

Dear Sir,

I am writing as feel the childcare in my area isn't accessible and there are restrictions as to where and when I am able to send my son. I live in Monmouth, Monmouthshire and have two sons aged 8yrs, and 3yrs, I am expecting my 3rd child in two months! Up until December I was sending my child to "Monmouthshire Community under Fives Nursery". Due to unforeseen circumstances the nursery had to vacate their old premises due to rises in rent etc and have since been running from our community centre "Bridges Community Centre". The staff are absolutely fantastic and I feel the best in Monmouth with over 20yrs experience in running childcare provisions, however, sadly due to the fact that they have no enclosed outside play area or their own kitchen facilities their funding for children over 3yrs was withdrawn, meaning parents like myself would have to pay for our Childs provision to continue the term after their 3rd birthday!

I am deeply saddened as my son was so happy at this nursery and I feel I could trust the staff, sue and Angela, 100%, which says allot from a parents point of view. The nearest "free" place provision for my son is "overmonnow school", which is full, and then "Mitchell Troy" which is a 10min drive- I have no car!

I have had to reduce my sons sessions to two sessions per week (two 2.5hrs sessions) as I cannot afford to send him full time, I am struggling and may even have to withdraw him completely by next month. This to me is simply unfair. Why should I be put in a position where I have to pay for my Childs provision when it should be free, and have to make a decision where I may have to take my son out of his provision as I can't afford it, therefore my child misses out greatly???? I urge you to please help. The centre where this playgroup is ran has huge amount of outside grounds and a park across the road and a kitchen to which the whole centre can share (it was deemed unsafe as the garden area has to be enclosed and the kitchen has to be for use solely by the nursery!) I am not the only parent in this situation, I am sure you will have heard from others regarding this matter. Please, please help keep this nursery alive, Sue and Angela have been running it for over 20yrs, it would be heartbreaking to see their numbers drop anymore and they close down.

Thank you for time.

Kyleigh Boxhall-James