

PRESS RELEASE

CFS™ Exhibition launch in Wales

Jenny Randerson AM will launch a bilingual multimedia exhibition on 16 June entitled Communication Friendly Spaces™ in the Home Context, a project sponsored by the Welsh Assembly Government.

The exhibition at the Senedd in Cardiff Bay, available to view between the 16 and 17 June, will celebrate the achievement of registered childminders who took part in an innovative project developed between the National Childminding Association (NCMA) and specialists in effective learning environments, Elizabeth Jarman Ltd.

The Communication Friendly Spaces™ Home Context project, developed by Elizabeth Jarman Ltd provided specialised training for childminders within NCMA Children Come First networks in Wales to support the development of children's communication skills. Childminders learnt how children's physical environments impact on the development of children's speaking and listening skills.

Liz Bayram, NCMA's Director, NCMA said:

"NCMA in Wales is very happy with the results of the partnership with Elizabeth Jarman Ltd with funding from the Welsh Assembly Government.

"NCMA knows that communication is a crucial area of child development, and a recent survey by the charity I CAN suggested that too many children across the UK are starting school without the vital communication and linguistic skills they need to be effective learners.

"We are keen to ensure that registered childminders in Wales continue to be involved in improving outcomes for children and are provided with continuous opportunities to develop their practice. Registered childminders provide a unique

childcare setting within their own home, and the programme will be a useful tool in supporting the development of communication and language skills.”

Elizabeth Jarman, developing the project, said:

“The award from the Welsh Assembly Government recognised the significant impact that the physical environment can have on children’s language development. It’s essential to continue raising awareness of this so that practitioners can develop spaces that effectively nurture and support children’s language skills.

“The CFS™ Home Context training and development programme has been really effective and childminders are reporting a significant impact on children’s speaking and listening skills.