Early Years Wales Awards 2023

We recommend that you use this document to plan your answers in case of accidental data loss.

Save this document then type your responses and simply copy and paste into the online form when you are ready.

**Last date for nominations is: 5pm on 9th February 2023**

Please take the time to consider your answers carefully.

Copy and paste onto the [online form](https://www.earlyyears.wales/en/early-years-wales-awards-2023) when ready:

<https://www.earlyyears.wales/en/early-years-wales-awards-2023>

All responses have a 400-word limit. To check your word count, highlight the text you would like to count, and the figure should be displayed at the bottom left-hand side of this document. Alternatively, click on Review in the menu above and select “Word Count”. (Keyboard shortcut: Ctrl + Shift + G)

**Award 1 - Early Years Wales Setting of the Year – two awards**

* **Registered for 0-19 children**
* **Registered for 20 children and over**

A setting or childminder business that employs staff who is driven by their passion for Early Years children and quality childcare. The focus is to produce a safe, clean, stimulating environment where children are encouraged to play, learn and thrive. The setting holds their staff in the highest regard and has excellent links with parents, external partners, and the local community. They have achieved or are working towards an Early Years Wales QfA award and external reports such as Estyn, Care Inspectorate of Wales (CIW) are of high standard.

**Give a full description of how**

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| **How does the provider offer a safe clean stimulating environment where children are encouraged to play learn and thrive? (400 words)** |
|  |
| **Give examples of how the provider** holds their staff in the highest regard and has excellent links with parents, external partners and the local community. **(400 words)** |
|  |
| Tell us about your unique and innovative approach to providing care. **(400 words)** |
|  |

 **Supporting evidence to prepare:**

* Testimonials
* Additional statement to support your evidence (400 words max)
* Photos
* Evidence of relevant awards eg Investors in People

Award 2 – Early Years Wales Community setting

This award will be made to a setting who has shown exceptional contributions to their community, this could be a Parent and toddler Group, a baby group, or an unregistered setting. The judges will be looking for evidence of how the setting goes out of its way to support its community by taking part in local activities. The setting will also demonstrate how it actively involves staff, parents, and children in its local area.

**Give a full description of how:**

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| --- |
| How does the entrant engage with the local community by sharing their expertise more widely e.g. parent support classes, drop-ins? **(400 words)** |
|  |
| Give a full description of how the entrant makes use of local expertise and resources wherever possible e.g. tradesmen and suppliers **(400 words)** |
|  |
| Tell us how parents and children benefit from being a part of this group **(400 words)** |
|  |

**Supporting evidence to prepare**

* Supply 1-5 photos showing the community venue
* Provide 1-5 testimonials from staff and parents to support the entry
* Case study

Award 3 – Early Years Wales Outdoor space – two awards

* **Small but mighty**
* **Big and bold**

In recent years outdoor space has been more important than ever, show us how creative you’ve been and how you have adapted your own space or used shared community space

**Small but mighty** – an innovative approach to using a small space, it may be a very small outside space that offers lots of opportunities for children to grow and thrive

**Big and bold** – this will be a larger area with lots of opportunities for different areas to explore, giving children play and learning experiences

This award will be made to the setting which has created or used an outdoor space that inspires and excites children. Activities that promote physical well-being, creativity and first-hand learning experiences will be sought. Settings have made the most of the space they have whether big or small, they show innovation on how they use their space.

**Give a full description of how**

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| --- |
| Explain how you’ve enhanced the space available to you whether big or small and what resources you have used **(400 words)** |
|  |
| Give a full description of how the outdoor learning environment excites and inspires the children **(400 words)** |
|  |
| Explain how your outdoor environment empowers children to become more confident and creative, including examples of activities and resources **(400 words)** |
|  |

**Supporting evidence to prepare**

* Supply 1-5 photographs showing outdoor learning areas
* Provide a plan of the outdoor area indicating size
* Testimonials