

YSGOL PEN Y BRYN NURSERY PLUS

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Pen y Bryn Nursery Plus Quality of Care Report July 2025

Purpose:

This is a report to our parents and carers containing the results of our parent/carer questionnaire, self-appraisal process and a summary of our achievements for the 2024/2025 period.

It is a statutory requirement to provide this information and we would encourage all parents to spend some time reading this report.

Pen y Bryn Nursery Plus: Background

The Nursery has been operating since April 2010 as a private provider for nursery pupils at Ysgol Pen y Bryn only. We changed our registration with CIW to provide care for up to 30 children instead of 19 due to an increase in demand on 05/09/2022.

From the inception of Nursery Plus we have been committed to a simple philosophy - that providing high quality nursery care, with committed staff, at an affordable price would ensure its success. As such we believe that we have established a nursery with an excellent reputation and are proud to have sustained an excellent standard of quality childcare and education since opening.

We are currently registered for thirty children and operate during term time only from 8am to 3.15pm, weekly or part week places are available to children from Pen y Bryn Nursery class. Numbers have risen steadily throughout the year as the excellent reputation of Nursery Plus has spread by word of mouth, and as our current nursery parents get to know each other at drop off and pick up time at school and via the online parent information group. Also parents have access to our web page on the Ysgol Pen-Y-Bryn website.

At Pen y Bryn Nursery Plus we aim:

To provide a caring atmosphere where each child will feel happy, safe and secure.

To understand each child as an individual and employ a variety of approaches to allow each child to develop as a confident individual;

To assist each child to achieve their potential.

To have our children feel a sense of community within our nursery and encourage all staff to know each child as an individual.

To provide education through play and a broad and balanced curriculum

Where appropriate, to employ a multi-agency approach in ensuring that any child who experiences individual barriers to learning is supported by the appropriate professional agency within the nursery environment, ensuring parents are fully involved;

To support and encourage staff to develop their own skills through continuous professional development opportunities.

We believe that to provide the best experience for the child all relevant people with an input to the child should work in partnership. Therefore, we strive to provide partnership with parents/carers, staff in Ysgol Pen y Bryn Nursery classes and from other agencies, and through this holistic approach, we believe that we provide a service which takes account of each child's individual needs.

Staff

During 2024-2025 the Nursery Plus team consists of our Nursery Plus Manager Mrs Andrea Baron and Childcare practitioners Mrs Donna Hall and Mrs Rebecca Harris and Mrs Anita Vincent is our Lunchtime supervisor.

All new staff are thoroughly vetted (DBS disclosure) before a staff member is offered a position at Ysgol Pen y Bryn Nursery Plus. Our staff team have qualifications which cover NVQ level 2 and 3, a NCFE CACHE level 3 in supporting teaching and learning, a cache level 3 in early years and an NNEB. Another member of staff has a HNC level in Childcare and Education.

All team members are carefully selected for their skills and experience.

Views of Parents and children

The children in Nursery Plus quickly settle into their daily routine – we are fortunate to be able to offer hot school made lunches to our children, and this is very popular with both the children and their parents. This last year, around half of the children have a hot meal at lunch time.

Parents have the opportunity to complete questionnaires regarding their and their child's experience during the time they spend at Pen y Bryn Nursery Plus. Many parents also respond in writing to their child's end of year report. We have many examples of unsolicited letters and cards of thanks and support from parents for the care that Nursery Plus staff have given to their children during their time in Nursery Plus.

We have communicated with parents via email and seesaw. Seesaw is regularly updated with information and photographs of what the children have been doing and is a useful communication tool as we can send messages to parents daily, and parents can send daily messages to us regarding their child's health, well-being and education. This has proven to be successful so we will continue with these means of daily communications with parents. Children at the Nursery are encouraged to

contribute to half termly planning for activities for each new topic, and their opinions and ideas are regularly incorporated as the topic evolves.

Our past and current CIW Inspection reports are available to parents on our website and many existing and prospective parents have mentioned that they have read them – which shows the value of our web page for information for prospective and existing parents.

The web page is regularly updated with information of what has been going on and is a useful communication tool and ‘window to the Nursery’. All policies are available on the website.

This year we have been able to offer parents and children the opportunity to come into Nursery Plus for our open day and see Nursery Plus. If anyone has been unable to attend we have tried to provide them with a link to a short video on YouTube.

All parents receive a written report about their child’s year in Nursery Plus and are invited to make a written comment in response to the report.

All parents are very welcome to pop in to Nursery for a chat at the end of the day, or to make an appointment to see the Nursery Manager at their convenience. Our staff attend all school Nursery open evenings so that Parents can have a chat and get to know staff in Nursery Plus.

Comments from parent’s questionnaire January 2025:

“the nursery plus team are fantastic, I feel so relaxed knowing he’s there, playing and learning all at once. With such kind staff, it’s them that make the difference. Thank you all. X”

“H only joined in November, the difference I see in him is amazing, he already knows his colours/numbers/shapes, I strongly believe that this has been massively helped by playgroup plus, the updates we get on seesaw is brilliant and what is done with the children is so much more than any other playgroups/nursery any of my children have been to.”

“No complaints and would highly recommend.”

“My child is extremely happy in Nursery Plus the staff are warm, highly skilled and providing a nurturing and stimulating environment.”

“C’s speech and communication skills have developed so much over the short time he has been there and we are really happy with the service provided.”

“As a child born in covid, nursery was really difficult and she didn’t enjoy the initial going in and would cling on to me. Since attending PYB she is always so happy and excited to attend school, it’s lovely seeing her go straight in and looking so confident and comfortable.”

“the staff are wonderful! Thank you so much to all the staff who have made the start of attending school such a lovely experience.”

“As a parent, nursery plus has been a life saver. My child loves the staff so much that he asks during the holidays if he’s going to see the team soon. This means I can leave my child without worry and work without guilt. They combine the perfect amount of play and learning. We’re incredibly grateful to the team.”

Activities children have liked:

“J loves crafts and baking but also enjoys story time and boogieing with Mrs Hall.”

“trying new foods, painting, playing in the bikes.”

“love the variety of activities and how they reinforce the work done in class.”

‘My child enjoys all the activities. She loves the role play toys .’

“My child enjoyed going on a walk with his friends, and has also really enjoyed finding out what the cheeky elf was up to, and is currently loving Chinese new year.”

Assessment

We continue to develop our procedures for assessment of the children’s development, and ensure that we always liaise with school nursery staff with regard to planning activities that complement and extend those that they have experiences during their time in the school nursery class.

Nursery Plus staff plan activities to develop children’s skills and provide appropriate challenge. Children’s progress and achievements are observed, recorded and discussed at weekly planning meetings with the school Nursery staff in order to share individual information, avoid repetition of activities and ensure appropriate challenge for individual children. We are committed to continuing to provide activities that will robustly challenge our pupils to ensure their educational, personal and social development.

Staff Performance Review

Staff meet annually to formally review their performance and to set targets for their own personal development. Further informal review is a continual formative process which ensures further training and opportunities for Continuous Professional Development are regularly explored and accessed. Opportunities for staff to take part in both training arranged at Ysgol Pen y Bryn and wider training opportunities through Conwy Early Years Partnership have allowed staff to access further professional development.

Staff training and development

All Nursery Plus staff are encouraged to upgrade their skills and qualifications and are provided opportunities to attend courses suited to their continuous professional development (CPD).

Through last year’s staff review system the training needs of the team were identified as Leadership and Management training, Child Protection training, training in aspects of Additional Needs. All staff are aware of the need for continuous professional development and the requirement on them to take up opportunities to extend their skills. Nursery Plus staff have this year completed food hygiene level 2. Child Protection online safety. Safeguarding encompass. Resilience training.

Support for Children and Families

We continue to monitor, record, note progress and other assessment information to improve the development and learning opportunities for each child. This year this has had a significant effect, particularly for children with additional support needs such as Speech, Language and Communication needs.

Through our partnership with Ysgol Pen y Bryn we continue to access various professionals including Educational Psychologists, Behavioural Therapists, Speech and Language Therapists and Health Visitors.

We have continued to access annual child protection training through Ysgol Pen y Bryn and Conwy Education department. All staff are aware of their responsibility – as childcare professionals, with regard to child protection. Staff are aware that the current Child Protection officers are Richard Monteiro and Liz Roberts and these ensure that staff or parents are aware of this information should they need to approach them as Child Protection officers if they feel they have any issue which needs to be addressed.

We continue to develop our very positive links with Ysgol Pen y Bryn as we believe that the children's Nursery Plus experience allows for a well- planned transition to full time education. This is evident in the ease with which Nursery Plus children have settled into fulltime education since setting up in 2009.

We are committed to displaying children's work so that they and their parents/carers can celebrate their achievement both within Nursery Plus and on seesaw. We will continue to develop this throughout the current year as we believe that it encourages further discussion and ideas from both children and their parents.

During our circle and 'carpet' times, children are encouraged to talk about their family and home life and share their interests and opinions in order to extend oracy, and social and learning and Welsh language opportunities.

We continue to develop our outdoor play area and ensure as much as possible that the children have daily access to quality outdoor play facilities. In 2020 we installed a canopy allowing access to the outdoors in all weather. In this area we have provided the children with a mud kitchen, a music wall and a water wall to encourage further exploratory play and learning. We installed a shed shop and a climbing wall. As well as growing potatoes, tomatoes and herbs, this year we have grown strawberries and cucumber which proved to be very successful.

Targets for 2025-2026

Continue and develop the regular meetings with school teaching staff as good practise for exchange of information, feedback to staff from courses attended and to inform staff of Foundation Phase developments.

Continue to develop the use of everyday Welsh by staff and children during the sessions

Enhance the learning experiences for the children through the access to digital media.

Enhance our daily communication channels to parents thus ensuring that parents have every access to information about their child's day at Nursery Plus.

Maintain our high standards of continuity of care through continuous process of evaluation by all members of the team

Summary-At Pen y Bryn Nursery Plus we recognise that the provision of excellence is achieved through on-going self- review. However, we take great satisfaction and pride in the improvements and achievements we have made.

We view ourselves as one part of the working partnership with parent/carers and we also recognise the importance of working alongside local and national government agencies in order to deliver a service that promotes our ethos of Continuity of Care. We further believe that in working in partnership with CIW we continue to build on strong foundations, whilst embracing new developments and ideas put forward by all the other agencies with whom we work in the interests of our children.

Documents contributing to this report

CIW Inspection Report 2020 Published in 2020

2024/2025 Parent responses to annual parent and service user questionnaire concerning service provided at Ysgol Pen y Bryn Nursery Plus

Report comment slips 2025

National Minimum Standards for Regulated Childcare