

# The Benefits of Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Registration for a Childcare Setting on School Sites



As the need for childcare around the school day grows, many early years, childcare and playwork settings are operating from school sites or managed directly by schools to meet the needs of their families and communities.

[Care Inspectorate Wales \(CIW\)](#) on behalf of Welsh Government registers, regulates, inspects and takes action to improve the quality and safety of childcare and playwork settings. If settings run for more than 2 hours per day (including split sessions if providers are employed by the same employer or voluntary committee) or for six or more days in a calendar year (for children up to the age of 12 years), it must in most circumstances by law, be registered with CIW unless covered by the exceptions regulations.

Registered childcare settings may display their Registration Certificate and further information on finding a suitable childcare setting can be found at [Find a care service | Care Inspectorate Wales](#).



## The benefits of CIW registration for a childcare setting on school sites:

### Reassurance of quality



Early years, childcare and playwork settings meet the [National Minimum Standards](#) and [childcare regulations](#). Parents/carers can access childcare settings' [inspection reports from the CIW website](#) to make informed childcare choices for their children. Estyn are the inspectorate responsible for the inspection of education in schools and non maintained settings. Registered childcare in non maintained settings that provide early education are jointly inspected by CIW and Estyn.

### Encourages better outcomes for children



Enabling families to work or train; childcare settings can help **families out of poverty**. Quality childcare provides **valuable play and learning opportunities** and can significantly benefit children's development, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds. Research indicates that there are additional benefits such as improved social skills, behaviour, school attendance and children feeling happier at school. For Welsh-medium schools, children are immersed into the Welsh language in Cylchoedd Meithrin from the age of 2 onwards and have developed their understanding and foundation of the language before starting school.

### Gives flexibility



Registered childcare settings can open for **longer** and extend into before school, wrap around care, after school clubs and holiday care.

### Inspires confidence



Schools, families, and communities can be confident of **quality, stimulating childcare**; enhancing the **reputation** of your school and attracting new families.

### Sustainability



Eligible working parents/carers can access [help with childcare fees](#) (e.g. Tax Free Childcare) which in turn supports the settings' sustainability and provides continuity of care for families and communities.

### Trained and qualified staff



In line with the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Child Care, staff hold relevant professional childcare or playwork **qualifications**, are **trained** in first aid, food hygiene and safeguarding, have undergone **thorough employment checks** (including Disclosure and Barring Service checks) and must adhere to **strict adult: child ratios**. This ensures that childcare and playwork settings have qualified suitable staff to manage childcare settings outside of the school day.

### Economical childcare



Fees are more affordable with registered childcare providers and clubs offering [Tax Free Childcare](#) (a real cut in fees of 20%), [The Childcare Offer](#) (funded childcare for working parents/carers of 3-4 year-olds), or the **childcare element** of Tax Credits/Universal Credits, for eligible parents/carers.

### Recognises the needs of families



You can assure parents/carers of quality childcare for their children. Children attending quality childcare settings are encouraged to contribute their ideas and know that their views will be listened to by staff, and can explore, be challenged and have fun through play.

### Cwlwm



'Cwlwm' brings together the five leading childcare organisations in Wales to deliver a bilingual integrated service that will ensure the best possible outcomes for children and families across Wales. 'Cwlwm' organisations are Early Years Wales, Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Clubs, Mudiad Meithrin, National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA Cymru) and PACEY Cymru.



[www.clybiauplantcymru.org](http://www.clybiauplantcymru.org)



[www.meithrin.cymru](http://www.meithrin.cymru)



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



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



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



[earlyyears.wales](http://earlyyears.wales)

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