

National Day Nurseries Association (NDNA) Cymru works with a range of local authorities to develop bespoke solution packages to help them meet their local challenges.



Cardiff County Council: Cardiff Childcare Business Support Officer Case Study

The Cardiff County Council Childcare Strategy Unit had identified that the county's full daycare sector required business support. In order to meet the legislative requirements of the Childcare Act 2006 and the Welsh Government's Seven Core Aims for Children and Young People, the Council needed to ensure there was sufficient sustainable and quality childcare provision in the area. The Council also needed the sector's participation in the implementation of its childcare strategy, and its assistance in meeting the requirements of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.

NDNA Solution

NDNA's solution was the appointment of a Development Worker, now known as the Cardiff Childcare Business Support Officer, to support all full daycare nurseries in the county of Cardiff. The Officer would provide advice and guidance on sustainability, quality and the creation of new childcare places.

NDNA's Impact

Since August 2008, the NDNA Cardiff Childcare Business Support Officer has made a significant impact on the sustainability, development and quality of all full daycare settings in the county of Cardiff. The impact of this support is outlined below:

- 498 new childcare places were developed
- 24 full daycare nurseries received grants from Cardiff local authority totalling £110,682
- 7 full daycare nurseries received sustainability support
- 12 full daycare nurseries rose above the National Minimum Standards for Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales through the support they received with NDNA's e-Quality Counts Scheme
- 2 full daycare nurseries received business support regarding recommendations from CSSIW/Estyn
- 44 full daycare providers achieved the Gold Standard Healthy Snack Award.

NDNA's work has been fundamental in meeting the Welsh Government's policy in sustaining families, communities and the economy by supporting high quality, affordable and accessible childcare throughout the county of Cardiff.

"Despite the recession, the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment revealed the need to continue to support the expansion of the full daycare sector in the county. The NDNA Childcare Business Support Officer has made a positive impact, helping to increase the number of childcare places within the sector over the last three years. This increase has come about through both the emergence of new providers and the expansion of existing settings. The provision of expert Childcare Business Support Services is crucial to supporting these developments in an ever-changing childcare landscape." - **Brenda Davis, Childcare Strategy Manager, Cardiff County Council**