



Cambian Pengwern College - Bryn Egwyl



Chester Street, St Asaph, LL17 0RE



01745583648

Date of inspection visit: 27 November 2025.

Service Information:

Operated by:	Cambian Whinfell School Ltd
Care Type:	Care Home Service Adults and Children Without Nursing
Provision for:	Provision for learning disability, Care home for adults - with personal care, Care home for children - with personal care
Registered places:	5
Main language(s):	Welsh and English
Promotion of Welsh language and culture:	The service does not actively promote the Welsh language and culture, and the Active Offer is not embedded in practice.

Ratings:



Well-being

EXCELLENT



Care & Support

EXCELLENT



Environment

EXCELLENT



Leadership & Management

EXCELLENT

Summary:

Bryn Egwyl provides exceptional outcomes across all areas. People benefit from highly personalised, outcome-focused personal plans that are regularly reviewed to reflect changing needs and preferences. The service promotes well-being through meaningful relationships, tailored activities, and strong community involvement, ensuring people maintain family connections and enjoy fulfilling lives.

Care and support are consistently of the highest quality, supported by a dedicated and stable care staff team. The environment is comfortable, homely, and fully equipped to meet individual needs, creating a safe and nurturing space where people thrive emotionally, physically, and socially.

Leadership and management are outstanding, with clear oversight and a strong commitment to continuous improvement from both the manager and Responsible Individual (RI). Advocacy, rights, equality, diversity, and inclusion are embedded in everyday practice, ensuring people's voices are heard and respected.

Findings:



Well-being

EXCELLENT

At Bryn Egwyl, people experience an exceptionally high standard of well-being. They make significant progress in education, independence, and self-care skills, which enhances confidence and identity. Warm, respectful, and nurturing relationships between people and care staff create a strong sense of community. People speak positively about opportunities for creative projects, recreational activities, and life skills training, all of which promote emotional resilience and physical well-being.

Care staff demonstrate an exceptional understanding of individual needs and consistently uphold dignity and individuality. People are actively involved in decisions about their care, routines, and environment, with choice in meals, activities, and bedroom decoration. Their views are respected and sought through house meetings and keywork sessions. Independent advocacy is available, and people and their representatives know how to raise an issue or a complaint and access information about their rights.

Practice is underpinned by evidence-based strategies, including compassion and reflective meetings, ensuring emotional and educational needs are met. This approach has supported measurable progress, such as developing empathy, managing anxiety, and preparing for adulthood through life skills and formal qualifications via Pengwern College. People benefit from consistent, high-quality care provided by passionate and dedicated care staff who offer sensitive emotional and physical support throughout the day.

Access to extensive amenities, including sports facilities such as an indoor swimming pool and outdoor sports activities, further enhances well-being. Life skills activities, such as cooking, prepare people for adulthood and build confidence. During the inspection, we observed positive interactions that reflected dignity and choice. Records were accurate and up to date, and governance arrangements ensured effective oversight of quality and compliance. Parents report high levels of satisfaction with the well-being outcomes of their family member.



Care & Support

EXCELLENT

People's care and support needs are thoroughly assessed prior to admission. The management team reviews all available information and consults with relevant professionals to ensure placements are appropriate and tailored to individual needs. Planning meetings with professionals and family consider each person's background, experiences, and specific requirements. People benefit from continuity of care provided by a dedicated, motivated team who consistently promote positive outcomes and enhance overall well-being.

Bryn Egwyl provides high standards of care through a trauma-informed, outcome-focused approach. Multi-agency collaboration is a notable strength, ensuring care remains dynamic and responsive to changing needs. Specialist assessments provide person-centred guidance, equipping care staff with effective strategies to manage emerging needs and associated risks. Regular multi-agency meetings support robust planning and review, ensuring care is consistent and well-coordinated.

Personal plans are comprehensive, strengths-based, and regularly reviewed, with clear evidence that people's wishes and aspirations are central to planning. The service engages people, families, and professionals to ensure care is holistic and adaptable. Care staff demonstrate a strong understanding of trauma-informed practice, supported by a culture of reflection and learning. Purposeful keywork sessions contribute positively to emotional and behavioural development, while daily records and monitoring tools evidence care provided in line with personal plans.

Safeguarding arrangements are robust, underpinned by clear recording systems, prompt referrals, and a commitment to learning from incidents. Health needs are identified and met effectively, with people attending appointments as required. Medication is securely stored, subject to weekly audits, and administration records are well maintained. Infection control measures and hygiene standards are consistently upheld, ensuring a safe environment for all.



Environment

EXCELLENT

Bryn Egwyl is situated in a residential area with easy access to local amenities, providing a safe and supportive setting for people. The property is spacious, well-maintained, and equipped with appropriate facilities and utilities. Recent refurbishment has created a fresh, comfortable, and welcoming environment. People are actively involved in personalising their bedrooms, choosing themes and decor that reflect their interests, promoting a sense of ownership and belonging. People and care staff describe Bryn Egwyl as homely and comfortable, contributing positively to overall experiences and well-being.

The home is furnished with age-appropriate furniture and offers a range of play opportunities, ensuring access to stimulating and enjoyable activities. A secure garden promotes physical activity, social interaction, and overall well-being.

Communal areas are spacious and inviting, while personalised bedrooms provide privacy and space for time alone when needed. People are actively involved in meal planning and preparation, supporting independence and choice. The kitchen is clean, well-organised, and stocked with healthy food options, contributing to a balanced and nutritious diet.

Fire safety checks, risk assessments, and maintenance records are current and subject to regular review. Security measures, including door alarms and window restrictors, safeguard people effectively. The home is responsive to sensory needs; for example, care staff use preparatory materials to reduce anxiety during fire drills. Maintenance requests are addressed promptly, and recent refurbishment has enhanced the property, including layout changes and environmental improvements to support comfort and safety.



Leadership & Management

EXCELLENT

Leadership and management at Bryn Egwyl is highly effective. The management team demonstrates a nurturing, caring, and trauma-informed approach that underpins the culture of the home. The manager is suitably qualified and experienced in providing care and support to people. Both the Responsible Individual (RI) and manager describe the care staff team as strong, committed, and aligned to shared values. The RI is regarded as approachable by care staff and provides consistent oversight, supported by the manager. There is clear evidence of collaborative working and a value-based ethos that promotes positive outcomes for people.

The Responsible Individual maintains regular oversight of the service through visits and consultation with people, care staff, professionals, and family. Reports are completed following visits, with feedback used to identify strengths and areas for development and actions tracked to ensure progress.

Staffing levels are monitored regularly and remain sufficient to meet the needs of people. The care staff team comprises of permanent care staff who are familiar with the home and receive supervision and training to ensure continuity of care. Recruitment is values-based, and all required pre-employment checks are completed to promote safe practice. The induction of new care staff includes shadowing experienced care staff and the completion of the All-Wales Induction Framework, to develop confidence and competence. Care staff are either registered or in the process of registering with Social Care Wales, and several new care staff hold relevant childcare and nursing qualifications.

Supervision arrangements are robust, with regular reflective sessions supporting care staff development and well-being. Monthly team meetings provide opportunities for collaboration, and care staff report feeling valued and supported, with access to professional development and career progression. A wide range of mandatory and specialist training is available, including safeguarding, physical intervention, and trauma-informed practice. Audit systems monitor care quality, health and safety, and regulatory compliance. Feedback from people, care staff, and professionals informs service development.

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.

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

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