



Childcare Inspection Report on

Happy Days Holiday Club/Clwb Gwyliau Hapus

**Llangunnor CP School
Penymorfa Lane
Carmarthen
SA31 2NN**



Date Inspection Completed

28/10/2019

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Ratings	What the ratings mean
Excellent	These are services which are committed to ongoing improvement with many strengths, including significant examples of sector leading practice and innovation. These services deliver high quality care and support and are able to demonstrate that they make a strong contribution to improving children's well-being
Good	These are services with strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement. They consistently exceed basic requirements, delivering positive outcomes for children and actively promote their well-being.
Adequate	These are services where strengths outweigh areas for improvement. They are safe and meet basic requirements but improvements are required to promote well-being and improve outcomes for children.
Poor	These are services where important areas for improvement outweigh strengths and there are significant examples of non-compliance that impact negatively on children's well-being. Where services are poor we will take enforcement action and issue a non-compliance notice

Description of the service

Happy Days Holiday Club was registered in 2015 to provide day care for a maximum of 40 children. The service offers out of school care during school holidays to children aged from 3 to 14 years between the hours of 8am and 5.30pm Monday to Friday. The service is situated at Llangunnor Primary school, Carmarthen. The registered person is Sandra Rowlands. The service is provided bilingually and offers the 'Active Welsh Offer' in relation to the Welsh language.

Summary

Theme	Rating
Well-being	Good
Care and Development	Good
Environment	Good
Leadership and Management	Good

1. Overall assessment

We found that children enjoyed themselves very much at Happy Days Holiday Club. They have fun with their friends in a safe and stimulating environment. They are cared for by nurturing and consistent staff who are committed to meeting their individual needs. Parents are very happy with the service that is provided.

2. Improvements

The registered person has met the recommendation noted in the last inspection report in relation to documentation.

3. Requirements and recommendations

We made one recommendation in relation to the quality of care review and this can be found in point 5.2 at the end of the report.

1. Well-being

Good

Summary

Children at Happy Days Holiday Club are listened to and make choices. They are happy, secure and settled. They enjoy good opportunities to socialise with their peers during freely chosen and self-directed play as well as planned activities.

Our findings

Children make effective decisions about their play from a wide range of activities offered at the club. They choose to play with age appropriate activities such as Lego, bouncy castles, dolls, prams, computer games, creative activities and jigsaws. They could access resources that had been set up in the hall and children told us they could ask staff for resources they wanted and we saw this in practice as they confidently asked for a box of Meccano and a train set.

Children arrived at the club happy, smiling and giggling with friends. They engaged freely with other children and chatted to the staff about what they wanted to play with and about the rugby world cup. They interacted confidently with the inspector, chatting and asking questions about the visit. Children identified the staff that they would speak to if they felt sad and told us they felt safe at the service. They told us they enjoyed coming to the club, playing with friends, colouring, playing on the Xbox, den building and having picnics outside. Children were obviously comfortable at the service and they took off their shoes as they relaxed on soft mats. They had built good relationships with the staff and happily and proudly showed their Lego models and paper chains to the staff. Children play alongside each other and cooperate very well throughout the inspection. There was a sense of community within the club with children helping each other and being polite. When going outside, children naturally held hands with friends and older children helped younger children with the prams and ride on toys. Children readily invited other children to play and chatted animatedly with one another as they played. For example, one child showed their Lego model to a friend and asked them if they would like to build a model with them and two children excitedly chatted whilst playing on the Xbox. During snack time children naturally helped one another, such as passing the butter to one another and holding a cup as a younger child attempted to pour their own water.

Children moved freely from one activity to the other and spent a considerable amount of time engrossed in favourite activities such as creating paper chains for a Halloween party or painting. Some relaxed on soft mats whilst other children danced enthusiastically to dance moves played on a large screen. Children bounced happily on the various bouncy castles or built dens. They also enjoyed a good range of activities outside including playing football, balancing on the balance beam trail, hoops, hopscotch, and collecting leaves.

Children were at ease in their surroundings and showed confidence in offering to help at every opportunity. For example, children counted the number of children present and collected the correct number of cups and plates for snack time. They carried the jug of water around the table to each child, allowing the children to pour their own water independently. Children buttered their own crackers and toast at snack time. Children tidied up at various times during our visit and washed and dried their hands independently.

2. Care and Development

Good

Summary

Staff know the children in their care well and provide responsive care that meets their individual needs. They create a relaxed and nurturing atmosphere where children are supported to participate in their choice of activities. Children's individual development is promoted.

Our findings

Staff know that safeguarding children is high priority and demonstrated a good understanding of dealing with concerns or disclosures when given scenarios. Staff had updated their first aid training and there were clear procedures in place to deal with any incidents and accidents including obtaining staff and parents' signatures. Staff practised good hygiene procedures for example washing hands, cleaning tables and wearing aprons and gloves whilst preparing food. They confidently discussed allergens and had effective procedures in place to ensure children's dietary needs were met and alternative snacks offered. Parents had signed emergency medical consent forms prior to their child starting at the service.

Staff encouraged children to share, to be kind to each other and to think about other children's feelings. Staff adhered to the service's behaviour policy. They were very positive, regularly praising children. For example, when a child passed on the butter unprompted at snack time, staff commented "What a kind girl!" and when a child said, "Thanks" after receiving more crackers at snack time, staff replied with "Lovely manners!" Staff modelled expected behaviour by talking to each other and the children kindly. They sat with the children and interacted positively, talking to them about their plans for the half term holiday.

Staff provided nurturing and responsive care. They knew the children well and were familiar with their preferences with regard food and play. Although staff planned activities in conjunction with the children, most of the play was child-directed. Photographic evidence showed children participating in a wide range of activities such as cooking, role play, snooker, face painting, den building, picnics, dancing, blowing bubbles, water and sand play and African drumming sessions. The service provided the 'Active Offer' in relation to the Welsh language.

3. Environment

Good

Summary

Leaders use a school environment for child care. They ensure that the environment is clean and well maintained and is suitable for the age range of children that are cared for. Children have access to enclosed interesting indoor and outdoor areas and suitable, clean resources.

Our findings

Children are secure because the door to the school hall is kept locked and visitors are unable to enter without being let in by staff. Details of all visitors to the service were recorded and parents signed their children in and out of the service. Maintenance records showed that the fire and smoke alarms had been tested. The wall mounted fire extinguishers had been serviced and leaders carried out regular fire drills ensuring that children and staff were familiar with evacuation procedures. All electrical equipment was PAT tested and the boiler was serviced annually. The public liability insurance certificate was displayed on a notice board and was in date. Cleaning equipment was stored in a cupboard, to which children had no access. The environment was clean and tidy. Leaders carried out thorough risk assessments on areas used by the children and records kept.

Leaders ensure that the children are cared for in a child-centred environment. They make good use of available space for children to play, rest and eat. They arranged tables to provide a snack time area where children could enjoy their refreshments in a social group. There is an area for children to relax on soft mats. The service has use of the school's outdoor areas, which they equip with their own resources such as balls, hoops, parachute, chalk, bubbles, prams, skateboards and scooters.

Children had access to a range of good quality toys and games for indoors and outdoors. Resources were in good condition and there was plenty of choice for the age group attending the service. Toys and resources were clean and in good condition. There were ample materials available for craft activities such as paint, glue, felt pens, crayons and colouring pencils.

4. Leadership and Management

Good

Summary

Leaders have developed systems and checks to ensure the smooth running of the service. Systems are in place for reviewing the quality of care they provide. Leaders have developed good partnerships with parents and the school staff.

Our findings

The service has a statement of purpose in place that is a true reflection of the service provided. Policies and procedures are reviewed regularly and implemented effectively by staff in their daily practice. For example, staff followed the positive methods outlined in the service's behaviour management policy throughout our visit.

Leaders review the quality of the service annually and produce an informative report. Feedback in parental and children's questionnaires was positive. Suggestions made by children and parents were acted upon and implemented where possible. For example, parents had suggested background music be played in the club and children had asked for face painting and picnics outside. These ideas had been implemented.

Staff files contained all relevant documents evidencing that the necessary pre-employment checks had been undertaken on staff. Staff were suitably qualified and were up to date with their core training in safeguarding, paediatric first aid and food hygiene. Some staff had undertaken food allergy training online. Leaders carried out annual appraisals and regular supervisions on staff and had identified development training needs and targets.

Parents and carers spoke very positively about the service. They were happy with the information received prior to their child starting at the service. Staff had a relaxed discussion with parents and carers at the end of the session about their children's time at the service. Leaders had agreed contracts with all parents and had sought consent for various aspects such as taking photographs. Parents told us that the service communicated well with them. The service has a good working relationship with the staff in the school.

5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection

5.1 Areas of non compliance from previous inspections

None

5.2 Recommendations for improvement

We recommend that staff are issued with questionnaires to feed into the quality of care review.

6. How we undertook this inspection

This was an unannounced, full inspection undertaken as part of our normal schedule of inspections. Feedback was given on the day of the inspection.

One inspector visited the service on the 28 October 2019 for approximately 4.5 hours. We;

- inspected a sample of documents and policies;
- observed practice,
- undertook a visual inspection of the premises and
- spoke to the registered person, staff, children, parents and carers.

Further information about what we do can be found on our website:

www.careinspectorate.wales

7. About the service

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Out of School Care
Registered Person	Sandra Rowlands
Person in charge	Maria Williams Betsan Walters Claire Evans Sandra Rowlands
Registered maximum number of places	40
Age range of children	3-14 years
Opening hours	8am- 5.30pm Monday to Friday School holidays
Operating Language of the service	Both
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	8 August 2016
Dates of this inspection visit(s)	28 October 2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Is early years education for three and four year olds provided at the service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	Yes. This is a service that provides an "Active Offer" of the Welsh language. It provides a service that anticipates, identifies and meets the Welsh language and cultural needs of people who use, or may use, the service.
Additional Information:	

Date Published 02/01/2020

