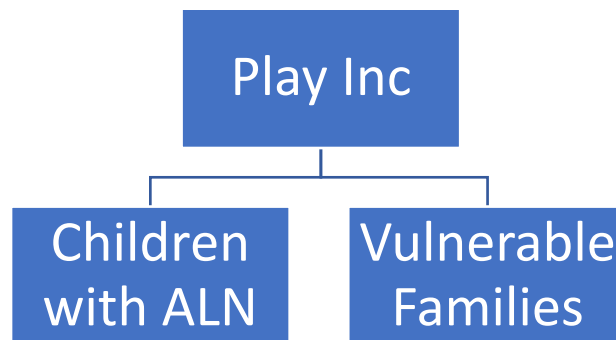


Play Inc Project

We are able to access funding via the Welsh Government's Playworks Holiday Grant during this financial year (2023-2024) for programmes that support holiday hunger. In Caerphilly County Borough we are piloting a new scheme to give children from the most vulnerable families access to holiday play opportunities. This is a pilot for Spring Half Term with a potential to run through following holiday periods, if funding is available.

The Play Inc project is targeted at Primary School age children (reception to year 6). Childcare settings must be registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) for delivery during school holiday hours to apply to be a part of the project. The project aims to offer specific children opportunities to engage in play and recreation activities.

Play Inc has two strands: one to support school age children with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and the other to support school age children from vulnerable families.



Play Inc – School Age Children with ALN

Parents **will pay** for the holiday club session, at the clubs set amount per child. The grant funding will allow for the providers to contribute towards higher staffing ratios for inclusive play while meeting the child's individual needs. This will be awarded to a provider to support jointly with other children who may also need support with facilitating play or managing relationships with peers. This is suitable for children who attend mainstream school with a school Individual Development Plan (IDP) and are not on roll at a Specialist School.

Key information for the ALN strand:

- Eligible children will be in Reception class to Year 6 in mainstream primary schools (including on roll at Specialist Resource Bases)
- A total of two 6-hour sessions per holiday week
- £30 per 6 hour session per child towards setting costs / enhanced support
- Lunch arrangements will be as per the setting's usual lunch procedures (e.g. parents may provide pack lunch)

- Placing of children will be by parental choice from the list of approved settings participating on the scheme, available on the Caerphilly Early Years and Childcare Website
- Funding will be made to settings via a Play Inc ICP (Individual Child Placement) form for booked hours, available on the Caerphilly Early Years and Childcare Website

ALN Process:

1. Settings are invited to complete an Expression of Interest (EOI) to host the Play Inc project.
2. Once approved, the setting's record on Dewis will be updated with the hashtag '#PlayInc' and therefore appear on the Play Inc approved setting list.
3. School ALNCo will promote this provision to parents whose children have school IDPs.
4. Once School ALNCo have discussed this provision with parents, and parents have expressed an interest in taking part, the School ALNCo will email earlyintervention@caerphilly.gov.uk with the following details of the child:
 - Forename, Surname and Date of Birth
5. The Early Years Team will send the School ALNCo the eligibility code to share with the parent/s who then book their place with their chosen approved setting and register with the setting using their usual registration procedure.
6. The setting, with the parent/s, will complete the Play Inc Individual Child Placement (ICP) Form on the Early Years and Childcare Website
7. Once the ICP is approved, setting and parent/s will receive an email with details of the sessions approved.
8. Settings will be sent an attendance register to complete and submit by 5pm on the Friday of the holiday week.
9. Payments will be made following completion and submission of the register.

Play Inc – Vulnerable Families

In the vulnerable families strand the parents **do not pay** for the holiday club session themselves, as places are funded by the Playworks Holiday Grant. This strand supports vulnerable children who are in Reception class to Year 6 to access a holiday club setting for play, social and recreation purposes. Vulnerable children are those who do not have access to enriching experiences during the school holidays and will be identified by Early Years Family Support Team.

Key information for the Vulnerable Families strand:

- Eligible children will be in Reception class to Year 6 in mainstream primary schools (including on roll at Specialist Resource Bases)
- A total of two 6-hour sessions per holiday week
- £30 per 6 hour session per child plus the cost of lunch at £2.50
- Eligible families will be identified by our Family Support Team

Vulnerable Families Process:

1. Settings are invited to complete an Expression of Interest (EOI) to host the Play Inc project.
2. Once approved, the setting's record on Dewis will be updated with the hashtag '#PlayInc' and therefore appear on the Play Inc approved setting list.
3. The Early Years Family Support Team will identify those children who will be eligible for the scheme and provide the parent/s with an Eligibility code.
4. From the approved setting list, parent/s will be supported by the Early Years Family Support Team to contact their chosen setting to book the place and register with the setting using their usual registration procedure.
5. The setting will complete with the parent/s the Play Inc Individual Child Placement (ICP) Form on the Early Years and Childcare Website.
6. Once the ICP is approved, the setting and parent/s will receive an email with details of the sessions to be funded.
7. Settings will be sent an attendance register to complete and submit by 5pm on the Friday of the holiday week.
8. Payments will be made following completion and submission of the register.

Expression of Interest

Caerphilly Early Years and Childcare services are inviting Expressions of Interest from childcare providers who are registered with Care Inspectorate Wales and deliver childcare during the school holidays.

If you are interested in being a part of this scheme, please complete the form below and email to earlyyearshub@caerphilly.gov.uk by 10th January 2024.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=vGg9Ws-tLkaRgSm0tCsxTVaG9EbZf6RMooe8Di06JZ1UN1ZKRkVZTUhFUzRMSEtBN1hUTUIYS0ZCRi4u>

Frequently Asked Questions

What age children can access the scheme?

Primary School age children (attending Reception class to Year 6 in mainstream primary schools, including SRB), children with a date of birth between 01/09/2012-31/08/2019.

Which children can access Play Inc under the term 'ALN'?

Children who have been identified as having ALN and therefore have a school Individual Development Plan which is reviewed annually with professionals and parents through a Person Centred Planning meeting.

Which children can access Play Inc under the term 'Vulnerable'?

Children who are able to access the project are those whose families are currently working with the Early Years Family Support Team. Examples include, families

currently in emergency / supported accommodation, those who have a Care and Support Plan or a Statutory Support plan in place or other complexities requiring bespoke family support.

How will we know if we are able to support individual children's needs with an inclusive playworker?

As the usual procedure for welcoming new children, you will work with the parent/s to complete the required information on your registration form.

In the EOI, you can highlight any benefits or limitations you envisage in supporting the inclusive play hours e.g your setting has a secure outdoor play space. You will follow your usual procedure for registering children and you will decide if you are able to meet a child's specific needs. You will need to meet the family/child before the sessions start to understand what you may need to have in place to ensure the inclusive playworker hours will be used to facilitate play and the child has their safety and care needs met as a priority.

Are we able to access any additional training to support the delivery of Play Inc?

Play Inc settings will be offered training to enhance their provision specifically in creating an inclusive play space and how to conduct dynamic risk assessments.

Can we promote the project to specific families we already are aware of?

The project will be promoted via the Early Years Family Support Team and the school ALNCo's.