Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru
Care Inspectorate Wales

Inspection Report

Enfys Fach Nursery

Priory Church In Wales V A School, Pendre Close, Brecon, LD3 9EU

07871548765

The inspection visit took place on 04/02/2026

Service Information:

Operated by:	Enfys Fach Nursery
Care Type:	Children's Day Care
Registered places:	35
Main language(s):	English
Flying Start service:	Yes
Receive funding to provide early years part time education:	Yes
Promotion of Welsh language and culture:	The provider is not promoting the Welsh language and culture needs of people, and this requires improvement.

Ratings:

Well-being	Excellent
Care & Development	Excellent
Environment	Excellent
Leadership & Management	Excellent

Summary:

Children are extremely happy, relaxed and enjoy their time at the setting. They have exceptional opportunities to make choices and decisions about how they spend their time. Children develop positive, healthy relationships with their friends and staff. They have outstanding opportunities which encourage their curiosity, extend their learning and enable them to follow their own interests.

Staff have a thorough knowledge of how to keep children safe and healthy. They have an extensive range of policies, procedures and documentation in place which effectively support them when undertaking their roles. Staff are kind, patient, caring and offer reassurance to children when needed. They know the children very well which enables them to cater to children's individual needs and their development.

The environment is secure, clean, welcoming, and very well organised to support children's play and learning. There is a broad range of equipment and resources both indoors and outdoors to

encourage children to play and learn. The environment provides children with excellent opportunities to make independent choices in their play and develop their self-help skills.

Leadership is strong and leaders have an excellent vision which is shared with staff, children and families. They have a strong sense of purpose which sustains improvement and promotes outstanding outcomes for children and their families. Leaders really value staff and provide effective and regular meaningful support. They have excellent partnerships with parents, carers and other professionals, ensuring they work collectively to support children's learning and development.

Findings:

Well-being — Excellent

Children communicate confidently and are provided with meaningful opportunities to make choices and decisions about matters that affect them. For example, the wonder wall, where children, staff and family get to request something they would like to learn more about. During the visit, children were heard independently requesting stories to be read. Those who preferred to observe rather than participate were respectfully acknowledged, with staff responding sensitively to their individual preferences. Children's views and interests are clearly valued and consistently acted upon.

Children feel safe and secure within the setting, supported by attentive and nurturing staff who know them exceptionally well. All children are happy, settled, and demonstrate clear enjoyment. Newer children confidently seek reassurance when needed, with staff responding warmly and compassionately. Established routines are well understood, resulting in seamless transitions throughout the day. Where English is their second language a big effort is made by all staff to ensure they learn key phrases of the child's first language and promote inclusivity.

Children interact positively and effectively with both peers and staff. They demonstrate cooperation and teamwork, such as when playing together making a dinosaur world. Children explore the environment freely and engage successfully in both individual and group activities. Respect for their surroundings and for one another is evident, with children using good manners appropriately, occasionally supported by gentle reminders from staff.

Children show high levels of curiosity, motivation, and engagement in their play and learning. They benefit from a broad range of enriching experiences that support their holistic development. Opportunities are carefully balanced between child-initiated and adult-led activities, allowing children to follow their interests and become deeply absorbed in their learning. Concentration levels are strong and appropriate to age and stage of development.

Through play and daily routines, children develop a wide range of skills. They are provided with meaningful opportunities to build independence and take responsibility for themselves. At mealtimes, children confidently use real utensils. These experiences effectively promote self-help skills and contribute positively to children's confidence and self-esteem.

Care & Development — Excellent

Staff demonstrate an exceptional understanding of their roles and responsibilities in safeguarding and promoting children's health, safety and wellbeing. Comprehensive and meticulously maintained policies, procedures and documentation underpin practice and are embedded consistently across the setting. Safeguarding arrangements are robust and highly effective. Staff speak with confidence and clarity about the procedures they would follow should they have a concern, reflecting a deeply embedded culture of vigilance, accountability and unwavering commitment to protecting children.

Hygiene standards are exemplary. Staff are highly proactive in promoting children's independence in personal care routines, ensuring handwashing takes place routinely before meals and following outdoor or sensory play. As a result, children develop strong, lifelong hygiene habits from an early age. Record-keeping is thorough, precise and well organised. Accident, incident, existing injury and medication records are accurately maintained, regularly reviewed and reflect the setting's rigorous attention to detail.

Children benefit from a range of nutritious, freshly prepared meals and snacks that actively promote healthy lifestyles. Procedures for managing allergies, intolerances and dietary requirements are highly robust, ensuring children's individual needs are met safely and consistently. Mealtimes are calm, sociable and rich in meaningful conversation. Staff skilfully facilitate discussions, encouraging children to reflect on their experiences in a relaxed and joyful atmosphere. Daily access to a stimulating outdoor environment significantly enhances children's physical development and overall wellbeing.

Staff cultivate exceptionally strong, trusting relationships with children. Interactions are consistently warm, respectful and nurturing, creating an environment where children feel deeply valued and understood. Practitioners are exemplary role models, modelling kindness, respect and positive communication at all times. Staff go above and beyond to ensure that they offer an inclusive service to make sure all children's individual needs are met. They actively listen to children's voices, reinforcing the importance of mutual respect. Positive behaviour management strategies are highly effective and rooted in praise, encouragement and clear guidance. Expectations are communicated clearly, and children respond extremely well, demonstrating cooperation, empathy and respect for others.

Teaching and learning are of an exceptionally high standard. Staff inspire curiosity and foster a genuine love of learning by providing rich, meaningful opportunities for exploration and experimentation. Children are firmly placed at the heart of their learning journey, with staff expertly following their interests and extending learning in the moment. Observations are sharply focused and used strategically to inform next steps and deepen developmental progress.

The atmosphere throughout the nursery is vibrant yet calm, purposeful yet relaxed. Children feel empowered to play energetically or engage in quiet reflection, knowing they are fully supported. Responsive planning ensures learning experiences are dynamic, engaging and precisely tailored to children's needs and fascinations. Systems to support children with additional needs are

exemplary, ensuring highly inclusive practice and consistently positive outcomes. Language development is thoughtfully enriched through the introduction and everyday use of Welsh words and phrases, broadening children's communication skills and cultural awareness.

Environment — Excellent

Leaders demonstrate exceptional commitment to ensuring the environment is both highly welcoming and exceptionally secure for children, staff and visitors. Robust systems are embedded to safeguard the premises at all times. Access to the building is carefully controlled, with doors consistently locked and supervised. Accurate signing-in and signing-out procedures are rigorously implemented, ensuring precise records of everyone on site. Comprehensive and meticulously detailed risk assessments cover all areas of the provision and are reviewed regularly to ensure they remain highly effective. Leaders take swift and appropriate action where required, reflecting a proactive and vigilant approach to safety. Staff supervision is strong and purposeful, with a clear understanding of acceptable and unacceptable risks in relation to children's ages, stages of development and individual needs. Fire evacuation procedures are practised frequently, with detailed records maintained to ensure all children and staff can leave the building swiftly and safely in the event of an emergency. Daily premises checks are thorough, and all maintenance and servicing requirements for the building and equipment are consistently up to date.

The environment is exceptionally inviting, thoughtfully designed and highly conducive to learning. Light, bright and spacious areas inspire curiosity and a genuine sense of awe and wonder. The calming, neutral décor creates a warm, homely atmosphere where children feel secure and valued. Each playroom is meticulously organised to promote all areas of learning and development. A carefully curated range of high-quality resources — including authentic, real-life and natural materials — is stored at child height to maximise independence and accessibility for all ages.

The outdoor environment is equally impressive, offering rich, stimulating experiences that ignite curiosity and promote active learning. Resources are of excellent quality and purposefully arranged to encourage exploration and challenge. Children enjoy access to water play, balancing and climbing equipment, and a variety of wheeled toys that enhance coordination and physical skills. The inclusion of a natural grassed area provides valuable opportunities for children to develop early forest school skills, deepening their connection with the natural world along with their award winning allotment where they grow their own fruit and vegetables.

Leaders have created a vibrant, inspiring learning environment with an abundance of carefully selected, developmentally appropriate resources. High-quality furniture supports children's comfort and engagement, whether participating in tabletop activities or enjoying snack times. Child-sized toilet facilities further promote independence and self-care skills. Throughout the provision, the environment offers consistently excellent levels of challenge and stimulation, enabling children to develop their creativity, resilience, physical competence and independence to an exceptionally high standard.

Leadership & Management — Excellent

Leaders articulate a clear, ambitious and inspiring vision for the setting, which is communicated exceptionally well to staff and successfully embedded throughout the provision. This shared vision fosters a strong, positive work ethic and a culture of high aspiration. Staff work cohesively as a united and highly supportive team, speaking respectfully and appreciatively of one another. Leaders are uncompromising in their pursuit of excellence, ensuring consistently high standards of care, learning and professional practice. They prioritise high-quality professional development opportunities for staff, recognising that a well-trained and reflective workforce directly enhances outcomes for children.

The statement of purpose is comprehensive, aspirational and accurately reflects the ethos and daily practice of the service. Policies and procedures are not only in place but are deeply embedded in everyday practice. Leaders maintain meticulous records relating to both staff and children, ensuring full compliance with regulatory requirements. Children's individual preferences, routines and needs are recorded in detail, and parental permissions are carefully documented and regularly reviewed. Daily records, including accident and incident logs, are carefully analysed to identify patterns or trends, ensuring swift action and preventative measures where necessary.

Self-evaluation is rigorous, reflective and purposeful. Leaders implement highly effective quality assurance systems that meaningfully inform their quality-of-care review and ongoing improvement planning. They actively seek and value feedback from children, parents, staff, professionals and external agencies, using this insight to drive continuous improvement.

. Recruitment procedures are robust and thorough, ensuring children are safeguarded and cared for by suitably qualified, experienced and vetted staff. High expectations are clearly communicated, and staff are exceptionally well supported in understanding and fulfilling their roles and responsibilities. Regular supervisions and appraisals are meaningful, reflective and instrumental in driving professional growth and continuous improvement.

Staff deployment is highly strategic, ensuring ratios are consistently met and children's needs are fully supported at all times. Partnerships with parents and carers are exemplary. Leaders have cultivated relationships built on trust, transparency and mutual respect. Communication is strong, consistent and highly valued by families. Parents describe staff as "extremely approachable" and praise the regular updates they receive throughout the day. Children arrive happily and eagerly each morning, demonstrating the strong sense of belonging that has been nurtured.

Leadership extends beyond the immediate needs of the child, reflecting a holistic and compassionate approach that supports the entire family. The manager is deeply committed to

family wellbeing and provides guidance, reassurance and practical support where needed. She has shown exceptional sensitivity and understanding in supporting children from armed forces families, recognising the unique challenges of deployment, relocation and parental absence. Through stability, strong communication and emotional support, she ensures continuity of care and security for children during periods of transition.

Links with the wider community are exceptional. Leaders have established highly effective partnerships with a wide range of professionals, schools and community organisations, creating a strong network of support around families.

Areas identified for improvement

Where we identify **Areas for Improvement** but we have not found outcomes for people to be at immediate or significant risk, we discuss these with the provider. We expect the provider to take action and we will follow this up at the next inspection.

Where we find outcomes for people **require significant improvement** and/or there is risk to people's well-being we identify areas for **Priority Action**. In these circumstances we issue a Priority Action Notice(s) to the Provider, and they must take immediate steps to make improvements. We will inspect again within six months to check improvements have been made and outcomes for people have improved.

CIW has no areas for improvement identified following this inspection.

CIW has not issued any Priority action notices following this inspection.

National Minimum Standards

Where we find the provider is not meeting the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Child Care but there is no immediate or significant risk for people using the service, we highlight these as Recommendations to Meet National Minimum Standards.

We expect the provider to take action to address these and we will follow these up at the next inspection.

Standard	Recommendation(s)
	No NMS Recommendations were identified at this inspection

Welsh Government © Crown copyright 2026.
You may use and re-use the information featured in this publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government License. You can view the Open Government License, on the National Archives website or you can write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gov.uk
You must reproduce our material accurately and not use it in a misleading context.