

Torfaen Play Sufficiency Assessment Action Plan 2026/2027

Inclusive Play for All

We will continue to:

- Provide inclusive play opportunities for children and young people of all abilities.
- Deliver specialist play and respite sessions for children and young people with disabilities and additional needs.
- Support young carers to access play and recreational opportunities.
- Increase Welsh-medium and bilingual play opportunities.
- Improve access to play opportunities in rural communities.
- Provide sensory play opportunities across Torfaen.
- Work with families and partners to improve services across play and recreational provision.
- Keep local authority play and youth provision free at the point of access.
- Work with partners to meet the individual play needs of children and young people

Great Places to Play

We will continue to:

- Work with partners to maintain and improve parks and play areas across Torfaen.
- Work with partners to create and enhance outdoor play spaces.
- Work with partners to improve the play value of parks, open spaces and local neighbourhoods.
- Support safer routes to play spaces.
- Encourage active travel through play initiatives.
- Work with communities to keep local play spaces clean, safe and welcoming.
- Offer Play in the Park, Pop-Up and Play and outreach play sessions.
- Support communities to develop more natural, adventurous and playful environments.
- Involve children and young people in future improvements to local play spaces.
- Work with residents and partners to promote the Playing Out initiative and explore opportunities for community-led street play and temporary road closures.
- Continue embedding play within planning, place-making and future developments across Torfaen.

Play in Schools

We will continue to:

- Support schools to ensure play is an important part of the school day.
- Provide play awareness training for school staff.
- Deliver play projects within schools throughout the year.
- Deliver holiday play opportunities including Food and Fun programmes.
- Work with schools to increase community access to play and recreational facilities outside school hours.
- Encourage more schools to develop play-friendly environments and play policies.
- Increase opportunities for communities to use schools as local hubs for play and recreation.
- Continue strengthening links between schools, families and community-based play opportunities.

Staffed Play and Recreational Opportunities

We will continue to:

- Provide a wide range of play opportunities throughout the year including play clubs, play and activities camps, food and fun camps, open access playschemes.
- Provide a range of early years play opportunities
- Deliver family play sessions and community play events.
- Offer specialist projects for children and young people.
- Support opportunities for older children and young people to access play and recreational opportunities.
- Work with partners to increase youth, sport, arts and cultural activities across Torfaen.
- Relaunch the Play Lending Library as a resource for families, schools and community groups.
- Increase opportunities for people to borrow play, recreational and sports equipment.
- Support community events through access to play resources and equipment.
- Encourage the sharing, reuse and recycling of play resources to reduce waste and support sustainability.
- Continue working with neighbouring authorities and organisations to increase the range of opportunities available to children and young people.

Developing the Play & Recreational Workforce

We will continue to:

- Recruit, train and support playworkers and volunteers.
- Provide volunteering opportunities for young people.
- Support qualifications, apprenticeships and work placements.

- Deliver training and professional development opportunities.
- Recognise and celebrate the achievements of volunteers and staff.
- Maintain high standards across all play provision.
- Increase opportunities for local people to volunteer within play settings.
- Support future playworkers through training, mentoring and qualifications.
- Continue developing a skilled, confident and inclusive workforce.
- Strengthen pathways into employment, apprenticeships and careers in playwork

Promoting and Protecting Play

We will continue to:

- Share information about local play opportunities.
- Promote the benefits of play to families and communities.
- Use websites, newsletters and social media to celebrate play.
- Work with local media to promote positive messages about children and play.
- Consult regularly with children, young people and families.
- Ensure play is considered in all council plans, policies and decision-making.
- Develop a stronger online presence for play information and resources.
- Increase awareness of children's right to play.
- Create positive campaigns celebrating play, volunteering and community involvement.
- Continue working across council departments and with partners to make Torfaen a more play-friendly county borough
- Strengthen links between the Play Sufficiency Assessment, Childcare Sufficiency Assessment, Local Development Plan and future Youth Work Strategy.
- Continue embedding play within decision-making and future planning across Torfaen.
- Ensure children's views help shape future policies and services affecting their opportunities to play.