



# Early Years Wales Blynyddoedd Cynnar Cymru

## Astudiaethau Achos Camau / Camau Case Study

Name and Setting: Rachel Harris Manager of Overton Playcentre

Case study completed by Siobhan Chambers of Early Years Wales December 2020.

Staff at Overton Playcentre were introduced to the Camau project by Early Years Wales. Several members of staff completed the Gwiriwr (Welsh language level checker) back in December 2018. 8 members of staff completed the Welsh entry Camau course and 4 of these then went on to complete the foundation level. Although there was more interest in the foundation level unfortunately COVID19 struck and due to time and other commitments some found it too much during the uncertain time.

Staff thoroughly enjoyed attending the courses. The course was held during the evening with most coming straight from work refreshments were made available each week and all were made to feel welcome in a relaxed atmosphere. Rachel speaks very highly of the tutor who held the course each week and also commented that her approach to delivering the course made participants feel at ease, relaxed and were not embarrassed at all if they got the pronunciation wrong as they all encouraged and supported one another. It helped that the course was held at Overton Playcentre as the majority of attendees work at the setting with only 2 participants coming from another setting.

With such a relaxed atmosphere and an approachable relaxed tutor Rachel and her team at Overton Playcentre felt comfortable in using the Welsh language throughout the course of the evening course with other people throughout the evening.

Rachel explained that completing the Camau course and using the Welsh language in their setting has helped with recent grant applications with local authorities and that their end goal is to be able to provide the Active Offer. Rachel has recently completed a Welsh language self-assessment form and are working towards short term goals.

Rachel stated that the support, encouragement and approach of Early Years Wales and their tutor made the process of learning the Welsh language enjoyable. We discussed the future online courses in which Rachel is very enthusiastic to participate.

Staff continue to use the Welsh language throughout the setting with the children whilst encouraging each other. They also logged into the work Welsh website and have made their way through a variety of short courses online. To keep the Welsh language fresh in their minds.

Comments from Siobhan – Early Years Wales: Rachel and staff at Overton Playcentre have worked hard to maintain and better their knowledge of the Welsh language. They are a close team who are doing a fantastic job at encouraging each other. Despite struggles and restrictions with COVID19 Rachel is enthusiastic to continue to work with myself and participate with further training.