

Y Gwobrau ²⁰²⁰ The Accolades

Information pack

The Accolades are awards that recognise, celebrate and share excellent work by organisations, groups or teams in social care, and early years and childcare.

If you work in any form of care and support in the public, independent, co-operative or voluntary sectors, it's your chance to share your achievements with colleagues across Wales.

For 2020, we are looking for projects that:

- have had a positive effect on people who access social care or early years and childcare
- support staff development
- help improve services
- support equality, diversity and language choice.

Read on to find out which of the five categories you might be able to enter.

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What are the Accolades?

The Accolades are awards that recognise, celebrate and share excellent practice in social care, and early years and childcare across Wales.

In 2020, the Accolades will be awarded to teams, groups or organisations that:

- have had a positive effect on people who access social care or early years and childcare
- support staff development
- help improve services
- support equality, diversity and language choice.

We also have three overarching themes and any projects entering the Accolades should let us know if (and how) their project supports them:

- safeguarding
- working with people to achieve what matters to them
- making use of digital technology.

All the projects entering the Accolades will be expected to meet the required standards of behaviour and practice for social care workers as set out in the *Code of Professional Practice for Social Care* (the Code).

The judges will use the Code as a benchmark when scoring, so projects must make sure their staff know and practise the behaviour employers, colleagues, people who access care and support, carers and the public expect of them.

You can download the Code at:

socialcare.wales/resources/code-of-professional-practice-for-social-care



Who can enter the Accolades?

The Accolades are open to any team, group or organisation that provides social care, and early years and childcare in Wales.

We are looking for applications from every area – the voluntary, private, co-operative or statutory sectors. The care and support you provide can be residential or community-based, large or small. You can be working with children, adults or carers.

Sometimes people don't realise how impressive their work is, so if you know a project that's eligible, please pass this information to them and encourage them to enter.

Why should my team/group/organisation enter?

The Accolades are an opportunity to showcase your achievements, and share best practice and what you have learned with others.

The care and support you provide also presents a positive image of social care, and early years and childcare to the public.

There are lots of benefits to entering the Accolades.

For your team/group/organisation:

- recognition of your achievements
- showing and sharing good practice
- increase in staff morale and a sense of pride
- increase in confidence and a sense of pride among those who receive care and support from you.

For the sector:

- learning from and sharing new ideas
- identifying effective improvement methods and processes
- recognising projects, achievements and good practice
- demonstrating a positive impact on people's lives
- taking equality, diversity and language preference into account when meeting people's needs
- supporting staff development
- encouraging service improvement
- improving the image of social care, and early years and childcare.

How do I enter?

1. This year, there are two ways you can enter – by completing a written application form or producing a short video (the video can be simple and straightforward, and won't be judged on its technical merits, only on the information provided in it). You can download the entry forms for both methods from our website at socialcare.wales/accolades2020
2. Make it clear which category you are entering – you can only enter one category per entry form. If you want to enter two or more categories, you must submit a separate entry form for each one.
3. Answer every question.
4. Stick to the word limit.
5. Read the guidelines before completing your entry form or making your video. Use evidence from your work to explain your answers and provide as much evidence from as many different people and organisations involved in your project as possible. This should include people who are supported by your project and carers, where possible.
6. Make sure you have read and understood the rules of entry.
7. Complete your entry and send it back to us by **5pm on 15 November 2019**.

The judges may move your entry to a different category if they feel it's appropriate. We won't accept any materials other than the entry form or video.

Please see the rules and conditions on page 7 for more information.

How will the Accolades be judged?

The judging panel is made up of Social Care Wales Board and staff members, as well as people who have experience of care and support, carers and representatives from a range of organisations we work closely with.

The judging takes place in two parts. The judges will agree a shortlist of the highest scoring entries, they will then visit each of the shortlisted entries before choosing the finalists for each category.

Important dates

Closing date for entries	5pm, 15 November 2019 – please note, we will not accept entries after the closing date
Notification of shortlisted entries	16 December 2019
Judges' visits to shortlisted entries	20 January to 7 February 2020
Finalists announced	17 February 2020
Afternoon award ceremony at City Hall, Cardiff	23 April 2020

Categories

There are five award categories.

The examples provided for each category below are for illustrative purposes only and should not limit your entry.

The judges will be looking for evidence that your entry is relevant to the category you have entered.

The categories

1. Building bright futures with children and families

- Celebrating projects that work with children, young people and families to help them achieve what matters to them

2. Developing and inspiring the workforce of tomorrow

- Celebrating projects using effective, creative and innovative approaches to developing the workforce to meet current and future demands and expectations
- Approaches may cover learning, development and/or qualifications

3. Improving care and support at home together

- Celebrating the benefits of working together to support the well-being of people living in their own home

4. Innovative and inspiring ways of working

- Celebrating projects that are trying out new ways of working to support people who access social care or early years and childcare

5. Working with and listening to people living with dementia

- Celebrating projects that put people living with dementia at the heart of their work so those living with dementia can achieve what matters to them.

Entry rules

- Entry is free
- The Accolades are open to teams, groups or organisations from the social care, and early years and childcare sectors in Wales
- Your team, group or organisation must be based in Wales
- You must answer each question on the entry form/in the video
- You should refer to the [Code of Professional Practice for Social Care](#) in your entry and be aware of the standards of professional behaviour and practice required of social care workers
- Some of the work involved in your entry must have taken place since April 2017
- The judges will only consider information included on the entry form or in the video
- You must stick to the word or time limits provided – we won't consider any entries that exceed the word or time limits
- The judges won't consider supplementary material
- You must provide full contact details of someone within your team, group or organisation
- Any entries received after the closing date and time will not be accepted
- We will not send you confirmation we've received your entry
- It will not be possible to return your entry.

You must submit your entry by **5pm on Friday, 15 November 2019**.

Publicity

- Your team, group or organisation must agree to the information you provide on your entry form or in your video being used for promotional and publicity purposes for the Accolades, and to share notable practice and help others learn in the social care, and early years and childcare sectors
- We will make a short film of all the finalists' projects, which will be shown at the awards ceremony. Filming is likely to take place in March 2020 and all the finalists will be expected to make people available for filming. Finalists will be given more information and an indication of when filming will take place when they are announced
- All finalists could receive publicity in the media in Wales.

Judging

- The finalists and winners will be chosen by the judging panel
- The members of the judging panel must not have any connection to the projects entered for the Accolades
- The Accolades' organisers and judges cannot correspond with entrants about the judging process
- The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into
- Shortlisted projects must be able to accept a visit by the judges between 20 January and 7 February 2020.

The ceremony and awards

- Entrants should be available to attend the afternoon awards ceremony on 23 April 2020 at City Hall in Cardiff
- The finalists will be told how many places their team, group or organisation will have at the awards ceremony
- Trophies will be awarded to the winners of each category and certificates awarded to all finalists
- Teams, groups or organisations will need to accept the award or certificate in person
- Teams, groups or organisations will need to identify representatives for those who cannot attend in advance
- Attendees will be responsible for their own travel and accommodation expenses
- There will be no cash awards or equivalent
- If it emerges an entrant has breached the rules, before or after an Accolade is presented, the judges may disqualify the entrant. If this happens, the trophy and certificate must be returned promptly.



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