



# Childcare Inspection Report on

**Daisy Chains Nursery**

**53 Marine Road  
Prestatyn  
LL19 7HA**



**Date Inspection Completed**

17/12/2019

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<b>Ratings</b>	<b>What the ratings mean</b>
<b>Excellent</b>	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
<b>Good</b>	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.
<b>Adequate</b>	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.
<b>Poor</b>	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

Daisy Chains Nursery is situated on the outskirts of the town of Prestatyn. The responsible person is Rebecca Wright and the person in charge is Kelly Parry. The service is registered to care for 37 children up to the age of 12 years and English is the language of the service with some informal Welsh words and phrases used with the children.

The service does not provide the Welsh Active offer.

## Summary

Theme	Rating
<a href="#">Well-being</a>	Excellent
<a href="#">Care and Development</a>	Excellent
<a href="#">Environment</a>	Excellent
<a href="#">Leadership and Management</a>	Excellent

### 1. Overall assessment

Children are happy, settled and enjoy their play and learning. Care staff meet children's individual needs effectively and provide an interesting and innovative range of natural resources indoors and outside. The range of learning opportunities provided within the environment is outstanding for example children have their own allotment to grow fruit and vegetables which are used for the children's meals. The environment is secure, comfortable and clean and children benefit from high quality natural resources and equipment. Leadership and management of the service is exceptional resulting in a high level of care for the children by a committed team of care staff. There is an exceptionally clear vision for the service which emphasises a high quality child centred approach 'the curiosity approach', partnership with parents and the active promotion of children's development.

### 2. Improvements

Training on the 'curiosity approach' for children's learning has resulted in big changes in the nursery. The rooms have been decorated in soft neutral colours and natural resources have been introduced. Nearly all of the plastic in the nursery have been replaced with items made from wood and natural cotton, lace and hessian. Real life items have been introduced such as small leather suitcases full of sand which are now part of the children's play along with real items of crockery and cutlery in their home corner. As a result of this new approach parents and care staff have noticed a difference in the way the children approach their learning. They are calmer and more settled and concentrate and persevere for longer. They play and work together better and their imagination and problem solving skills have improved too since the introduction of this new approach to learning.

### 3. Requirements and recommendations None

# 1. Well-being

**Excellent**

## **Summary**

Children are given plenty of choice and are listened to. They speak confidently and are happy and relaxed in their play. They interact positively with each other and with care staff and they behave exceptionally well. They are starting to be sensitive to the needs of others and help their friends. Children enjoy a good variety of activities of their own making, showing great enthusiasm and are keen and interested in what they are doing. Children have good opportunities to develop their skills of problem solving and independence and good links with the community means children are able to discover the local area.

## **Our findings**

Children are confident to speak up and know they will be listened to. They have good opportunities to choose what they want to do and where they want to play. The children's ideas and suggestions were truly valued and as a result changes were made to the activities. We saw children engrossed and enjoying the activities they had chosen or which had been planned for them. They are consulted and have excellent opportunities to choose items to develop their play and imagination. Children decide what they want to do with the natural wooden materials and select parts with confidence to add another part to their play.

Children feel safe and happy in a calm, safe and secure place with warm and friendly people. Children develop friendships easily because they are valued and praised often. Children settle well and quickly once arriving, expressing their enjoyment, seeing care staff and their friends. They are familiar with the daily routine which provides them with ample opportunities to experience different environments both indoors and outside. Children play happily and with confidence alongside one another and chat with ease together about what they are making. Children are very relaxed and at ease with the care staff and we heard lots of happy chatter. Babies were happy and busy too and those who needed a little more support were provided with reassuringly gentle words and cuddles.

Children interacted well and had great fun at the service. They clearly liked the staff and cooperated well following instructions. Children listened carefully and were starting to take responsibility. For example, when given tasks to tidy up each child happily did so working together as a team to ensure the toys and resources were safely tidied away. They took turns well sharing equipment such as pipes to roll objects down to see which went the fastest and made the biggest splash. We saw children working exceptionally well together, all were busy with their chosen activities, but they also showed interest in what their friends were doing and made sensible suggestions for example changing pieces so they would fit.

Children particularly enjoy outdoor play with a lovely role play home area where the children can 'cook' in their mud kitchen. Children are motivated and confident to play and learn and are happy to try things out for themselves to see how it will work. They concentrate well until an end result appears so do not often ask for help or suggestions from care staff. Children have a great sense of achievement. They are enthusiastic, and like to experiment, eager to show us what they were doing. Older children confidently told us how much they liked playing with loose parts and we saw children had no boundaries to their play and ideas except their own imaginations.

Children were provided with positive opportunities to develop their independence, learning and developing and were able to accomplish things for themselves. For example resources at children's level meant they could help themselves to the toys and equipment they wanted to play with. We saw the children playing in base rooms, the sensory room, or outdoors in the garden. Children enjoyed spaces which were well set out with natural materials such as planks and water troughs to help them develop skills of problem solving. All children were observed to thoroughly enjoy their play because they were provided with an interesting range of stimulating experiences which encouraged them to be independent. Children learned about the natural environment and nature when they visit the beach, feed the ducks and care for their garden and allotment.

## 2. Care and Development

Excellent

### Summary

Care staff have warm relationships with the children and know them well. They ensure children are kept safe and promote healthy lifestyles. They support the children highly effectively and provide responsive care. They use a gentle and sensitive approach towards the children. Care staff effectively develop skills and are very good role models. They provide an exceptional range of activities and understand and meet children's individual needs well.

### Our findings

Care staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and have completed relevant training which enable them to provide first aid treatment. Care staff ensured children were protected from cross infection, by encouraging them to wash their hands when they had finished playing outside and before eating. Care staff kept the environment free from hazards and promoted the children's safety providing individual support as required. Care staff promoted healthy lifestyles including daily play outside and provided good opportunities for children to be active. Care staff keep both the rooms and all resources exceptionally clean and fresh.

Motivated and dedicated care staff position themselves well and are very gentle and sensitive in their approach to facilitate play and as a result, children are calm and play well. Care staff keep the children happy and busy and sit alongside the children whilst they played, offering guidance and encouragement through lovely interaction and plenty of praise. Care staff are familiar with the children in their care and positive bonds of affection are apparent as children approach them comfortably to ask for help or show them what they are doing. They speak to the children affectionately sometimes using Welsh and a very relaxed atmosphere is apparent with lots of smiles and good humour. They display an understanding of child development by speaking to the children at their individual level of understanding and responding and anticipating their needs.

Care staff provide a relaxed and happy atmosphere in which children can grow and thrive. They are constantly available for the children to facilitate play and question the children's thinking. Care staff ensure all resources are always available for the children and because they are natural such as wood, water, stones and shells they are not limiting because all ages can play with them, stimulating their imagination and problem solving skills. Care staff make sure Children come first as the environment and daily routines are arranged for their play and learning. treat children as individuals, giving them the opportunity to do as much or as little as they wish whilst still promoting independence by storing resources thoughtfully. Care staff know their roles and responsibilities and guide children to support play and learning. Care staff record on going progress enabling them to plan for children's future learning successfull

### **3. Environment**

**Excellent**

#### **Summary**

People who run the service keep children safe. The rooms are welcoming and relaxing painted in soft neutral colours and everywhere was exceptionally clean. All the outdoor play areas are secure and provide a range of resources which promote children's play and learning and develop their natural curiosity. Children visit the local area for different learning experiences. People who run the service make good use of space and want the best for the children. They care for them in a highly stimulating well laid out environment with exceptionally interesting activities using a good range of natural resources. Vast environmental changes have been made as a result of following the curiosity approach for children's learning. There are good systems in place for regular maintenance and risk benefits of the resources are identified.

#### **Our findings**

People who run the nursery have effective checks in place to ensure the environment is safe with all rooms kept exceptionally clean and fresh. A record of visitors to the nursery is kept and the doors locked to prevent unauthorised access. People who run the nursery have risk assessments to keep children safe.

We saw children were cared for in an environment, which had been made exceptionally welcoming, and contained soft furnishings and high quality natural and re cycled play and learning resources both indoors and outdoors. There was plenty of space for play, storage and for children to relax and sleep. All rooms were very attractively set out into areas of play and learning. This enabled children to move from one resource to another with ease within areas of interest which were thoughtfully set out. Suitable toilets and hand washing facilities all promote children's independence. There are exceptionally well equipped areas and children's craft work was on display, making the environment homely and providing a sense of belonging. Children's photographs attractively displayed in frames edged with lace evidenced the variety of experiences and the fun the children have whilst at the nursery. However particularly outstanding were the painting canvases they had created hanging on the wall on the stairway. The outdoor areas provide an effective learning and play environment for children with good opportunities to investigate and explore through play.

People who run the nursery ensure children have fun in a well maintained, spacious, warm, welcoming, comfortable environment, which was light, airy, clean and fresh. Babies sit at small, low tables and tiny chairs rather than using high chairs so they can see and interact with each other and have plenty of space to paint. Both indoor and outdoor play areas were exceptionally stimulating for the children for example a sensory barefoot trail encourages children to 'feel' different textures with their feet. Dressing up clothes are various styles of garments and include both hats, glasses and jewellery. Different sized shoes enable children to pretend to be a variety of characters including a monster in size 10 shoes. A



sensory room for the children means they can relax and be calm and quiet because there are different coloured lights, textures and soft music to listen to. Natural toys and interesting resources are of a high standard and within easy reach, allowing the children to do things for themselves with the minimum of support because of thoughtful layout. Outdoors continues to be developed by fresh ideas and exciting resources and is very well equipped with a range of high quality wooden resources. These include a stage, areas with different surfaces as well as a lovely role play home space where the children can 'cook delicious meals or make potions' in their mud kitchen.

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## 4. Leadership and Management

Excellent

### Summary

People who run the nursery are proactive and understand their roles and continue to have an exceptionally clear vision for the service. This emphasises a high quality child centred approach, partnership with parents and the active promotion of children's development. The nursery is constantly evolving to reflect best practice and current thinking such as the curiosity approach to children's learning. People who run the nursery have created a highly positive ethos and established a strong team of care staff who continue to be well supported and have clear roles and responsibilities. As a result they deliver high quality care to the children. Leaders have developed highly effective partnerships which benefit the children and their families and local business.

### Our findings

People who run the nursery manage this exceptionally well with both setting and business managers who understand their role and are highly effective. They ensure the service's statement of purpose is accurate and provides parents with the information they need in order to decide whether the nursery meets their and their child's needs. There is clear delegation of responsibilities and effective business administration systems in place to support care staff and keep children safe from harm. People who run the nursery are there each day, being approachable and willing to respond to any issues immediately. The setting is superbly child centred, with activities and equipment that meet the needs and interests of the children effectively.

People who run the nursery are constantly improving, taking into account training, the opinion of children, parents, care staff and visiting professionals to evaluate the service. People who run the nursery put children and their families at the heart of everything and this is highly effective, for example the curiosity approach has been integrated into the children's learning so they learn and understand by finding out. Care staff told us they were happy and changes made in re arranging areas and space and providing natural equipment had improved the service and were of benefit to them and the children. Play and interaction has been monitored to judge the impact of the new curiosity approach. This has proved to have a highly positive influence on the way children learn and play together.

Regular meetings are held with care staff, which identify training needs and provide opportunities to discuss any issues arising. Care staff were very well deployed and have clear roles and responsibilities such as health and safety within the service. As a result they are clear about the arrangements for the day, and very familiar with their duties and responsibilities. Parents could be assured their children received care which was dependable and highly organised. All information and care staff files were readily available and people who run the nursery ensure care staff are well deployed and encourage them to attend training. We saw care staff who are highly valued, very competent and enthusiastic

and well supported by very approachable, innovative thinking leaders who provide good quality care. Their potential is developed by an effective and well-established programme of professional development which helps them to improve their knowledge and practice and improve outcomes for children. Training has increased their knowledge and skills with some of the most up to date thinking. Care staff have previously been on team building sessions and as a result work highly effectively with each other.

People who run the nursery stay in touch with parents to meet children's needs and keep them informed about their child. Parents are regarded as valued partners and we observed them to be listened to and given a good level of feedback about the day. As children get older, more emphasis is put on verbal feedback and asking the children to take responsibility to tell parents themselves about their day. There is valuable information displayed on notice boards in the entrance to the setting. Photographs of care staff on the room doors let parents know very successfully who had been caring for the children in a particular room. This was also a good way to introduce new parents to the team. There are always enough care staff available to give children and their parents time and the people who run the nursery were observed to speak in a very friendly way to parents when they arrived at the nursery. The responsible individual puts together a lovely bag full of information about the nursery that even contains a tea bag and a chocolate to help parents relax when they first leave their child. People who run the service told us how they work with parents to identify children's needs and preferences and explained how they had worked with parents and taken additional advice and support from agencies such as Speech and Language, in order to provide the care each child needed.

There were exceptional relationships within the community with people who run the nursery continuing to support local businesses to provide learning opportunities for the children. Leaders have developed highly effective partnerships which benefit the children and their families and local business such as a dance studio and local potter. Children visit the local area for different learning experiences such as feeding the ducks or visiting the beach having exciting adventures.

## **5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection**

### **5.1 Areas of non compliance from previous inspections**

None

### **5.2 Recommendations for improvement**

None

## **6. How we undertook this inspection**

This was a full, unannounced inspection carried out as part of our schedule of inspections. One inspector visited the service on 17 December 2019.

we:

- inspected a sample of documentation and policies;
- observed practice to capture evidence of children's engagement and the care being provided by staff;
- spoke to the children, the responsible individual and person in charge, parents and care staff;
- looked at the areas used by children and resources on the day of our inspection; and
- gave feedback to the responsible individual and the person in charge of what we found.

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

[www.careinspectorate.wales](http://www.careinspectorate.wales)

## 7 About the service

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Responsible Individual	Rebecca Wright
Person in charge	Kelly Parry
Registered maximum number of places	37
Age range of children	Under 12 years
Opening hours	7.30am to 6pm
Operating Language of the service	English
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	12 March 2016
Dates of this inspection visit(s)	17 December 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?	No
Additional Information:	

Date Published 04/08/2020