

CHILDCARE CHOICES

Choosing childcare and early education is a huge step for your family. There are a lot of different childcare options in the borough for your family to choose from. Over the years your family may use a range of childcare services. As your family grows they will have different needs and your employment commitments may also change. The F I S hope that this fact sheet may offer advice and help you choose the childcare that is best suited to your needs and those of your child.

Care and Social Services

Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) are there to make sure that the services meet the standard that the public expects. They are responsible for regulating day care services for children. These services include childminders, playgroups, some crèches, day nurseries, out of school clubs and some play schemes. Providers must be registered if they operate for more than 2 hours in one day or for more than 6 days in any one year. CSSIW decide who can provide services, inspect and make sure that the minimum standards are met and deal with complaints.

For more information about policies and regulations:

www.wales.gov.uk/subisocialpolicycaestandards

CSSIW

S W Regional Office

6th Floor, Civic Centre,

Glan Torfaen Road,

Pontypool,

NP4 6YB

Telephone 01495 761200

Quality Standards

Childcare services within Caerphilly County Borough can gain accreditation through the Caerphilly Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (EYDCP) Quality Standards.

eydcp@caerphilly.gov.uk

Telephone 01443 86 34 26

Costs

You may qualify for help towards the costs of childcare if the childcare you use is approved. Working Tax Credit (WTC) and Child Tax Credit (CTC) **came into force on the 7th April 2003.**

WTC replaces the adult support in Working Families Tax Credit and Disabled Person's Tax Credit. It is a tax credit designed top-up the earnings of low-paid workers.

CTC Brings together various strands of support for families with children: the child elements in Income Support; Jobseekers Allowance; Working Families' Tax Credit; Disabled Person's Tax Credit and the Children's Tax Credit into one system. For more information or a Tax Credit information pack:

www.inlandrevenue.gov.uk/taxcredits/welfare_advice_orgs.htm

Telephone 0845 300 3900