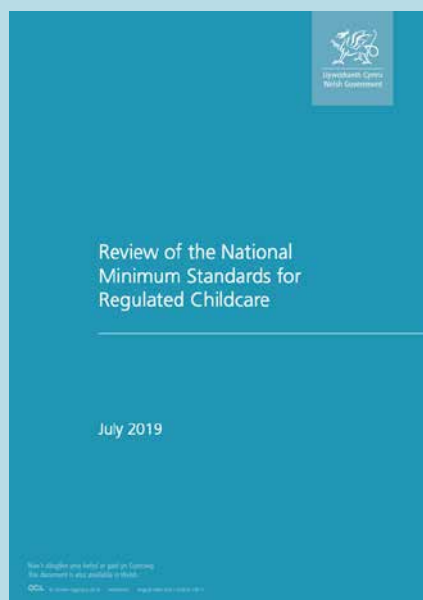
The Welsh Government is currently drafting a new scheme to replace the existing 'Childcare at home Voluntary Approval Scheme'. Amongst other things, inclusion within the scheme enables parents/carers using an approved nanny, to receive payments for the childcare the nanny provides through a range of UK Government tax and benefits concessions such as Tax Credits, Universal Credit and Tax-Free Childcare. Once the scheme has been drafted, the Welsh Government intend to share the draft scheme with key stakeholders, including CWLWM. It is important to CIW that they seek the views of the sector before any new scheme is finalised and published.

Once the scheme has been finalised it will need to be referenced in UK Legislation to replace the existing Nanny Approval Scheme and hopefully this will be possible in 2020.

## 4 National Minimum Standards Review – next steps

The Welsh Government has developed an action plan to take forward the recommendations arising from the NMS review published earlier this year. The review report can be found here:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-07/review-of-the-national-minimum-standards-for-regulated-childcare.pdf>



Discussions have been held with key stakeholders from the childcare and play sector, including CWLWM partners and local authority childcare leads, to share ideas about which actions should be prioritised and who should be involved in taking them forward.

Future newsletters will include updates on progress.



## 5 Childcare Offer

In September 2019, around 11,000 children were accessing the Offer and there were more than 2,000 providers delivering the Offer. Of these children, 29% were taking up the Offer in Welsh medium or bi-lingual settings.

On 14<sup>th</sup> October, revised Guidance [<https://gov.wales/childcare-offer-wales-guidance-local-authorities>] and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) were issued to local authorities to assist with the delivery of Offer.

The independent evaluation of year 2 (2018-19) of the Childcare Offer is due to be published on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

The review of the rate for the Childcare Offer has begun with workshops having taken place with CWLWM and some of their members. It is anticipated that there will be further regional workshops in the New Year with childcare providers to ensure the views of all provider types from around the country are captured. The review will also take into account the data captured in the annual SASS CIW data collection exercise planned for the New Year. The review will conclude around Spring/Summer 2020.

The Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services has also commissioned a review of the implications of extending the Offer to parents in training and education which is expected to report during 2020.





## 6 WeCare Wales

WeCare Wales, the attraction and recruitment campaign for social care and early years, continues to gain momentum now 10 months since launch. WeCare Wales week was held during September and each of the seven regions in Wales showcased their work. This included career events and activities taking place across Wales all aimed to help raise the profile of social care and early years. During November and December the campaign focused on aiming to draw more males into the workforce and highlight the importance of the Welsh language. Coming in March will see a wide range of activity focussed on 'careers in care' and aiming to address a perception of roles in care being 'just a job'. If you would like to watch the videos or find out more please visit

[www.wecare.wales](http://www.wecare.wales)



## **7 Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill**

It is hoped that 2020 will be the year when landmark legislation to end the physical punishment of children will be passed in Wales. If the Children (Abolition of Defence of Reasonable Punishment) (Wales) Bill is successful, Wales will join more than 55 nations across the world who have already taken steps to end the physical punishment of children. The Bill builds on the Welsh Government's commitment to children's rights under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

If the Bill is passed by the National Assembly for Wales, and it becomes law, parents and other adults acting in a parental capacity will no longer be able to legally physically punish children in Wales. The Bill will do this by abolishing the common law defence of reasonable punishment so that any adult acting in a parental capacity cannot use it as a defence if accused of assault or battery against a child.

There will be a two year period before the law comes into force. In this period, there will be an awareness-raising campaign to inform the public and professionals about the change in law, and Welsh Government will work with organisations who will be involved in implementing the law change.

The Bill is part of a much wider package of support for children and their parents, including the Parenting. Give It Time campaign, which is designed to help parents do the best job they can, providing positive parenting tips and information. This is in addition to a range of services to promote positive parenting, delivered through health visiting, Flying Start, Families First and the third sector.

Removing the defence of reasonable punishment will bring clarity for parents and professionals alike and send a clear message that physically punishing children is not acceptable in Wales.



## 8 Wales Safeguarding Guidelines

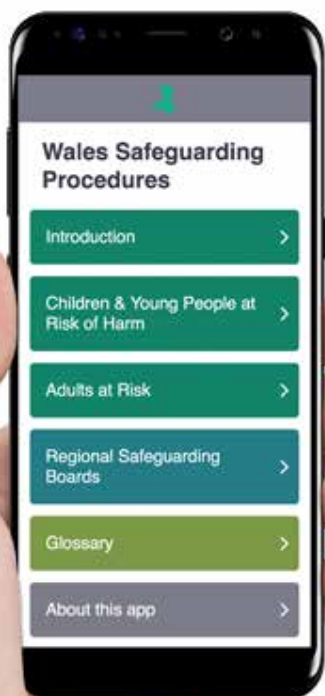
Wales has become the first country to introduce a single set of safeguarding guidelines to help protect children and adults at risk via a mobile app with the launch of the new Wales Safeguarding Procedures.

More than 400 people attended the Wales Safeguarding Procedures launch events in Cardiff and Rhyl during National Safeguarding Week in November.



The events saw Deputy Minister for Health and Social Care Julie Morgan AM introduce the Procedures. While Emeritus Professor Jan Howarth, who led on their development, outlined the aims and principles that run throughout.

Gwent and Cardiff and the Vale Regional Safeguarding Boards have since become the first in Wales to formally adopt the Procedures, meaning they are already being used by thousands of practitioners.



All other Regional Safeguarding Boards are currently finalising their own timetables for adoption.

The Wales Safeguarding Procedures have been published digitally and so are available to anyone via a mobile app and dedicated website. The app has already been downloaded by more than 4000 practitioners across Wales.

You can download it now via the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. Alternatively you can read the Wales Safeguarding Procedures online at [www.safeguarding.wales](http://www.safeguarding.wales) and [www.diogelu.cymru](http://www.diogelu.cymru)

## 9 Childcare Business Support Grant Scheme

A pilot business support grant scheme was launched in September 2019. It is part a suite of the Welsh Government childcare business support measures to facilitate the creation of additional flexible childcare places throughout Wales.

**There are two separate grants under the scheme:**

- **The Childcare Grant** - to encourage new childminders into the sector. The grant will offer some financial assistance to help with some of the costs associated with starting a childminding business;
- **The New Employees Grant** - to encourage the creation of new jobs across the childcare sector. The grant offers support for salaries and overheads whilst additional childcare spaces are filled.

The Childcare Grant is open to applications until 31 March 2020 (Childcare Start-Up Grant) and 31st August 2020 (New Employees Grant), funds permitting.

Since the launch, there has been a healthy interest and take-up of both grants.

For example, a nursery applied for the New Employees Grant to employ a practitioner to provide one-to-one care and support for 16 hours per week for a child with additional learning needs. The dad of the child wrote a letter in support of the nursery's application detailing the positive effect the grant will have for his family. At the end of the grant period, a few case studies will be produced to showcase its use and impact.

Following concerns about the tight timeline to claim the Childcare Grant, Business Wales have revised the guidance to allow for applications to be received by 20 March 2020 and claimed by the 11 December 2020.

To apply for the grants, contact Business Wales Helpline on 03000 603000.

## 10 CAMAU – Welsh language Learning for the Early Years, Childcare and Playwork Sector

The 'Camau' project is funded by the National Centre for Learning Welsh and provides free 20 hour Welsh language courses for practitioners in the childcare, early years and play sector. The courses are available at different levels of language proficiency and in all parts of Wales.

Since the launch of the project at this year's National Urdd Eisteddfod in Cardiff the project has progressed well. 8 courses have now been completed and 24 are nearing completion. By the time the courses finish, 275 practitioners will have learned Welsh. With more courses planned for the New Year the project is on course to reach 350, which is the target set for us by the Ganolfan. Feedback from those who have completed courses has been very positive and Camau would like to thank the tutors employed by Coleg Cambria and the University of Wales Trinity Saint David for all their hard work. They would also like to thank Cwlwm partners for their ever-willing co-operation.





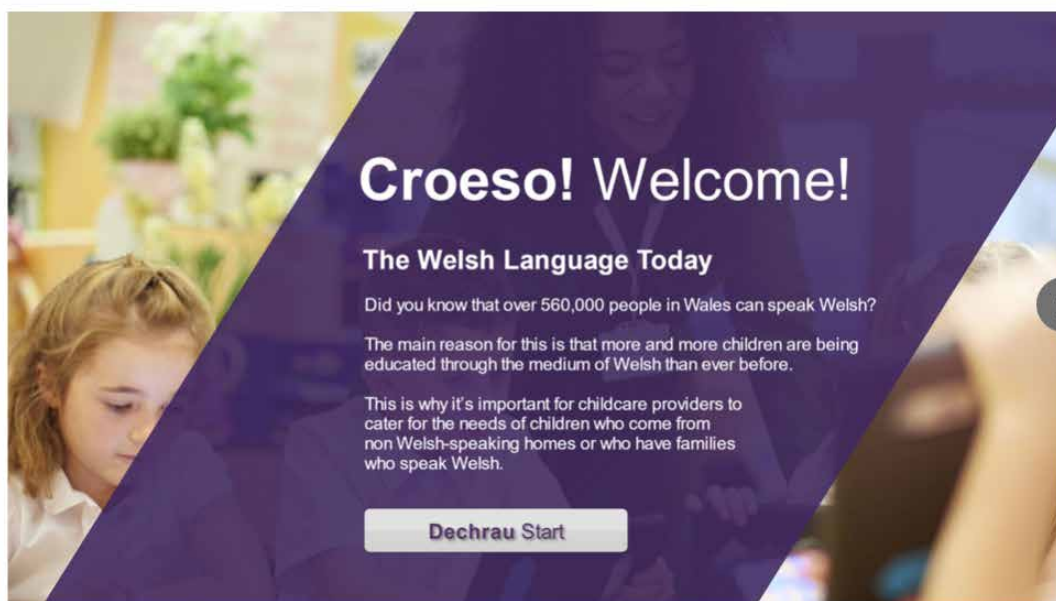
To date most courses have been held in the evenings and at Entry level. To encourage more daytime attendance a block of 4 x day courses, 5 hours a day at Entry level - one in north Wales and the other in the south - have been organized for the new year with a sum of £10 per hour available to pay for supply staff. This is a great opportunity therefore to learn some basic Welsh in a very short period of time. Please contact 'Camau' for further details -

<https://learnwelsh.cymru/work-welsh/camau/>



Finally, Camau would like to remind everyone that the on-line Information about Welsh course is available on the Centre's website, which contains very interesting information about the advantages of bilingualism, Welsh-medium education, the Welsh language today and the history of the language. Please sign up for free to learn more about the Welsh language and how it's going from strength to strength -

<https://learnwelsh.cymru/work-welsh/work-welsh-courses/information-about-the-welsh-language/>



## 11 CIW has gone online for childcare and play!



In January 2020, Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) went online for childcare and play providers, which means registered providers must carry out all of their business with the inspectorate online -

<https://careinspectorate.wales/online-services>



As well as being able to apply to submit variations and notifications, registered providers are using the online system to complete and submit their Self-Assessment of Service Statement (SASS), which closes 4 February 2020.

The system is simply called “CIW Online”. You can access this directly or through a dedicated portal area of CIW’s website.

By the end of February 2020 new providers will also be able to create an account and submit an application for registration through CIW Online.

### Benefits of CIW Online

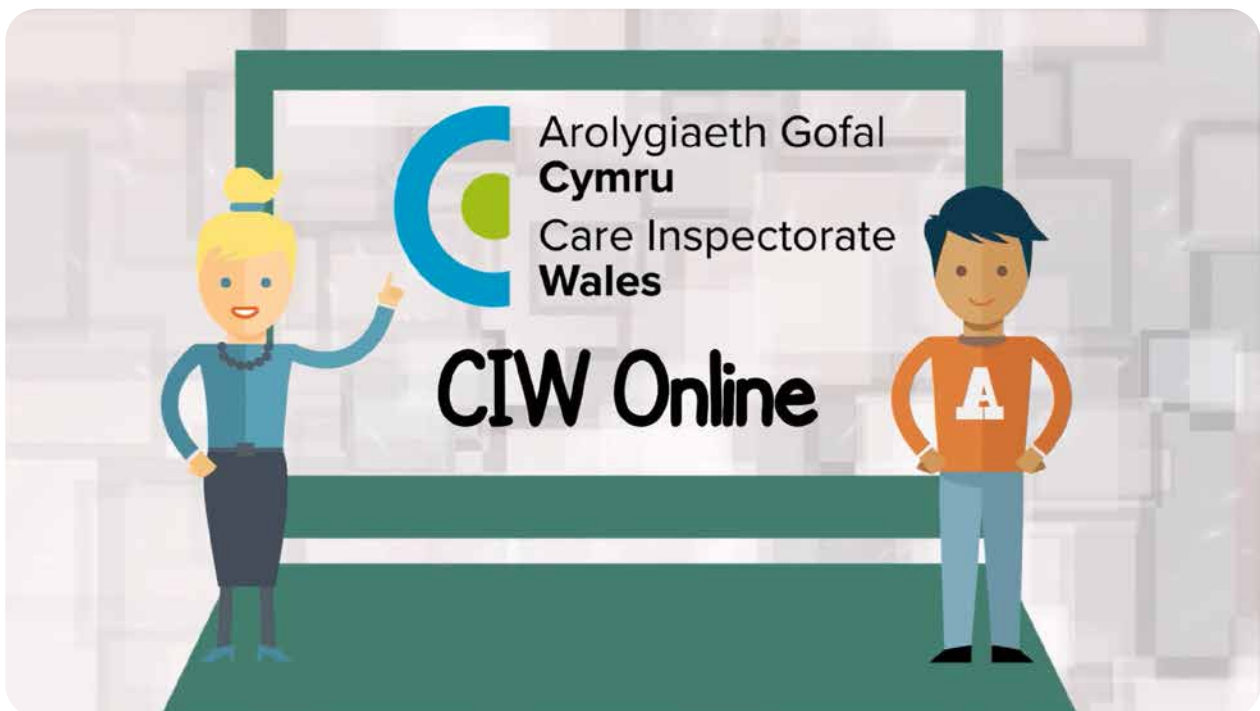
Having an online account will make it much easier for you to work with CIW, providing one simple and effective way to submit information about notifiable events or any changes to your service.

CIW also hopes that the registration process will now be easier to understand; will closely match the process already in place for adult and children's services; and will help to better prepare providers for inspections.

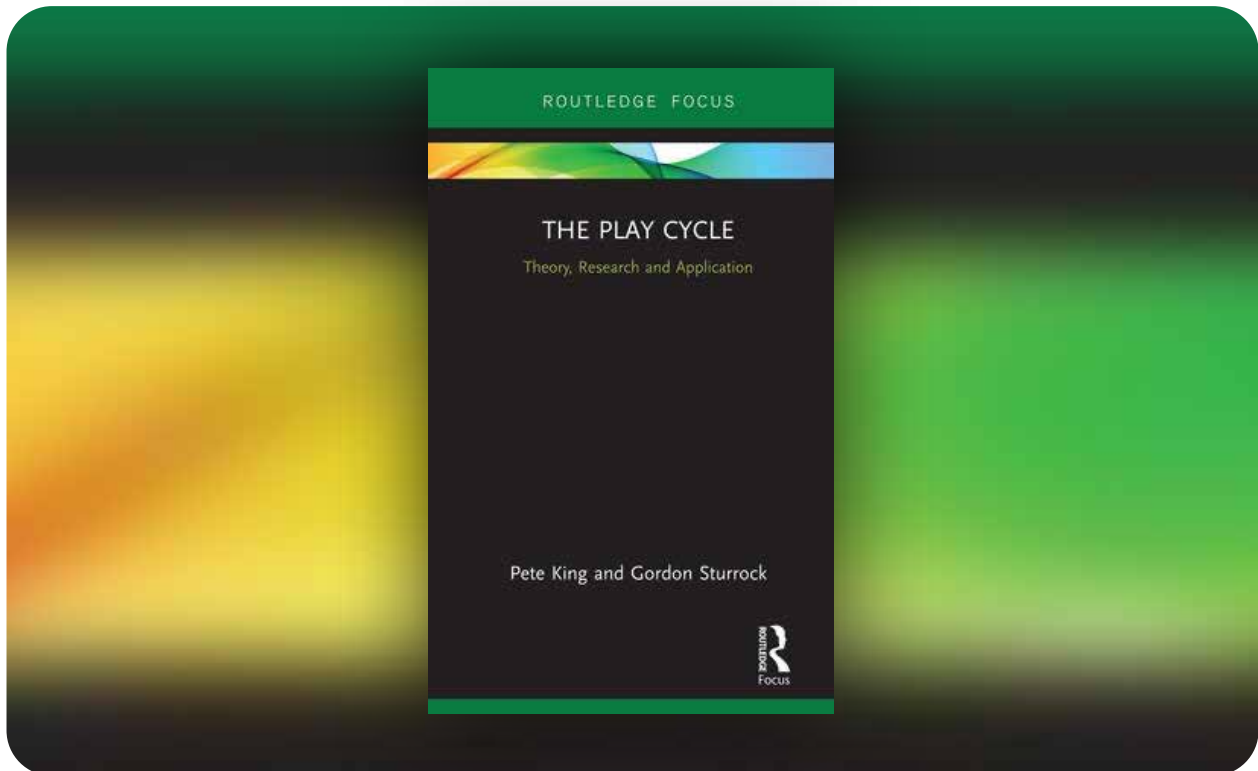
### Accessing CIW online for the first time if you are already registered

Are you a Provider that needs to obtain a PIN to activate your CIW Online account? Call CIW on 0300 7900 126 and select option 4. Their business opening hours are Monday-Thursday, 9am-5pm, and 9am-4.30pm on Fridays. They are closed on weekends.

If you have already activated your account and received your PIN you can start using CIW Online without delay.



## 12 The Play Cycle



Dr Pete King is a Senior Lecturer at Swansea University where he heads the delivery of the MA in Developmental and Therapeutic Nature of Play. Dr King is also an accomplished author who has carried out countless research papers including a recent investigation into the Play Cycle. We asked Dr Pete King why he felt knowledge of the Play Cycle was important not only to Playworkers but for anyone who works with children.

He told us: In 1998, Gordon Sturrock and Perry Else introduced a new Playwork theory at the International Play Association (IPA) conference in Colorado, USA. This theory was the Play Cycle (Sturrock & Else, 1998) which focuses on the process of play. Over the last 20 years, The Play Cycle has influenced Playwork practice, Playwork education and Playwork training, with words such as 'play cues' and 'play frames' being used frequently by Playwork practitioners, trainers and lecturers. Although now very much engrained within Playwork, the concept of the Play Cycle has much relevance to all those who work with

children in their play (King & Temple, 2019), including childcare practitioners such as childminders, day care staff, pre-school staff or those who work in out of school hours provision.

A recent study undertaken by King and Newstead (2019) found that knowledge and understanding of the Play Cycle within childcare is still not widely known. Childcare practitioners were not able to provide a clear understanding of the three key elements of the Play Cycle; metalude, play frame and annihilation. The study concluded that if the Play Cycle is to be considered in other contexts outside of Playwork, such as childcare, then more training of the Play Cycle is required. This could support childcare workers in their practice, and could also benefit the children who are placed within their care by practitioners engaging with the process of play through the Play Cycle.

Our own experiences in the Playwork Sector would support the information given by Dr Pete King. Knowledge of the Play Cycle enables a clearer understanding of how children are communicating their needs during play. It enables those working with children to better support positive outcomes for children.

To purchase *The Play Cycle - Theory, Research and Application*, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, By Pete King, Gordon Sturrock, please visit

<https://www.routledge.com/The-Play-Cycle-Theory-Research-and-Application-1st-Edition/King-Sturrock/p/book/9781138323322>





[www.cwlwm.org.uk](http://www.cwlwm.org.uk)

The Cwlwm partnership consists of the following organisations:



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