



Childcare Inspection Report on

Cylch Meithrin Yr Enfys

**Ystrad Mynach Boys and Girls Club
Lisburn Road
Ystrad Mynach
Hengoed
CF82 7AS**

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

28/11/2019

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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

Cylch Meithrin yr Enfys provides sessional care for children aged between two and four years of age and is registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) to care for up to 20 children under the age of 12 years. The service operates a morning session from 9:00 until 12:00 weekdays during term time only. The Committee have nominated a Responsible Individual (RI) to act on its behalf, and a Person in Charge (PiC) runs the service on a day to day basis. This is a Welsh medium service.

Summary

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

1. Overall assessment

Outcomes for children are good in relation to their well-being. They enjoy a variety of age appropriate play and learning opportunities to promote their development. Strong bonds have formed with their carers, who offer responsive and nurturing care to ensure that children's individual needs are supported. The environment is well resourced. Leadership and management of the service is effective.

2. Improvements

This was the first inspection following registration.

3. Requirements and recommendations

We did not identify any areas of non compliance at this inspection. We made good practice recommendations which are summarised in section 5.

1. Well-being

Summary

Children are consistently encouraged to make choices and express themselves. They are happy and have fun at the service. They are provided with good opportunities and experiences to develop a wide range of skills to promote their all-round development. Positive relationships are developing between children and their social skills are evolving in line with their age and stage of development.

Our findings

Children have a voice at the service. They approach staff to chat or to ask for assistance. We observed the children encouraged by staff to choose what they wanted to play with and they were obviously very familiar with the activities and areas available. Children's self-expression is encouraged and we observed staff carefully listening to children and showing interest in their conversations. They have time to respond to questions and receive positive responses, which acknowledges and values their attempts at communication. Children's interests are incorporated into activity planning.

Children settle quickly and cope well with separation from parents. They develop close attachments with key workers and they are comfortable to approach familiar people when they need help or reassurance. They know the routines well and this helps to develop a sense of security. During carpet time, children choose the songs they would like to sing.

Children interact appropriately and in line with their age and stage of development. They are learning to share and play together and some younger children need guidance and comfort when they do not always get what they want. We saw that some children liked to play alone, whilst most children cooperated and relished the opportunity to play with others. Children receive consistent praise and encouragement from staff when they attempt tasks and clearly value the approval received.

Children are engaged in their play and learning but can also relax and enjoy quiet times. They are able to concentrate for an appropriate amount of time for their stage of development. They have extended periods of child initiated, uninterrupted play as well as frequent opportunities for adults to play alongside them. We saw that the children had access to a variety of activities and resources which were appropriate for their age and stage of development. Children could join an adult led activity with the freedom to leave for an alternative activity at any time. There was a busy but relaxed atmosphere with children engrossed in play and learning of their choosing.

Children are active, curious learners who are beginning to develop self-help and independence skills. Many children are self-assured and relish opportunities to self-direct their time, whilst others benefit from additional encouragement. Children are prompted to wash their hands independently in readiness for snack and to tidy up when they have finished playing, asking for support when needed.

2. Care and Development

Summary

Children are cared for by suitably qualified and enthusiastic staff. There are consistent expectations of behaviour and interactions are well managed. There are suitable systems in place for monitoring children's progress.

Our findings

Staff are clear about their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe. There is a safeguarding policy in place which includes reference to the Prevent duty, and staff have attended child protection training. We saw that mandatory training such as safeguarding, food hygiene and paediatric first aid is updated in a timely manner. Accident and incidents are recorded efficiently and evaluated to identify any patterns. The service has a recording system in place for recording pre-existing injuries for children attending the service. Children develop an understanding of healthy lifestyles by receiving support to wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet facilities. Children are provided with healthy snacks and water or milk to drink at snack time, however children did not have access to drinking water throughout the session which they could access independently.

Staff have realistic expectations of children and strategies to manage children's social behaviour are age appropriate and positive. They work together closely to ensure they have a consistent approach in line with their behaviour policy. Acting as good role models, staff encourage children to be kind to each other, to help tidy up, and they sit with them for their snacks to promote their social skills.

Children are cared for by staff who are caring and responsive to their needs. They are enthusiastic which ensures that children's play, learning and development is promoted. Children's personal needs are attended to promptly and they are treated with respect. Children's development is monitored and assessed in order to plan for the next steps in their learning. Staff know the children well and we heard staff consistently praise and encourage children, which gave them confidence to extend their play and learning.

3. Environment

Summary

The service is inviting for children. Play areas are well-maintained and resources are in good condition. There are plenty of activities to keep children engaged and stimulated, and comprehensive risk assessments are in place to help ensure the safety of children.

Our findings

Leaders ensure the nursery is secure and that no unauthorised access is allowed. Visitors are asked for identification upon arrival and to sign a visitors' book in and out. Registers of attendance are maintained, however they do not record children's actual time of arrival and departure. The front door is kept locked and is monitored by staff. Daily safety checks are in place for the premises and there are a range of risk assessments in place for activities and outings. Fire drills are undertaken regularly and recorded appropriately. A gas safety check has been undertaken and Public Health Wales' Infection Control Audit Tool has been completed.

Leaders ensure the environment is suitable for children, and provide welcoming play areas. The lay out of the room promotes children's independence as resources are generally accessible meaning children can select toys of their choice without the need for adult support. There are designated spaces for role play activities and messy play allowing children to be engaged in various activities without getting in each other's way. There is a reading areas for children who wish to sit and look at a book. Toilets and sinks are situated next to the main room. Relevant information is displayed for parents on a notice board including insurance and staff photographs.

Leaders ensure that children have access to a wide range of good quality, developmentally appropriate play and learning resources. Real-life items and recyclable materials are used to promote environmental awareness. The service has some multicultural resources as well as those which reflect the wider society and promote equality. Resources support the foundation phase curriculum and are appropriate to the needs and interests of the children.

4. Leadership and Management

Summary

Leadership and management of the service is good. The PiC was fully engaged in the inspection process. Partnerships with parents and the wider community are effective and serve the best interests of the children and their families.

Our findings

The person in charge has a clear vision for the service that she shares effectively with others. For example, the statement of purpose gives an accurate and informative picture of the service provided. Leaders ensure that all mandatory training is up to date and any necessary refresher training is scheduled in advance of the expiry date. Suitable policies and procedures are in place and reviewed regularly. Children's contracts we examined were complete and necessary parental consent was evident.

There are appropriate systems in place for the self-evaluation of the service. An annual quality of care report is produced. This includes an action plan highlighting areas for improvement. The quality of care report contains feedback from parents, however did not include feedback sought from staff and children. Frequent team meetings are held to promote collaborative working. There is a complaints procedure in place, although no complaints have been received.

Roles and responsibilities are well-defined and staff are effectively deployed. Staff work positively as a team and support one another to ensure that the day runs smoothly. Staff files contain evidence of effective recruitment and monitoring. The service is a member of an umbrella organisation which provides support if required.

There are well-established partnerships with parents, other agencies and the wider community. The playgroup has a system in place to gather information about children's needs and preferences at registration. We saw photo evidence of the children on outings within the community to the local park and to the shop to buy fruit. The playgroup keeps parents informed through daily feedback, social media, newsletters and parents evening.

5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection

5.1 Areas of non compliance from previous inspections

None

5.2 Recommendations for improvement

We discussed the following good practice recommendations with the PiC;

- Ensure children have access to drinking water throughout the session which they can help themselves to;
- record staff and children's time of arrival and departure, and
- include feedback from staff and children in the Quality of care report.

6. How we undertook this inspection

This was a full inspection undertaken as part of our normal schedule of inspections. One inspector made two visits to the service, the first was unannounced. As part of the inspection we;

- made a visual check of the premises;
- observed care practice;
- interacted with children;
- spoke with staff;
- looked at a range of documentation, and
- considered information available to CIW prior to the inspection.

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

www.careinspectorate.wales

7. About the service

Type of care provided	Childrens Day Care Sessional Day Care
Responsible Individual	Anna Webb-Price
Person in charge	Lisa Batten
Registered maximum number of places	20
Age range of children	2 to 4 years
Opening hours	9:00 – 12:00 weekdays during term time
Operating Language of the service	Welsh
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	First inspection
Dates of this inspection visits	27 and 28 November 2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes – funded places
Is early years education for three and four year olds provided at the service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	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: None	

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