

CYLCH MEITHRIN TRELAI & CAERAU

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

At Cylch Meithrin Trelai & Caerau, we aim to educate the children through the medium of Welsh. Our aim is to encourage free play to focus on each module of the Foundation Phase, where our children are given every opportunity to explore, experiment and develop their abilities whilst we introduce through “enhanced and structured play” the seven areas of learning, both in and out doors adapting and enhancing our resources daily. We offer them support to become independent, confident decision makers, who have freedom to explore, in a richly resourced, age appropriate setting whilst using and improving their Welsh Language.

The Location of our Cylch – brief description.

Cylch Meithrin Trelai is based off the main Cowbridge Road West that runs through Ely and Caerau, On Plymouthwood Road in the old Bowling Pavilion now used solely by Cylch Meithrin Trelai. Cylch Meithrin Caerau is also based off the main Cowbridge Road West, on Colin Way, next to Trelai Park. Both settings are smartly fenced and secure with access from the setting directly to an out door area where children enjoy free flow.

Cardiff Council have allowed us to be part of the refurbishments and with our success with our grant applications we have improved the buildings and adapted and added to them to benefit the children's age and accommodate their needs whilst maximising the space to the full potential in and out doors. There is plenty of safe parking for parents as well as a MUGA system, adjacent park, large playing fields and some well-established playing ground with various apparatus, a grassed playing and walking area, ideal for promoting a healthy and active lifestyle at both settings.

Cylch Meithrin Trelai & Caerau is open 5 days per week, both mornings and afternoons, for sessional care and has a breakfast and after school club. We offer a full wrap around service, complete with pick up and drop off, via our bus service, allowing parents to commit to their careers, have quality respite with siblings or re skill etc. safe in the knowledge their children are being cared for in a richly resourced setting.

The fenced area houses a muddy kitchen, garage, mark making, planting, play area and apparatus to develop the children's gross motor skills. We have purchased an outdoor storage container that houses various equipment, bikes scooters cars, tractors, prams, pushchairs and many more to encourage exercise, improve motor skills and improve health and well-being.

We have an area for our forest school and planting and have the use of a large multi play equipment maintained by Cardiff Council Parks, to develop the children's gross motor skills and enhance the play factor of the out-door area and our open door policy, where children are free to play and explore the outdoors safely.

We have installed a Palladio Awning to protect the children from the elements, encouraging their freedom to explore the outdoors in all weather, where they are encouraged to wear appropriate clothing and foot wear to protect them and keep them comfortable through their adventures. There is a large main hall where the nursery runs daily, the entrance opens to a corridor leading to our cloakroom, where children and parents are welcomed and can store the children's coats bags, buggies etc. there are three separate toilet facilities one complete with changing facilities for babies, potties and urinals to encourage the children who are toilet training and give them a choice, age appropriate suitable to their needs. Both settings are fully adapted for wheelchair users, mums with pushchairs and as well as a male and female toilet it has a fully adapted Disabled toilet and a small office to the rear.

There are several areas where as well as quiet time the children can express themselves artistically through movement and dance. We encourage the children to develop their self-esteem by singing dancing and they are always keen to show off their talents. Most of our sing-along's and concerts are held to encourage the children to be confident and are well supported by the parents and families, alike.

The kitchen is well equipped with ample cupboards and storage, the kitchen assistant is trained and we are registered with the food standards agency

and once again achieved the highest rating of 5.

The large main hall has a role play area and various areas including a quiet area and a “cwtch”. Where children can be quiet and relax if they choose. We work hard to ensure the children enjoy a rich and healthy balanced diet and a minimum of the recommended fruit and fibre a day.

We have a gold standard healthy snack award and train all staff to recognise the essentials of a balanced diet. We encourage the children's role play to prepare all types of fruit and veg to help them enjoy their benefits.

We believe that with the support of our well educated, trained teachers the children can and will reach their full potential, with enhanced well-being and physical development.

We are vigilant and trained to monitor and record any additional needs of children and work with them and their family to ensure early intervention is sought through the network of professionals we work with that support the children's individual needs.

We encourage tooth brushing and practice good hygiene and encourage the parents to support our good practice to improve the well-being of the children.

The Cylch Manager, Kathy Farleigh has been involved in child care on and off for the past 37 years, she has an NVQ 3 & 4 in Early Years Education and has an NVQ 4 in bilingualism and childcare in the early years with Geiriau Bach as well as several other qualifications, including Managerial and Leadership, Health and Hygiene along with Children's Special Needs and children with Learning and Physical Disabilities. She is a trained fire warden and has completed all modules of the Foundation Phase and Flying Starts WG modules on this training she bases her teaching methods encouraging and reiterating her training to ensure her leaders are focused and up to date with resources and facilities to offer the trading and daily routines in line with planning to ensure the children's experiential learning gives them every opportunity to challenge and develop their needs.

Lisamarie is the Leader at the Caerau setting, she has an NVQ 3 & 5 in childcare and a BA (hons) in Secondary Welsh education QTS, she is supported in her role by Tanisha her deputy leader, 4 fully qualified NVQ 3 teaching assistants, Megan who is also a SENCO, Morgan, Lauren and Beth, all are keen to work in the outdoor role and encourage, planting, growing

and developing the children's outdoor experiences. There are 2 teaching assistants, Georgia and Emily , who have gained their NVQ 2 and are working towards their NVQ 3 in childcare. Diane is the kitchen assistant and holds a level 2 in Food and hygiene.

Joanne is the Leader at the Trelai setting, she has an NVQ 3 in childcare and is working towards her level 5, she is supported in her role by Angela her deputy leader, 5 fully qualified NVQ 3 teaching assistants, Charlene who is also a SENCO, Lili, Harleigh, Jolene and Stacey all are keen to work in the outdoor role and encourage, planting, growing and developing the children's outdoor experiences. There are 3 teaching assistants, Saskeah, Lena and Luke , who have gained their NVQ 2 and are working towards their NVQ 3 in childcare. Diane is the kitchen assistant and holds a level 2 in Food and hygiene. Nancy is the cook/ lunchtime supervisor and a domestic assistant.

Lisamarie, Joanne and the staff work very hard as a team and have frequent visits from Valerie Allen, Multi Cultural Practitioner.

Angela is head of transport and holds an NVQ 3 and level 4 in child care and Bilingualism. When she's not safely transporting children she is assisting the leader with inductions, childcare or office work. Several staff are working towards their play worker qualification and are keen to enhance the afterschool club due to its popularity.

Our Committee is hard working and shares good practice offering ideas and solutions to fund raising and the smooth running of the setting.

Our Chairperson and committee are supported by Kathy Farleigh the Manager, Lisamarie and Joanne the Leaders, Gary Farleigh the chair man, Cheryl Alexander social worker and various parents who assist, each year family and their friends and families. They are encouraged to join the committee and offer their support, our ethos is "There are no strangers here, just friends you haven't met!

At both settings we mirror the routine and manage both settings under the umbrella of Mudiad Meithrin who are an invaluable support to us. All the staff in their daily routine encourage the children to find their own individual interests, encouraging, enhancing and supervising their learning through play, whilst gently introducing the seven areas of

learning, hoping to discover the new age archaeologist, scientist or biologist and turn them into confident little bilingual beings.

Our love, care and respect of children is what we pride ourselves on from our very first meetings with children and their families, the staff are very caring and trained to the highest standards to respect the families we share our setting with.

Kathy the Proud Manager of Cylch Meithrin Trelai and Cylch Meithrin Caerau, is a proud mother of four, a very proud grandmother of 8, her children and grandchildren were and are educated through the medium of Welsh. Her eldest daughter has a degree in Secondary Welsh Education. Kathy quotes "I believe in solid foundations, if the foundations are perfectly laid the building grows from strength to strength", this is what we aim to achieve at Cylch Meithrin Trelai and Cylch Meithrin Caerau. Kathy works from her base at Cylch Meithrin Trelai, Cylch Meithrin Caerau, our sister Cylch was opened due to the increase in demand for Welsh language education and we believe the popularity of Cylch Meithrin Trelai, where the needs of the children and their parents help us improve and develop our services to meet the needs of the service users. Val, Charlotte and the other staff take turns to help out at our very popular setting, so all staff get to know all the children as well as their key children and both Cylchoedd come together for celebratory days, trips, outings and educational visits, open days, etc.

All the staff are regularly encouraged to go on training courses made available to them, to further their skills and update their knowledge to benefit our service users.

We encourage Welsh speaking students to do work placement with us and are proud that some have been former children who come to us on work placement from school and come back to train as members of our full time staff.

We work closely with the feeder school, Ysgol Gymraeg Coed Y Gof in Pentrebane and Nant Caerau on Caerau Lane. Kathy boasts "over the 37 years she has been involved in Welsh education she has seen the language and the schools go from strength to strength with new schools and nursery

schools being opened almost annually to meet the growing need for Welsh Education in the areas surrounding”.

Our Nursery holds 5 morning and 5 afternoon sessions. The children are aged between 2 and 5 years, although after school club welcomes children up to the age of 12. We also offer a wrap-around service that involves our sister setting and both settings use our bus service, information leaflets are available in the registration packs for parents as well as our hand book, additional information is available on request.

We are registered with CIW and offer our services for 2.5 hours per session. We are registered for 22 children at our Caerau setting and 44 at our Trelai setting to children to date.

Breakfast club starts at 8. am and our after school club runs till 5.30pm.

It is lovely to see the benefits we have to offer the children who are clearly ready to join us and explore our setting making new friends, as well as the time out it gives mums and dads, a chance for them to enroll on a course or two, to train or re-skill, or just to meet new mums and dads and get out for an hour or two in the morning or afternoons for some respite, or spend quality time with younger siblings.

Kathy the Manager, is also a member of the Local Advisory Groups and forums in the area, where ideas, suggestions and the general success or information of the various funds and achievements from such funds, are fed to our committee and reported to and from the Welsh Assembly.

We have achieved an Excellent Estyn report 2013 and have several awards, along with Cylch Rhagorol, Gold Standard Healthy Snack Award, we work tirelessly to offer the very best of service to all our users with the most up to date toys, equipment and planning to develop the children’s full potential whilst in our care.

We offer support to all and pride ourselves on the good working relationship we have with parent’s and service users alike, as well as the wide network of professionals that we liaise with, to offer the highest standard of care indiscriminately.

We are indebted to the support of our advisory teachers from Early Years and Flying Start and feel privileged to be part of Flying Start a Welsh Government Initiative affording Families in certain postcode areas the opportunity to fund their 2 year old children, the term after their 2nd

birthday.

We work hard to keep our fees competitive and work with all our service users to provide a service tailored to their needs, with excellent credentials. Assuring You of our best intentions at all times.

Kathy Farleigh, Lisamarie Bracey, Joanne Stiff and the team at Cylch Meithrin Trelai & Caerau

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