

# Give your child a Flying Start in Torfaen



Torfaen  
Family Information Service  
Gwasanaeth Gwybodaeth I Deuluoedd



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Aneurin Bevan  
University Health Board



@FlyingstartTorf



TorfaenFlyingStart

## What is Flying Start?

Flying Start is a Welsh Government funded programme which provides a range of support services to 0-4 year old children and their families within specific areas of Torfaen. The programme aims to make a difference to children in their earliest years of life.



This is achieved through four main service areas:

- Health Visiting and Midwifery Service
- Playgroup/Childcare place for 2-3 Year Old Children
- Parenting Programmes
- Early Language Development

The term after their second birthday children living in Flying Start areas are entitled to Welsh Government funded part-time childcare for twelve and a half hours per week, which amounts to two and a half hours per day, Monday to Friday, for 39 weeks of the year.



Attending a Flying Start setting can add to what you already do at home to help your child learn and develop to their full potential. Early learning makes a **BIG** difference to the way children develop and go on to learn throughout their lives.

## What will my child learn at a Flying Start setting?

- Play/socialise with other children of a similar age
- Try new things
- Practise new skills
- Enjoy a range of play activities
- Take turns and share
- Be in a language rich environment

## Welsh medium education: The best of both worlds

As a parent, deciding on your child's education will be one of the most important decisions you will ever make.

An increasing number of Torfaen parents can testify that introducing the Welsh language to their child, and indeed, their family's life in general, has been a positive and worthwhile experience.



## **Bilingualism gives your child an advantage**

You don't have to be a Welsh speaker yourself for your child to benefit from Welsh medium education.

The earlier the better! It is far easier for a young child to learn a language than it is for older children or adults. Bilingual children also find foreign languages easier to learn!

Learning to speak Welsh is a valuable extra skill which will give your child a head start.

It will open the door to a different culture; with the opportunity to speak Welsh your child will benefit from the broader horizons of two cultures.



You can choose any childcare in any area as specified on the following pages.

## **Blaenavon**

### **Busy Bees Blaenavon**

Blaenavon ICC  
Blaenavon Community Campus  
Middle Coed Cae Road  
Blaenavon  
NP4 9AW

Contact Sue Driscoll on 01495 792149 for more details.

### **Busy Bees Blaenavon**

New Life Christian Centre  
Park Street  
Blaenavon  
NP4 9AA

Contact Sue Driscoll on 01495 792149 for more details.

## **Garnteg**

### **Little Ducklings 2 Playgroup**

Garnteg Primary School  
Hillcrest  
Pontypool  
NP4 7SJ

Contact Emma Edwards on 07940 792823 for more details.

Welsh Medium playgroup/childcare is available in any Flying Start area.

**Cylch Meithrin Abersychan**

Lower Hall  
Trinity Methodist Church  
High Street  
Abersychan  
NP4 7AE

Contact Sharlene Parry on 01495 773302 or 07967 920947 for more details.

**Trevethin and Penygarn**

**Little Ducklings Playgroup**

Cold Barn Farm  
Woodside Road  
Trevethin  
Pontypool  
NP4 8DT

Contact Emma Edwards on 07940 792823 for more details.



**Penygarn Integrated Children's Centre**

Penygarn Community Primary School  
Penygarn Road  
Penygarn  
NP4 8JR

Contact Isobel Yacomen on 07889 346348 for more details.

**Pontypool**

**Pontymoile Under 5's Playgroup and Nursery**

Pontypool Active Living Centre  
Pontypool  
NP4 8AT

Contact Isobel Yacomen on 07889 346348 for more details.

Welsh Medium Childcare is available in any Flying Start area.

**Cylch Meithrin Abersychan**

Lower Hall  
Trinity Methodist Church  
High Street  
Abersychan  
NP4 7AE

Contact Sharlene Parry on 01495 773302 or 07967 920947 for more details.

## Thornhill

### **Buzzy Bees Day Nursery**

27 Chestnut Green  
Upper Cwmbran  
Cwmbran  
NP44 5TH

Contact Cathy Pritchard on 01633 484228 for more details.

### **Little Seedlings**

Woodlands Integrated Children's Centre  
Woodlands Community Primary School Site  
Thornhill  
Cwmbran  
NP44 5UA

Contact Judy Baker on 01633 864653 for more details.

### **Thornhill Playgroup**

Thornhill Community Centre  
Leadon Court  
Cwmbran  
NP44 5TZ

Contact Helen Griffiths on 07908 169461 for more details.

## South West Cwmbran

### **Little Red Berries**

Cwmbran Integrated Children's Centre  
Ton Road  
Cwmbran  
NP44 7LE

Contact Sarah Underwood on 01633 647416 for more details.

### **Building Blocks Too Day Nursery**

Fairwater Way  
Fairwater  
Cwmbran  
NP44 4PS

Contact Lesley Price on 01633 480250 for more details.

### **Little Angels**

Blenheim Road Community Primary School  
St Dials  
Cwmbran  
NP44 4SZ

Contact Marcella Davenne on 07979 596792 for more details.

Welsh Medium Childcare is available in any Flying Start area.

### **Cylch Meithrin Cwmbran**

Baptist Church  
Old Scout Hut  
Two Locks Road  
Cwmbran  
NP44 7HQ

Contact Katherine Lloyd on 07773 246611 for more details.

## Northville

**Maendy First Steps**  
Maendy Primary School  
Wayfield Crescent  
Cwmbran  
NP44 1NH

Contact Annette Webb on 07905 786740 for more details.



## Childminders

Some parents have found that child-minding in a home environment can be more flexible than other forms of childcare. Some child-minders can offer Welsh medium child-minding. The Flying Start approved child-minders are:



### Pontypool

Contact Tracey Touhig on 07581 286638 to arrange a visit. Tracey can also offer Welsh medium child-minding. Contact Anne Neale on 07743 239801 to arrange a visit. Contact Michelle Brown on 07941 883862 to arrange a visit. Michelle can also offer Welsh medium child-minding.

### Cwmbran

Contact Caroline Pimm on 01633 838 189 to arrange a visit.

## Enhanced Health Visiting

The Flying Start Health Team will offer extra support and advice throughout pregnancy and the first years of your child's life. They will be able to help families with babies and toddlers with breast-feeding, bottle-feeding and weaning. Other support includes: speech and early language skills, behaviour, play activities, health lifestyles, family support for parents/carers and siblings, child development.

Flying Start Health Visitors are community based but attached to GP surgeries.

If you are not sure who your Flying Start Health Visitor is please contact the Flying Start Health Programme Manager on 01633 647420.

## **Blaenavon**

**Carreg Wen Surgery**  
Tel: 01495 790264

## **Pontypool**

**Churchwood Surgery**  
Pontypool Medical Centre  
Tel: 01495 752444

**Trosnant Surgery**  
Tel: 01495 762709

**Mount Surgery**  
Pontypool Medical Centre  
Tel: 01495 763141

## **Abersychan**

**Abersychan Surgery**  
Tel: 01495 772239

## **Cwmbran**

**North Road Surgery**  
Tel: 01633 483226

**The Clinic, Maindy Square**  
Tel: 01633 484419

**Llanyravon Surgery**  
Tel: 01633 833770

**Clark Avenue Surgery**  
Tel: 01633 482733

**Fairwater Surgery**  
Tel: 01633 869544

**Chapel Street Surgery**  
Tel: 01633 485155

**Oak Street Surgery**  
Tel: 01633 866719

**Greenmeadow Surgery**  
Tel: 01633 864110

**Village**  
Tel: 01633 871177



## **Early Language Development**

Talking is so important for children to communicate their needs. Whilst children will benefit from a language rich environment during their time in playgroup, Flying Start also run a variety of groups to help parents to develop their child's communication skills.

## **Parenting**

Parenting groups help parents meet other parents and work together to develop their skills to support their child's development, care and wellbeing.



## Family Information Service

Free, impartial information on services and activities for children, young people and families, including parents-to-be, in Torfaen.

For all your Flying Start enquiries please contact the Family Information Service. You can access information and guidance via:

Freephone helpline: 0800 0196 330  
[www.torfaenfis.org](http://www.torfaenfis.org)  
Email [FIS@torfaen.gov.uk](mailto:FIS@torfaen.gov.uk)

Drop in to Cwmbran Integrated Children's Centre during office hours.

Speak to our Outreach Officer, Hannah - out and about in the community.

 Follow us on Twitter: @TorfaenFIS

 Find us on Facebook: Torfaen Family Information Service (FIS)

