

The Approval of Home Childcare Providers (Wales) Scheme 2021

Frequently asked Questions for Parents/Guardians

What type of care does a nanny provide?

Home Childcare Providers (nannies) can provide flexible care to fit around your family's circumstances. They can live with you or come to your home for set days or an agreed number of hours. A nanny can look after children from 2 different families at the home of one of the families. If more than 2 families use the care at the same time, then the care falls into the category of "childminding" and childminders need to be registered with Care Inspectorate Wales.

Are all nannies approved under the Welsh Government scheme?

No, the Welsh Government scheme is a voluntary scheme and nannies do not have to become approved, but there are benefits for the nanny and for parents from using approved nannies.

If you find a nanny and they are not approved, you could consider supporting them to become approved. There is a cost associated with approval and some families decide to help meet some of these costs, but this is entirely up to you.

How can I benefit from using an approved nanny?

If you are using an approved nanny, you may be able to claim UK Government financial support to help with the costs of employing your nanny including Tax Free Childcare, Tax Credits, the childcare element of Universal Credit or employer childcare vouchers.

What checks are carried out as part of the approval process?

When nannies become approved, checks are carried out by Care Inspectorate Wales to ensure that they have:

- an enhanced DBS certificate
- public liability insurance which covers death, injury, damage or other loss
- suitable training, including a relevant paediatric first aid qualification

Is there anything else I should do or consider before using a nanny approved under the Welsh Government scheme?

You need to be aware that approved nannies are not registered in the same way as day care providers or childminders are registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW). Your nanny, if approved, will have undergone basic checks and assurances but they will not be regulated and inspected in the same way as registered childcare providers.

It is recommended that you interview a prospective nanny, ask for references and to see their certificate of approval. Nannies must apply for re-approval under the scheme every year so you will also want to check that their approval has not expired.

It is up to you to pay the nanny's wages and arrange a contract. Nannies can be employed or self-employed.

How will I be able to find out if a home childcare provider (nanny) is approved?

Each approved home childcare provider will be given an Approval letter with their name, period of validity and a unique identity number. When you employ a nanny you should ask for them to present this letter to you as evidence of their approval.

How can I find approved carers in my area?

You can contact your local [Family Information Service](#) to find approved carers in your area.

What will the approval body do if notified of an approved home childcare provider having harmed a child?

Advise the caller to notify the appropriate Authority; take details of the home childcare provider and their address and pass on the information to the local Social Services. When informed that an appropriate authority is investigating the allegations, CIW may withdraw approval at any point during the investigation. Should the investigation clear them of wrong doing the childcarer can re-apply to become approved.

What about people caring for children they are related to? Will the parents of the children be able to claim UK Government financial support towards the costs of childcare if they are being looked after by a relative?

You can't usually claim UK Government financial help with childcare provided by relatives, even if they are approved.

Will childcare provided by a nanny approved under The Approval of Home Childcare Providers (Wales) Scheme 2021 be eligible for Childcare Offer funding?

No, a childcarer on The Approval of Home Childcare Providers (Wales) Scheme 2021 cannot provide [Childcare Offer for Wales funded places](#).

If I use childcare provided by a nanny approved under The Approval of Home Childcare Providers (Wales) Scheme 2021, is this considered eligible childcare for the purpose of receiving support through the childcare element of Working Tax Credits/Universal Credit, Tax Free Childcare and employer vouchers?

Childcare provided by a home childcare provider approved under the terms of this scheme, who is delivering care in the home of one of the children for whom they are caring, is qualifying care for the purposes of calculating eligibility for the childcare element of Working Tax Credit/Universal Credit and for the tax and National insurance contributions benefits of using employer childcare vouchers. Nannies who are on the Approval of Home Childcare Providers (Wales) Scheme 2021 can also sign up online to receive parents' payments through Tax-Free Childcare.

Once the home childcare provider has signed up they will appear on the [Childcare Provider Checker](#). This allows parents to check whether the nanny has already signed up for Tax-Free Childcare.