Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs

(Flintshire) Level 1 Playwork course Case Study

Background

Through strong Partnership working, Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs successfully secured funding to pilot a level 1 Playwork course for young people aged 14-16 years.

During discussions with the Flintshire Community Focused Schools Manager, our Childcare Business Development Officer proposed to engage pupils that have disengaged from traditional learning, with the aim of boosting their self-confidence and reintroducing them to a positive learning and work environment. This increased confidence would then potentially support the young people to progress to further qualifications. This initiative marks the first Level 1 Playwork course to be piloted by Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs in Flintshire, for young people, and funded with SPF grant funding through the local authority.

Benefits

The Level 1 Playwork course provided participants with a range of personal and professional benefits:

- **Confidence and Achievement:** Learners developed teamwork, communication, and problem-solving skills while achieving an accredited qualification.
- **Career Pathways:** Participants gained a valuable introduction to the Playwork profession, helping strengthen recruitment and retention across Wales.
- **Progression Opportunities:** Learners aged 16+ were supported to progress to the Level 2 Award in Playwork Practice (L2 App).

The course aligned perfectly with the **LEAP (Learn, Explore, Achieve, Perform) initiative**, identified by the Flintshire Community Focused Schools Manager as an ideal fit for its funding priorities.

Working closely with the **Engagement and Progression Co-ordinator** from Flintshire's Inclusion and Progression Service, our team successfully recruited eligible 14–16-year-olds. The course was delivered over four sessions at **Plas Derwen, Shotton,** in August 2025.

Delivery

A total of **11 young people** and **3 Support Workers** attended the course, which blended theory and hands-on experience. Learners completed:

- **Practical activities,** including creating play spaces out of loose parts and resources, aided bringing play to life and supported them with their written work.
- **Written work** with guidance from our experienced Training Officer.
- **Group discussions,** reflections and collaborative tasks exploring key themes such as Play Theory, Risk Assessment, Risk v Benefit Assessment, United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child, Safeguarding and providing Play Resources. Helping learners gain an understanding of play related themes.

The course introduced learners to the limitless benefits of play for children and the important role of Playworkers in supporting self-directed play. With the support of our Training Officer participants gained confidence, practical skills and emotional resilience which helped build a positive mind-set, enhance their wellbeing and prepare for future academic and career success.

Success and Celebration
As the young people had completed the course requirements early, a celebration event was held on the last session at The Springfield Hotel, Holywell. During the course, participants prepared positive comments about each other, which were transformed into affirmation certificates, celebrating each individual's strengths and achievements which were presented to each of the young people highlighting their personalities and their successes For many, this was a transformative moment; young people who began with low self-esteem, anxiety, and little confidence stood proudly, celebrating their success and newfound belief in themselves.

Impact
The participants feedback highlights the deep and lasting impact this course has had on these young people:

- *I would 100% recommend to others because this course helps you understand young children need to play"*
- *"I think the course was enjoyable and fun, the trainer was very understandable and kind".*
- *"I thought it was easy, and I think it would be helpful in the future, but I was scared to come at first".*
- *"Yes, I would recommend to others who have an interest in child play or being a playworker".*
- *"I think I would do the Level 2 course, I'm glad I got a qualification, I made new friends on my own".*
- *"When I get older, I would like to work with children, my favourite part was making smores"*
- *"I enjoyed the course and felt I learnt new things, it was a good opportunity. I would love to do the next level of the course to be more advanced and keep learning, in the future I would love to work with troubled children".*

Following the success of this Level 1 Playwork course, 2 young people have progressed to the Level 2 Award in Playwork Practice course funded through our Welsh Government Training and Support Programme and are preparing to volunteer in Out of School Childcare Clubs, with the prospect of gaining paid employment once qualified.

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Alice Williams, Engagement and Progression Co-ordinator (Flintshire Inclusion and Progression Service) commented:

"It was such a great opportunity for our Flintshire young people with staff to work together and gain accreditation. For them to engage and feel at ease was perfect as this is why they are supported due to anxieties etc., I am sure many more could benefit, and we would love to offer this course to more young people in Flintshire".

Dan Larkin, LEAP Project manager and Community Focused Schools manager (Flintshire Education and Youth Service) commented:

"After meeting with Sandra and understanding the work involved and its target audience, it was great for LEAP to support the course for the young people who are identified as most at risk in the county. To be the first to pilot the work is a fantastic opportunity and hopefully something that can be built upon and shared across other counties."

Jane O'Toole Chief Executive Officer, Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs commented:

"It is inspiring to see the fruition of our partnership working with colleagues across Flintshire Local Authority, which has enabled us to support young people to discover what Playwork is and set them on the pathway toward a career in Playwork. The commitment of our Training Officer and the enthusiasm of the learners have been key to this success, laying the groundwork for expanding this opportunity across Flintshire, and beyond.

Thanks to everyone involved for making this pilot a success."

(Sir y Fflint) Cwrs Gwaith Chwarae Lefel 1 Astudiaeth Achos

Cefndir

Drwy weithio mewn partneriaeth gadarnhaol, mae Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs wedi sicrhau cyllid yn llwyddiannus i gynnal rhaglen brawf, sef cwrs lefel 1 mewn Gwaith Chwarae i blant ifanc rhwng 14-16 oed.

Yn ystod trafodaethau â Rheolwr Ysgolion Cymunedol Sir y Fflint, awgrymodd ein Swyddog Datblygu Busnes Gofal Plant, gynigiad i ymgysylltu â disgyblion sydd wedi ymddieithrio o ddysgu traddodiadol—gyda'r nod o roi hwb i'w hunanhyder a'u hail-gyflwyno i Gwaith ysgrifenedig dysgu a gwaith. Byddai'r hyder cynyddol hwn wedyn yn cefnogi'r bobl ifanc i symud ymlaen i gymwysterau pellach. Mae'r cam cyntaf hwn yn nodi'r cwrs cyntaf mewn Gwaith Chwarae Lefel 1 i gael ei beilota gan Clybiau Plant Cymru ar gyfer pobl ifanc, a'i ariannu gan grant SPF drwy'r awdurdod lleol.

Manteision

Darparwyd y cwrs Lefel 1 mewn Gwaith Chwarae ag ystod o fanteision personol a phroffesiynol, gan gynnwys:

- **Hyder a Chyflwyniad:** Datblygodd dysgwyr y gallu i weithio mewn tîm, cyfathrebu a gwella sgiliau datrys problemau wrth ennill cymhwyster achredig.
- **Llwybrau Gyrfa:** Cafodd cyfranogwyr gyflwyniad gwerthfawr i'r proffesiwn Gwaith Chwarae—gan helpu i gryfhau recriwtio a chadw staff ar hyd a lled Cymru.
- **Cyfleoedd i symud ymlaen:** Cafodd dysgwyr oed 16+ eu cefnogi i symud ymlaen i wneud y dyfarniad lefel 2 mewn Arfer Gwaith Chwarae (L2 App).

Roedd y cwrs yn cyd-fynd yn berffaith â'r rhaglen **LEAP (Dysgu, Archwilio, Cyflawni, Perfformio)**, a nodwyd Rheolwr Ysgolion Cymunedol Sir y Fflint fel un addas ar gyfer ei blaenoriaethau cyllid.

Gan weithio'n agos â **Chydlynydd Ymgysylltu a Chynnydd** o Wasanaeth Cynhwysiant a Chynnydd Sir y Fflint, llwyddodd ein tîm i recriwtio pobl ifanc cymwys 14-16 oed. Cyflwynwyd y cwrs dros bedair sesiwn ym **Mhlas Derwen, Shotton,** ym mis Awst 2025.

Cyflwyno

Mynychodd cyfanswm o **11 o bobl ifanc** a **3 Gweithiwr Cymorth** ar y cwrs—a oedd yn gymysgedd o waith theori a phrofiad ymarferol. Cwblhaodd dysgwyr y canlynol:

- **Gwaith ymarferol,** gan gynnwys creu mannau chwarae allan o rannau rhydd ac adnoddau, a gynorthwyodd i ddod â chwarae yn fyw a'u cefnogi gyda'u gwaith ysgrifenedig.
- **Gwaith ysgrifenedig** gyda chefnogaeth gan ein Swyddog Hyfforddi.
- **Trafodaethau grŵp,** myfyrdodau a thasgau cydweithredolgan archwilio themâu allweddol, er enghraifft Damcaniaeth Chwarae, Asesu Risg, Asesiad Risg yn erbyn Budd, Confensiwn y Cenhedloedd Unedig ar Hawliau Plentyn, Diogelu a darparu Adnoddau Chwarae. Helpu dysgwyr ennill dealltwriaeth o themâu i wneud â chwarae.

Cyflwynodd y cwrs i ddysgwyr, y manteision diderfyn chwarae i blant a'r pwysigrwydd o gael Gweithiwr Chwarae wrth iddynt gefnogi chwarae hunangyfeiriedig. Gyda chefnogaeth gan y Swyddog Hyfforddi, mae hyder, sgiliau ymarferol a gwydnwch emosiynol y cyfranogwyr yn eu helpu i feithrin meddylfryd cadarnhaol, gwella eu lles a pharatoi ar gyfer gyrfa a thaith academaidd lwyddiannus yn y dyfodol.

Llwyddiant a Dathlu

Gan fod y bobl ifanc wedi cwblhau gofynion y cwrs yn fuan, cynhaliwyd digwyddiad dathlu yn ystod y sesiwn olaf yng Ngwesty Springfield, Treffynnon. Yn ystod y cwrs, Paratowyd y cyfranogwyr sylwadau cadarnhaol am ei gilydd, a datblygwyd y rhain i mewn i dystysgrifau datgan—gan dathlu cryfderau a chyflawniadau pob unigolion a gyflwynwyd i bob un o'r bobl ifanc gan amlygu eu personoliaethau a'u llwyddiannau. I lawer, roedd hon yn foment drawsnewidiol. Roedd pobl ifanc a ddechreuodd gyda hunan-barch isel, pryder, a hyder isel yn sefyll yn falch, gan ddathlu eu llwyddiant a'u cred newydd ynddynt eu hunain.

Effaith

Mae'r sylwadau gan y cyfranogwyr yn amlygu'r effaith dwfn a pharhaol y mae'r cwrs hwn wedi'i gael ar y bobl ifanc hyn:

- *Byddwn yn ei argymell 100% i eraill oherwydd mae'r cwrs hwn yn eich helpu i ddeall bod plant ifanc angen chwarae"*
- *"Rwy'n credu bod y cwrs yn bleserus ac yn hwyl, roedd yr hyfforddwr yn ddeallus ac yn garedig iawn".*
- *"Roeddwn i'n meddwl ei fod yn hawdd, ac rwy'n credu y byddai'n ddefnyddiol yn y dyfodol, ond roeddwn i'n ofn dod ar y dechrau".*
- *"Ie, byddwn yn ei argymell i eraill sydd â diddordeb mewn chwarae plant neu fod yn weithiwr chwarae".*
- *"Rwy'n credu y byddwn yn gwneud y cwrs Lefel 2, rwy'n falch fy mod i wedi cael cymhwyster, gwnes i ffrindiau newydd ar fy mhen fy hun".*
- *"Pan fyddaf yn hŷn, hoffwn weithio gyda phlant, fy hoff ran oedd gwneud smores"*
- *"Mwynheais y cwrs a theimlais fy mod wedi dysgu pethau newydd, roedd yn gyfle da. Byddwn wrth fy modd yn gwneud lefel nesaf y cwrs i fod yn fwy datblygedig a pharhau i ddysgu, yn y dyfodol byddwn wrth fy modd yn gweithio gyda phlant â phroblemau".*

Yn dilyn llwyddiant y cwrs Lefel 1 mewn Gwaith Chwarae hwn, mae 2 berson ifanc wedi symud ymlaen i ddechrau astudio ar y cwrs lefel 2, Dyfarniad mewn Ymarfer Gwaith Chwarae a ariannir gan Llywodraeth Cymru drwy ein rhaglen Hyfforddi a Chefnogi, ac maent yn paratoi i wirfoddoli mewn Clybiau Gofal Plant All-Ysgol, gyda'r nod o ennill cyflogaeth â thâl ar ôl cymhwyso.

Dywedodd Alice Williams, Cydlynydd Ymgysylltu a Chynnydd (Gwasanaeth Cynhwysiant a Chynnydd Sir y Fflint):

"Roedd yn gyfle mor wych ar gyfer ein pobl ifanc yn Sir y Fflint, gyda staff yn cael cyfle i weithio gyda'i gilydd a bachu cymhwyster. Roedd yn berffaith iddynt ymgysylltu a theimlo'n gyfforddus gan mai dyma pam eu bod yn cael eu cefnogi oherwydd pryderon, ac ati, rwy'n siŵr y gallai llawer mwy elwa, a byddem wrth ein boddau cynnig y cwrs hwn i fwy o bobl ifanc yn Sir y Fflint".

Dywedodd Dan Larkin, rheolwr Prosiect LEAP a rheolwr Ysgolion sy'n Canolbwyntio ar y Gymuned (Gwasanaeth Addysg ac Ieuenctid Sir y Fflint):

"Ar ôl cyfarfod gyda Sandra, a deall y gwaith dan sylw a'i gynulleidfa darged, roedd yn wych i weld LEAP gefnogi'r cymhwyster ar gyfer y bobl ifanc sydd wedi eu nodi fel y rhai sydd yn y risg fwyaf yn y sir. Mae'r cyfle i fod y cyntaf i arbrofi'r gwaith yn gyfle gwych a gobeithio y bydd hyn yn arwain at rywbeth y gellir adeiladu arno a'i rannu gyda siroedd eraill."

Dywedodd Jane O'Toole, Prif Swyddog Gweithredol Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids' Clubs:

Mae'n ysbrydoledig gweld ffrwyth ein partneriaeth yn gweithio gyda chydweithwyr ar hyd a lled Awdurdod Lleol Sir y Fflint, ac mae hyn wedi ein galluogi i gefnogi pobl ifanc i ddarganfod beth yw Gwaith Chwarae a'u rhoi ar y llwybr tuag at yrfa mewn Gwaith Chwarae. Mae ymrwymiad ein Swyddog Hyfforddi a brwdfrydedd y dysgwyr wedi bod yn allweddol i'r llwyddiant hwn, gan osod y sylfaen ar gyfer ehangu'r cyfle hwn ar draws Sir y Fflint, a thu hwnt.

Diolch i bawb a gymerodd ran i sicrhau bod y cynllun peilot hwn yn llwyddiannus.