

Early Years Development & Childcare Partnership

DRAFT Action Plan to address gaps in Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2014-17

Priority 1: support parent/carers on low incomes to access childcare						
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Update March 2015	Update March 2016
Information on help with childcare costs, benefits for parents and changes as a result of welfare reform are made available to parents	Parents are made aware of national and local initiatives that makes childcare more affordable	April 2014 – onwards and during introduction of Universal Credit in the Vale (2016) and the new tax relief replacing the childcare voucher scheme (2015)	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	Information is up to date and available via the Family Information Service website		None required	Becky Wickett		
	Attend at least 3 events per year involving Job Centre Plus and back to work programme to increase awareness of FIS with lone parents	3 per year	None required	Becky Wickett		

Information and advice to parents in the Flying Start area on free childcare	Parents are provided with a choice of childcare in the Flying Start areas.	April 2014 - onwards	Flying Start funding	Amber Constant		
Information is developed to provide parents, of Primary and comprehensive age children, information on after school activities and holiday provision	Parents have relevant information on after school activities.	April 2014 – onwards	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	Holiday activity brochures produced online and in hard copy and promoted via schools	April & July annually	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett/Teresa Harvey		
	Flyers produced promoting holiday childcare and help with childcare costs and distributed to all primary school pupils	June 2014	Childcare Strategy Grant	Becky Wickett		
Develop additional community based play provision	Additional play provision is available to children aged 4yrs plus	April 2014-2015	Out of School Childcare Grant	Joanne Jones		
	Information on open access play is provided to parents who enquire to FIS	April 2014 - onwards	No cost	Becky Wickett		

Provide Assisted places to children in need, parents on low income	Parents are provided with a leaflet for information on the Assisted Places scheme for children in need – referral process	April 2014 – March 2015	Out of Schools childcare Grant & childcare strategy funding	Becky Wicket & Debbie Maule		
	Assisted places promoted for children from low income families, families in need					
	Children and families access subsidised childcare	April 2014 – March 2015	Out of Schools childcare grant & childcare strategy funding	Debbie Maule		

Priority 2: to set up & support additional childcare provisions delivered through the medium of Welsh						
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2015	Progress update March 2016
Develop out of school childcare provision through the medium of Welsh.	Initial discussions around childcare gaps with Menter Caerdydd and Menter Bro Morgnwg set up	May 2014	No cost	Debbie Maule/Becky Wickett		

	Menter Caerdydd/Bro Morgannwg to design and distribute a questionnaire to gauge the need for additional Welsh medium out of school provision.	May – June 2014	No cost	Menter Caerdydd/Bro Morgannwg		
	Creation of additional Welsh language childcare places/setting developed in identified areas	July 2014 – March 2015	Out of School Childcare Grant	Debbie Maule		

Priority 3: to support childcare providers to increase the use of the Welsh Language in their setting						
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2015	Progress update March 2016
Identify training needs required	Develop and offer a range of training courses in response to the identified need	April 2014- March 15	Childcare Strategy	Debbie Maule		
Information and advice is offered to Childcare providers on Welsh Language	Increased Welsh Language support is available to childcare providers	April 2014 onwards	Childcare Strategy	Rhian Thomas		

DRAFT

Priority 4: Children with disabilities and/or additional needs are able to access childcare & other activities						
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2015	Progress update March 2016
<p>Provide assisted places to children with disabilities and/or additional needs</p> <p>Information and advice is provided to childcare providers on accessibility for children and young people with disabilities</p>	<p>Parents and childcare providers are provided with a leaflet for information on the Assisted Places scheme for children in need – referral process.</p> <p>Information is contained within the Disability Index newsletter</p> <p>Assisted Places scheme promoted in the Disability Index newsletter</p> <p>Children and families access subsidised childcare</p>	<p>April 2014</p> <p>April 2014 - onwards</p> <p>July 2014</p> <p>April 2014 – March 2015</p>	<p>Families First (Disability Strand)</p> <p>Disability Strand – Families First</p> <p>Out of School Childcare Grant & Childcare Strategy Grant</p>	<p>Becky Wickett</p> <p>Becky Wickett & Debbie Maule</p> <p>Becky Wickett</p>		

Work with key stakeholders to raise awareness of childcare & sense of play support for children with disabilities/additional needs	Details of those childcare settings that can cater for children with disabilities is supplied to Family Information Service annually and promoted to parents	April 2014 – March 2015	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	Parents are given information on accessing suitable childcare/play schemes & support groups	April 2014 – onwards	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	Disability Family Fund Day Held	April 2014 – March 2015	Families First (Disability Strand funding)	Becky Wickett		
	Special Needs Schools gain the FIS School Certificate of Achievement	Summer 2014	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett/Teresa Harvey		
	Disability Strand co-ordinator will provide advice and support to parents of children with disabilities/additional needs.	July 2014		Ginny Bourne		



Priority 5: to provide a wide range of information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents						
Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2015	Progress update March 2016
Information and advice is developed to provide relevant information to parents via a range of different sources	Increase number of schools that have gained FIS school Certificate of Achievement Levels 1 & 2	July 2015 and annually	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	Pilot FIS School Certificate in Secondary Schools	April 2014 – July 2015	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett & Teresa Harvey		
	Summer activities brochure is developed and available online and promoted through the schools.	July 2014 and annually	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	FIS website is developed and enquiries to the FIS website increase	April 2014 - on going	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	Promotion of FIS in rural areas is increased via various media resources	April 2014 - on going	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		

	Increase use of provider portal where childcare providers and other providers can update their details	April 2014 - onwards	Existing FIS funding	Teresa Harvey		
Information and advice is provided to prospective parents and new parents	Work with midwives to attend Parent Craft sessions for expectant parents (monthly)	April 2014 and onwards every month	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	New parents receive FIS leaflets in their registers pack	50 per month	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	FIS attend Health Visitors meetings and Health Visitors promote FIS	December 2014	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		

Priority 6: Working parents to be better informed about childcare through their employer

Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2015	Progress update March 2016
Engage with local employers (links with priority 1)	Benefits of childcare vouchers for employers and employees and FIS is promoted	April 2014 – March 2015	None required	Becky Wickett		
	All new Vale Council parent employees are aware of FIS and childcare vouchers	Sept 2014 - on-going	None required	Becky Wickett		

Priority 7: On-line booking system is available to staff for booking training and updating relevant workforce information

Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2015	Progress update March 2016
Childcare staff are able to search for training and book on-line	Staff are able to view training courses	April 2014 - onwards	Childcare Strategy	Debbie Maule		
	Staff can successfully book onto and attend training courses.	April 2014 - onwards	Childcare Strategy	Debbie Maule		
	Increase numbers of childcare staff gaining further qualifications and increase their Continuous Professional Development	April 2014 - onwards				
	Quality of childcare offered raised	April 2014 - onwards				

Priority 8: Engage with and support childcare providers

Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2015	Progress update March 2016
Attend childminding groups to promote role of FIS and Childminding Network Facilitator	Childminders aware of FIS and Childminding Network Facilitator, childminders consulted and the service developed accordingly	May 2014 – March 2015	Existing childcare strategy funding	Becky Wickett & Sue O'Neill		
FIS to visit every new childcare provider	New childcare providers are aware of and engage with FIS	April 2014 – onwards	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
Update details of all childcare settings to inform CSA	Childcare records up to date	Oct 2014 and annually	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
Inform childcare providers of training, grants and other relevant information	e-newsletters sent to all childcare providers – at least 6 annually	Every other months	Existing funding	Becky Wickett		

Priority 9: sufficient childcare to address geographical gaps

Key Actions	Success criteria	Timescales	Funding	Lead responsibility	Progress update March 2015	Progress update March 2016
Identify areas where a need for childcare has been identified	Areas identified & further investigation into need of type of childcare i.e. out of school provision, wraparound – specifically within the Western Vale	April 2014 – March 2015		Debbie Maule/Becky Wickett		
	CYPOP5 panel target new childminders in areas where gaps are identified	April 2014 - onwards	Childcare Strategy funding	Debbie Maule/Sue O'Neill		
	Childcare home approval scheme promoted to parents and potential childcare staff in areas needed	April 2014 - onwards	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	Information is gathered by FIS as to those childcare providers who offer weekend care, flexible care for shift workers	April 2014 – onwards	Existing FIS funding	Becky Wickett		
	Funding is provided to successful applicants to develop childcare in identified areas	June 2014 - onwards	CFS childcare Funding	Debbie Maule		