

This letter is also available in Welsh

Ely and Caerau Integrated Children's Centre  
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23/04/2026

Dear leaders and staff

**Interim visit:** March 2026

A team of inspectors visited Ely and Caerau Integrated Children's Centre recently to consider progress in relation to two of their priorities from their current improvement plan. The inspection team took the opportunity to observe teaching and learning, talk with children and staff and consider documentation. Below is a summary of the findings from the visit.

### Focus of visit

#### **Adult Engagement: To continue to strengthen and improve the consistency of adult–child interactions through intentional, inclusive and relational practice**

- Leaders demonstrate strong, reflective leadership through robust self-evaluation processes. They identify areas for improvement accurately and take timely action. This supports a continuous improvement in provision.
- There is a clear and effective commitment to ongoing professional learning. Training is well-matched to the identified needs of staff. They employ a suitable research-based approach and share their knowledge and understanding well during discussions and meetings. This has led to increased staff confidence and supported more consistency in practice across the setting.
- Many staff have a secure understanding of the centre's priorities, including the need to ensure high-quality adult interactions and consistent use of restorative language. They apply this knowledge effectively to support children's social and emotional development, with a few staff continuing to develop their practice.

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- Overall, this supports most children to demonstrate strong emotional regulation. They communicate their feelings effectively and resolve conflicts independently. This contributes well to the centre's calm, nurturing learning environment.
- Leaders and staff foster strong partnerships with parents. They actively involve children and families in shaping a culturally responsive curriculum. This promotes a strong sense of belonging, respect for diversity, and an early appreciation of different languages, cultures and traditions purposefully.

**To develop rich, inclusive environments and experiences that promote children's language, thinking, and problem-solving, supporting holistic development through a curriculum that respects childhood**

- Leaders and staff provide a rich, well-planned curriculum that nurtures a creative, explorative and inclusive ethos for all children in an effective learning environment. The curriculum engages and supports children's interests successfully. Through a highly effective 'Rhythm of the Year' approach, alongside ongoing adaptations in response to daily fascinations, adults support children's progression well.
- Leaders and staff have a strong, productive working relationship with parents. Events such as 'Stay and Play' sessions and actively seeking and responding to parental feedback contributes well to fostering productive and effective communication between the centre and home.
- Leaders ensure that purposeful professional learning supports improvements in practice successfully. As a result, staff deliver high-quality, consistent provision which is enriched by valuable experiences such as 'Forest School and 'Beach School'.
- Staff know children well and have high expectations of them. They use creative approaches and effective questioning to develop their thinking, problem-solving and communication skills successfully. This supports children to persevere when learning is challenging.
- Practitioners across the setting promote the use of the Welsh language successfully, supporting children well to make good progress from their starting points.
- Leaders and staff demonstrate a secure understanding of child development. They use information gathered from observations of children's learning effectively to inform planning and to support children' progress from their starting points. This information is shared meaningfully with parents, such as through the detailed learning journeys.

The centre's latest core inspection report and further information on the process and purpose of interim visits can be found on our website:

<http://www.estyn.gov.wales/provider/6811018>

Yours sincerely



**Liz Miles**

Assistant Director