



Cymru
National Day Nurseries Association

*Brighter thinking
for early years

Beth am ei gael yn iawn ar gyfer Gofal Plant a'r Blynnyddoedd Cynnar

Maniffesto i blant, teuluoedd a
meithrinfeydd



Beth am ei gael yn iawn ar gyfer

Gofal Plant a'r Blynnyddoedd Cynnar



Maniffesto i blant, teuluoedd a meithrinfeydd

Mae NDNA Cymru a'n haelodau eisiau i bob plentyn a theulu ffynnu trwy addysg a gofal plentyndod cynnar rhagorol. Meithrinfeydd o ansawdd uchel yw'r allwedd i ddarparu'r canlyniadau gorau posibl i blant ac os na fyddwn yn ei gael yn iawn ar gyfer y blynnyddoedd cynnar rydym yn siomi plant ar gyfnod hanfodol yn eu bywydau.

Dros y 30 mlynedd diwethaf, mae llywodraethau ledled y DU a Chymru wedi buddsoddi mewn gofal plant, fel sy'n iawn iddynt ei wneud. Fodd bynnag, mae amcanion a bwriadau da yn cael eu tanseilio gan heriau cyllido, a waethygwyd gan bandemig Covid-19. Mae rhieni, meithrinfeydd a chyngorau hefyd yn cael eu gorfodi i lywio tirwedd gymhleth o gefnogaeth a all arwain at ddryswch, llai o bobl yn cymryd rhan ac amser ac ymdrech yn cael eu dargyfeirio i ffwrdd o weithio gyda phlant.

Mae teuluoedd ledled Cymru yn dibynnu ar feithrinfeydd a darpariaethau cyn-ysgol ar gyfer gofal plant ond mae llawer o'r lleoliadau hyn yn poeni am eu gallu i oroesi wrth i gyllid aros yn ei unfan tra bod costau'n parhau i godi. Rhaid i Lywodraeth nesaf Cymru sicrhau bod meithrinfeydd yno ar gyfer plant, teuluoedd a chymunedau ond mae angen gweithredu nawr.

Mae meithrinfeydd yn gweithredu llawn amser - yn aml o 7am - 7pm, 50 wythnos y flwyddyn - gan gynnig gofal hanfodol ac addysg gynnar i blant sy'n allweddol ar gyfer caniatáu i deuluoedd ddychwelyd i'r gwaith. Bydd hyn yn angenrheidiol ar gyfer unrhyw adferiad economaidd.

Mae arnynt angen polisiau sy'n gweithio iddynt ac sy'n caniatáu iddynt ddarparu cyfleoedd gofal a dysgu cynaliadwy, hygyrch ac o ansawdd uchel.

Dyma bedwar cam brys er mwyn sicrhau'r gefnogaeth iawn i'r blynnyddoedd cynnar a gofal plant er mwyn plant, teuluoedd a meithrinfeydd yng Nghymru:

- Y cyllid cywir ar gyfer lleoedd gofal plant
- Y system ariannu gywir - un cyfrif gofal plant ar gyfer teuluoedd
- Y gydnabyddiaeth gywir am werth sector y blynnyddoedd cynnar
- Y gefnogaeth gywir gyda chyfraddau busnes

Y cyllid cywir ar gyfer lleoedd gofal plant:

Nid yw'r cyfraddau cyllido cyfredol ar gyfer y Cynnig Gofal Plant a'r Cyfnod Sylfaen wedi cadw i fyny â'r gost gynyddol o'u darparu. Mae meithrinfeydd wedi wynebu costau ychwanegol eleni i wneud lleoliadau mor ddiogel â phosibl i blant a staff. Ar yr un pryd mae incwm wedi cael ei effeithio gan y pandemig a chostau cynyddol eraill. Mae cyllid llonydd yn arwain at bryderon ynghylch cau gan na all busnesau gofal plant gynnal y colledion hyn.

Blaenoriaeth i'r Blynnyddoedd Cynnar a Gofal Plant:

Rhaid i Lywodraeth nesaf Cymru gostio ei chynlluniau ar gyfer gofal plant yn llawn, gan gynnwys unrhyw ehangu'r o'r Cynnig Gofal Plant i rieni yn y dyfodol. Rhaid iddo sicrhau bod cyllid yn cael ei gynyddu yn unol â chostau cynyddol i feithrinfeydd wrth iddynt ddarparu gofal a dysgu o ansawdd uchel.

System gyllido gywir - un cyfrif gofal plant i rieni

Mae cyllid gofal plant yn rhy gymhleth i deuluoedd, meithrinfeydd ac awdurdodau lleol. Mae hyn yn arwain at ddefnydd isel o'r gefnogaeth y mae gan deuluoedd hawl iddi a phwysau gweinyddol ychwanegol.

Byddai Pasbort Gofal Plant yn creu siop un stop ar gyfer yr holl oriau a ariennir gan y llywodraeth, Gofal Plant Di-dreth, a thaliadau Credyd Cynhwysol neu Gredydau Treth, ochr yn ochr â chyfraniadau gan rieni. Yna gallai teuluoedd gyfeirio'r taliadau hyn yn syth at y darparwyr gofal plant o'u dewis, sy'n golygu bod cyllid ar gyfer y plentyn hwnnw yn wirioneddol yn eu dilyn i ba bynnag leoliad gofal plant sy'n gofalu amdanynt.

Rhoi blaenoriaeth i'r Blynnyddoedd Cynnar a Gofal Plant:

Rhaid i Lywodraeth nesaf Cymru weithio gyda NDNA Cymru a'r sector i greu Pasbort Gofal Plant sy'n deulu-ganolog ar gyfer yr holl flynyddoedd cynnar a chyldid gofal plant, i symleiddio cymhlethdod y system.

Y gydnabyddiaeth gywir am werth sector y blynnyddoedd cynnar

Mae blynnyddoedd cynnar bywyd plentyn yn hanfodol i'w gyfleoedd bywyd yn y tymor hir. Wrth ni geisio ddod dros effaith y pandemig Covid-19 mae'n amlwg y bydd ffocws ar addysg a gofal plentynnod cynnar yn hanfodol.

Trwy gydol y pandemig Covid-19 roedd meithrinfeydd yn darparu gofal plant hanfodol i weithwyr rheng flaen ac yn wedi aros ar agor trwy'r cyfnodau clo. Mae gweithwyr proffesiynol y blynnyddoedd cynnar yn rhoi eu hunain ar y rheng flaen i sicrhau y gallai plant a theuluoedd gael

mynediad i leoedd hanfodol. Rhaid cydnabod a dathlu gwaith rhagorol y sector blynnyddoedd cynnar a gofal plant.

Blaenoriaethu Blynnyddoedd Cynnar a Gofal Plant:

Dylai Llywodraeth nesaf Cymru barhau i gefnogi pob math o ddarparwyr gofal plant i ddarparu'r gofal a'r addysg gynnar gorau posibl trwy ddarpariaeth cwricwlwm, cefnogaeth ar gyfer datblygu'r gweithlu a buddsoddiad gwell.

Y gefnogaeth gywir gyda chyfraddau busnes

Disgwylir i'r rhyddhad cyfredol ar gyfraddau busnes ar gyfer meithrinfeydd ddod i ben y flwyddyn nesaf. Mae'r gefnogaeth bresennol hon yn achubiaeth hanfodol i fusnesau meithrin a dylid ei pharhau. Mae cyfraddau busnes yn dreth ar ofod a ddyluniwyd ar gyfer siopau, ffatrioedd ac adeiladau megis warws, nid lleoedd i blant ddysgu, tyfu a datblygu.

Blaenoriaethu Blynnyddoedd Cynnar a Gofal Plant:

Dylai Llywodraeth nesaf Cymru ymrwymo i ymestyn y rhyddhad trethi o 100% i fusnesau gwarchod plant sydd wedi eu cofrestru – fel y gall y meithrinfeydd fuddsoddi mewn gofal ac addysg o'r safon uchaf i blant.

Dylai Llywodraeth nesaf Cymru weithredu ar y pedwar blaenoriaeth fel y nodir yn y maniffesto yma er mwyn sicrhau bod y blynnyddoedd cynharaf a phwysicaf o fywyd plentyn yn cael ei flaenoriaethu.

- 1. Costio'n llawn ei chynlluniau ar gyfer gofal plant a sicrhau bod cyllid yn cynyddu bob blwyddyn i dalu costau meithrinfeydd sy'n darparu gofal a dysgu o ansawdd uchel**
- 2. Gweithio gyda NDNA, y sector a llywodraeth y DU i greu Pasbort Gofal Plant sy'n deulu-ganolog ar gyfer holl ffynhonellau cyllid y blynnyddoedd cynnar**
- 3. Parhau i gefnogi pob math o ddarparwyr gofal plant i ddarparu'r gofal a'r addysg gynnar gorau posibl trwy ddarparu'r cwricwlwm, cefnogaeth ar gyfer datblygu'r gweithlu a chynnal buddsoddiad**
- 4. Ymrwymo i ymestyn y rhyddhad cyfradd busnes 100% ar gyfer busnesau gofal plant cofrestredig - fel y gall meithrinfeydd fuddsoddi mewn dysgu a gofal o ansawdd uchel**

Beth am ei gael yn iawn ar gyfer gofal plant

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Getting it Right for Early Years and Childcare

A manifesto for children,
families and nurseries



Getting it Right for Early Years and Childcare



A manifesto for children, families and nurseries

NDNA Cymru and our members want all children and families to flourish through excellent early childhood education and care. High quality nurseries are the key to providing the best possible outcomes for children and if we don't get it right for early years we are letting children down at a crucial stage in their lives.

Over the past 30 years, governments across the UK and Wales have rightly invested in childcare. However, well intentioned aims are being undermined by funding challenges, made worse by the Covid-19 pandemic. Parents, nurseries and councils are also forced to navigate a complex landscape of support that can lead to confusion, lower take-up and time and effort diverted away from working with children.

Families across Wales rely on nurseries and pre-schools for childcare but many of these settings are concerned about their survival as funding stagnates while costs continue to rise. The next Welsh Government must ensure that nurseries are there for children, families and communities but we need action now.

Nurseries are operating full-time - often 7am – 7pm, 50 weeks a year - offering vital care and early education to children that is critical for allowing families to return to work. This will be essential for any economic recovery.

They need policies that work for them and allow them to deliver sustainable, accessible and high quality care and learning opportunities.

Four urgent steps to get early years and childcare right for children, families and nurseries in Wales:

- The right funding for childcare places
- The right funding system – a single childcare account for families
- The right recognition for the value of the early years sector
- The right support with business rates

The right funding for childcare places

Current funding rates for the Childcare Offer and Foundation Phase Nursery have not kept up with the rising cost of providing them. Nurseries have faced extra costs this year to make settings as safe as possible for children and staff. At the same time income has been hit by the pandemic

and other rising costs. Stagnant funding is leading to worries about closures as childcare businesses cannot sustain these losses.

Early Years and Childcare Priority: The next Welsh Government must fully cost its plans for childcare, including any future expansion of the offer to parents. It must ensure that funding is increased in line with rising costs for nurseries to provide high-quality care and learning.

The right funding system – a single childcare account for parents

Childcare funding is too complex for families, nurseries and local authorities. This leads to low take up of the support that families are entitled to and additional administrative pressures.

A Childcare Passport would create a one-stop shop for all government funded hours, Tax Free Childcare, and Universal or Tax Credit payments, alongside contributions from parents. Families could then direct these payments straight to the childcare providers of their choice, meaning funding for that child truly follows them to whichever childcare setting is delivering their place.

Early Years and Childcare Priority: The next Welsh Government must work with NDNA Cymru and the sector to create a family-centred Childcare Passport for all early years and childcare funding, to simplify the complexity of the system.

The right recognition for the value of the early years sector

The early years of a child's life are crucial to their long-term life chances. As we look to recover from the impact of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic it's clear that a focus on early childhood education and care will be crucial.

Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic nurseries were providing critical childcare for frontline workers and remained open through later lockdowns. Early years professionals put themselves on the front line to ensure children and families could access crucial places. The excellent work of the early years and childcare sector must be recognised and celebrated.

Early Years and Childcare Priority: The next Welsh Government should continue to support all types of childcare providers to deliver the best possible early childhood care and education through curriculum delivery, support for workforce development and enhanced investment.

The right support with business rates

The current relief on business rates for nurseries is due to end next year. This existing support is a vital lifeline for nursery businesses and it should be continued. Business rates are a tax on space designed for shops, factories and warehouses, not spaces for children to learn, grow and develop.

Early Years and Childcare Priority: The next Welsh Government should commit to extending the 100% rate relief for registered childcare businesses - so nurseries can invest in high quality learning and care for children.

The next Welsh Government must act on the four priority areas detailed in this manifesto to prioritise the earliest and most important years of children's lives.

1. Fully cost its plans for childcare and ensure funding increases annually to cover the costs of nurseries providing high-quality care and learning
2. Work with NDNA, the sector and UK government to create a family-centred Childcare Passport for all early years funding
3. Continue to support all types of childcare providers to deliver the best possible early childhood care and education through curriculum delivery, support for workforce development and maintaining investment
4. Commit to extending the 100% business rate relief for registered childcare businesses - so nurseries can invest in high quality learning and care

