

Child Poverty: Not only a third world problem....

29% of children in Wales are in poverty: according to the ONS (2019).

1 in 4 children in poverty leave primary school with inadequate reading skills (Save the Children, 2019).

54% GCSE gap in attainment between the poorest and richest children (Goodman & Gregg, 2010).

Objectives:

- To evaluate the affects of poverty on children's development
- To analyse current initiatives of tackling child poverty in Wales
- To identify if enough is being done to reduce Welsh child poverty issues

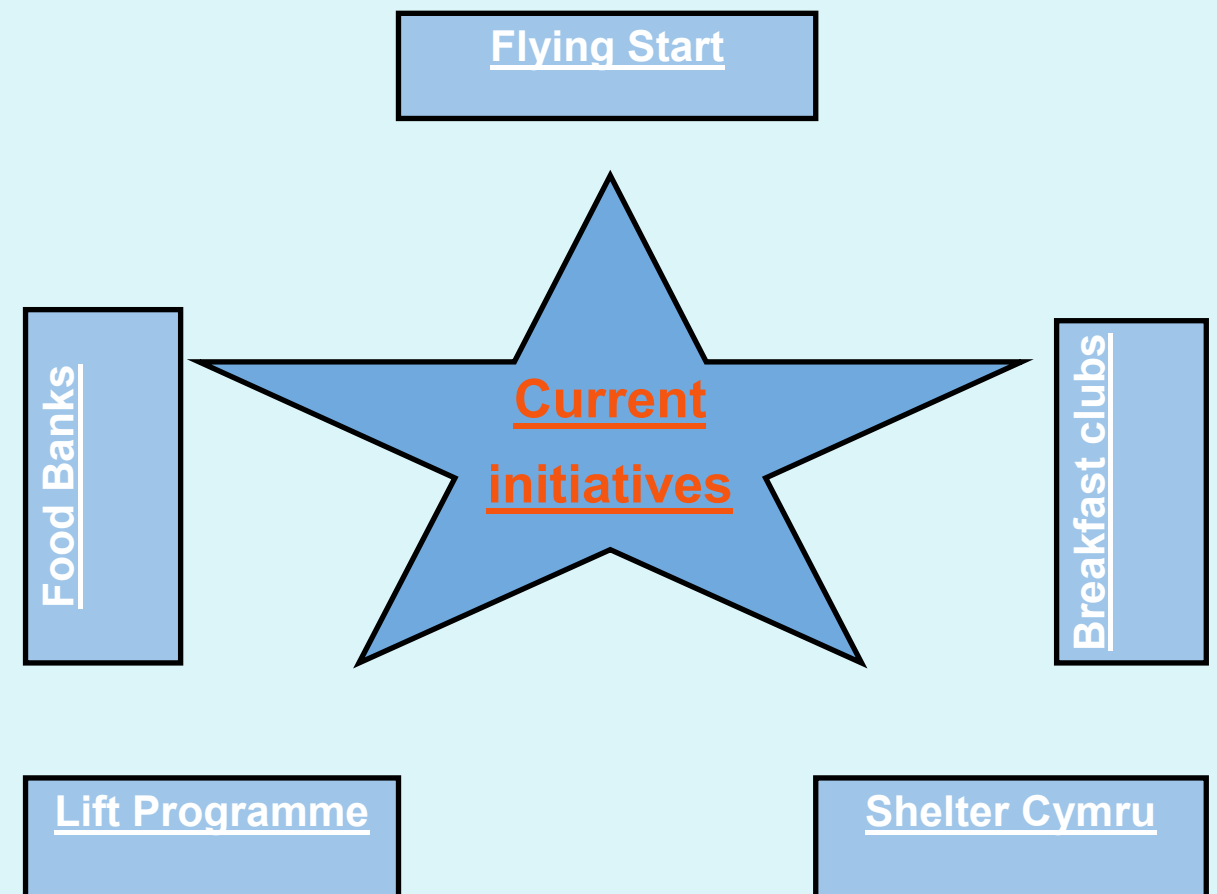
Affects of poverty on learning:

Piaget cited in Doherty & Hughes (2009) states that children learn from experiences but poverty reduces opportunities.

Malnutrition causes developmental delays, weakened immunity and learning barriers (Koletzko et al, 2019).

Child poverty reduces accessibility to educational resources (McKinney, 2014).

Poverty causes stress and further mental health conditions that impact student motivation (Http 1).



Welsh Government, 2018.

160,000 children in Wales are not fulfilling their nutritional needs and this needs to change (Foodfoundation.org.uk, 2019)



Conclusion:

Welsh initiatives are helping local economies but will not eradicate child poverty in Wales.

Recommendations:

Government benefit reforms within Universal Credit

Schools to continue providing meals during summer holidays