

Nurturing Children, Supporting Families

Welsh Government Policy Statement 2011.

The document makes clear the Welsh Government's immediate priorities for childcare and longer-term ambitions to ensure that all families are given the opportunity to experience high-quality, affordable, accessible childcare that meets their needs and states that:

'In support of our Healthy Future and to improve the health and wellbeing of children in their early years, we will work with the health department and key partners to expand the Healthy School programme to pre-school settings.'

Who has been involved in the development?

This guidance has been developed by a task and finish group with wide representation from the Welsh Government, relevant professionals and the early years umbrella organisations:

Representatives from: Welsh Government Departments -Children and Families Programmes, Health Improvement Division, Climate Change and Water Division

Public Health Wales, Estyn, CSSIW, National Childminders Association, Wales Pre-School Providers Association, Children in Wales, Hywel Dda Health Board, All Wales Foundation Phase Advisors group, National Day Nursery Association, Mudiad Ysgolion Meithrin, Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes, Healthy Pre School Coordinators from pilot areas. The group membership is listed on the last page.

Links to Other Programmes and Initiatives

Foundation Phase

The Foundation Phase is a new approach to learning for children from 3-7 years of age it is based on the principle that early years provision should offer a sound foundation for future learning through a developmentally appropriate curriculum. The focus is on experiential learning, active involvement and developing each child's:

- Skills and understanding personal, social, emotional, physical and intellectual wellbeing so as to develop the whole child.
- Positive attitudes to learning so that they enjoy it and want to continue
- Self-esteem and self-confidence to experiment, investigate, learn new things and form new relationships.

