

Become a Registered Nursery Inspector

Ready to start your application? [Skip ahead](#)

About the role

Do you have a good understanding of how young children learn and develop? Are you confident in judging standards of 3- and 4-year-old children? Can you identify strengths and shortcomings in provision and leadership appropriately?

Are you good at explaining things without using jargon and putting people at their ease? Are you able to gather evidence quickly and evaluate its importance accurately? Do you write clearly and succinctly and make sure that what you wish to convey is easily understood by others?

If the answer is yes to these questions, why not consider becoming a Registered Nursery Inspector.

Eligibility

You'll be able to inspect through the medium of English and/or Welsh, and will be:

- a qualified teacher with at least 3 years' experience of teaching children of 3- to 4-years of age or have worked as an advisory teacher (with QTS) supporting non-maintained settings for at least 2 years.

If you've applied to become a Registered Nursery Inspector before but you weren't invited to the training, we'd be happy to consider a new application if you feel your experience now meets our requirements.

Selection and training

We'll be in touch about the outcome of your application by **23 January 2026**. The training will be available in English and Welsh, and will include:

- **Part one**
An online meeting on **10 February 2026**.
- **Part two**
This includes oral and written assessments, which will be held on **17-19 March 2026** (in Cardiff -

venue TBC).

- **Probationary inspection(s)**

You'll be deployed on an assessed inspection, and the lead inspector will grade your performance. You need an A or B grade to pass.

The training is totally free of charge, and we'll pay for your travel and subsistence and accommodation (if you're eligible) in line with our [travel and subsistence policy](#).

Endorsement

In order to attend training and, if successful, attend inspections we must receive an endorsement from your employer. This must be received in advance of the training, or you will be unable to attend. An email will be sent to the contact you shared in your application.

Disclosure and Barring service certificate

To move on to the assessed inspection, you must complete the written assessments successfully and have a valid Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) Enhanced certificate. The certificate must be less than three years' old, and include the Child workforce category. Once we've got your certificate, our Planning and Deployment team will be in touch with details of the assessed inspection. On the inspection, the lead inspector will assess your work and will give you a grade at the end of the inspection week.

We'd recommend that you apply for a DBS as soon as you pass part 2 - these certificates can take up to six weeks to be issued. Once you've received your DBS, or if you have one already, please send a scanned copy to dbschecks@estyn.gov.wales and include the name and date of the training so that we can check it meets our requirements. **You will not be deployed or considered as having fully passed the training until your certificate has been received.**

Deployment

Registered Nursery inspectors submit tenders for work with us. There is no limit on how often they might inspect for us during the academic year.

Annual update training

Every year, we invite all inspectors to attend update training; you must attend this training to carry on as an inspector. There's no charge for the training, but we're not able to pay supply cover or travel and subsistence costs.

How to apply

Online application form: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/3ITYEB/>

Closing date: Midday, 12 December 2025

We'll contact everyone with the result of their application by **23 January 2026**.

Any fields marked with * are mandatory, so you won't be able to submit the form without entering a response for these fields. If they don't apply to you, please enter 'N/A'.

Contact details

This pack contains all of the information you need about the role and the application process, but if you have any questions please email us at events@estyn.gov.wales or call us on 02920 446510.

We look forward to receiving your application.