



## NEWSLETTER FOR CHILDCARE PROVIDERS

Welcome to the latest edition of Childcare Connections, a newsletter for all childcare providers in Torfaen.

We would be pleased to include your stories and achievements, send them to your Childcare Development Officers - Aimee, Jo or Danielle.

You can contact us with comments or questions on 01633 648114 / 648115 or email us at:

[aimee.priest](mailto:aimee.priest@torfaen.gov.uk)

[@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:@torfaen.gov.uk)

[joanna.forward](mailto:joanna.forward@torfaen.gov.uk)

[@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:@torfaen.gov.uk)

[danielle.nicke](mailto:danielle.nicke@torfaen.gov.uk)

[@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:@torfaen.gov.uk)

### PHYSICAL LITERACY

***SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF WORKFORCE, OPPORTUNITIES AND PROVISION FOR PRE-SCHOOL SETTINGS.***

**DO YOU WANT TO GIVE CHILDREN THE BEST START IN LIFE? THEN WHY NOT LEARN ABOUT WHAT YOU CAN DO TO DEVELOP EACH CHILD'S FUNDAMENTAL SPORTS SKILLS FROM AN EARLY AGE.**

Torfaen Sports Development are currently offering each pre-school setting within Torfaen up to 4 FREE spaces on a Physical Literacy Course. The aim of the course will be to provide your setting with some ideas and awareness of how to develop physical skills, as well as sharing good practice.

Physical Skills + Confidence + Motivation + Lots of Opportunities = Physical Literacy

ONCE YOUR SETTING HAS ATTENDED A COURSE YOU WILL RECEIVE THE FOLLOWING FOR FREE:

- DELIVERY THEMES AND IDEAS;
- A SPORTS DELIVERY PACK (SPORTS EQUIPMENT FOR YOUR SETTING);
- A HOMEWORK SPORTS BAG (SPORTS EQUIPMENT TO BE TAKEN HOME BY CHILDREN);
- A SITE VISIT.

If you have any further questions or would like to book onto a course please contact:

Cerys Williams, Torfaen Sports Development, 01633 628936 / [Cerys.Williams@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:Cerys.Williams@torfaen.gov.uk)

### A message from FIS – Job Vacancies

We have recently seen an increase in enquiries regarding working in childcare. If you have any vacancies within your setting, did you know that you can advertise them for free on the FIS website? Please email [fis@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:fis@torfaen.gov.uk) with vacancy details, including closing dates so we can promote these for you. Alternatively tag us on Facebook [www.Facebook.com/TorfaenFIS](http://www.Facebook.com/TorfaenFIS) and Twitter [www.twitter.com/TorfaenFIS](http://www.twitter.com/TorfaenFIS) so we can share your posts. Many thanks.

## Stay safe in the heat

NDNA's advice on this issue includes the following:

- Don't let children outside during the hottest hours (11am until 3pm) unless they are totally shaded and during the rest of the day, don't let them stay out for long periods of time
- When they do go out on a hot day, reduce the level of activity – maybe have storytime or quieter activities such as creative, sand or water play
- Keep lots of fresh cool water available for children who can self serve, not left out in the sun, ideally with lots of ice cubes to keep it cool. Give them gentle reminders – have you had a drink recently?
- For younger ones, keep offering them drinks throughout the day
- Make sure staff drink plenty of fluids in front of the children to reinforce this behaviour
- Make sure the children and staff are all wearing their sun hats and sun cream – encourage the older ones to put it on themselves under supervision. Explain why this is important.
- Recommend the use of wide brimmed sun hats and loose fitting clothing to parents for the children
- Do take babies outdoors but keep them in the shade – however, don't sit them on the floor if it's too hot to hold the back of your hand there for longer than 5 seconds
- Pushchairs if left outside in the sun can also get very hot – keep them indoors or in the shade when not being used
- Try to keep your nursery as cool as possible, using ventilation, fans, draw the curtains against the strong sun if possible
- Remember some of your children with SEND may be more at risk during the hot days
- If any of your children are behaving differently to normal, or become floppy or unusually tired, then cool them down with wet flannels, cold water, drinks and fans. If you have any concerns contact a health professional.

## SASS—Part two

CSSIW have now contacted all childcare providers regarding the completion of SASS part two. SASS part two includes the Quality of Care Review and a number of other questions, and needs to be completed using CSSIW Online.

There is information and guidance on CSSIW website, this can be found at <http://cssiw.org.uk/providingacareservice/already-registered-services/sass/childcare-and-play-services/?skip=1&lang=en>

If you require any assistance you can contact CSSIW on 0300 7900 126. Alternatively you can contact NDNA or PACEY or contact your Torfaen CBC Childcare Development Officer.

## #TalkChildcare - The Childcare Offer for Wales

Welsh Government intend to provide 30 hours a week of free early education and childcare for working parents of 3 and 4 year olds in Wales, for up to 48 weeks of the year. The current early education entitlement will form part of this offer.

The offer is being piloted in some local authority areas from September 2017 to make sure it works for parents and childcare providers. The free childcare offer will be available across Wales for all eligible families once developed

Visit the Welsh Government webpage where you can find out more about the free childcare offer.

[www.gov.wales/talkchildcare](http://www.gov.wales/talkchildcare) - Look for the hashtag and join the conversation online.