

Case Study – Camau Courses

Miri Meithrin, Holyhead



Three members of our staff at the Cylch had the opportunity to attend a Camau course. Helen Mai Davies, Mudiad Meithrin's Language Training Co-ordinator came into contact with the Cylch, along with our support officer to inform us about the different courses and opportunities available.



Miri Morswyn are full day care providers, offering care and education to children from the age of 2.5 up to their time starting primary school. They normally go on to Ysgol Gymraeg Morswyn, and the Cylch is located on the school site in the town of Holyhead. The relationship with the school is strong, and both are settings which play a key role in contributing towards the prosperity and future of the Welsh language in the town.

We were all interested in taking an Advanced course as we can all speak Welsh, but we wanted to increase our confidence and improve our language skills at the setting. This was a great opportunity to do so for several reasons. Some of us were also keen to be able to use more Welsh outside the setting, so now was time to put shine to our language skills, and remind ourselves of some practices that may have slipped!

We received details about the course from Mudiad Meithrin and after registration it was arranged that our tutor, Non would come to our location to run the course. This worked well for us as we were able to learn within the atmosphere of the setting and identify how we could implement what we had learned after each lesson. This also enabled us to work around the care requirements of the children at the setting and ensure a sufficient staffing rota. From a personal point of view, it also meant that there was no need to arrange childcare in the evenings or at a weekend, and no need to travel after a busy day's work!

We were all a little bit nervous at the beginning – not sure what to expect and afraid to make mistakes or get something wrong! But Non was very friendly and made sure she supported us along the way. She explained things well and was easy to follow and listen to. The course was also easy to follow and we learned new, simpler, or clearer words or phrases to use at the setting. The learning approach also included handouts for us to continue with our learning after the lesson, which helped when looking back to remember a few things. We never felt silly when making a mistake, or mis-interpreting a word and we had a lot of fun together during the course.

We are all more confident in using Welsh at the setting and at work. The Manager is more confident in using Welsh with her staff which is good practice, and models expectations within the team.

A few members of staff would appreciate more opportunities to use Welsh outside the setting. Mudiad Meithrin will consider possible opportunities to do this and share relevant information when reviewing the development of future actions.

