



Inspection Report

Cylch Meithrin Bro Dyfrdwy

**Ysgol Isaf
Cynwyd
Corwen
LL21 0HR**

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

27/04/2021

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About Cylch Meithrin Bro Dyfrdwy

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Cylch Meithrin Bro Dyfrdwy
Registered places	19
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	12/02/2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	Yes

Summary

“This is an inspection undertaken during the Covid 19 pandemic, therefore we have focused on the priority areas for this setting and not the full quality framework.”

Children are happy and enjoy themselves at this service because they are respected and busy with a range of activities. They are able to make choices and decisions and their interests are valued. They are safe, interact well and are learning to do things for themselves.

Capable staff care for the children well and give children’s safety high priority. They manage children’s behaviour kindly, fairly and in a way children understand. They are experienced and provide interesting activities to help children develop well.

The environment is safe and set out with plenty of activities and areas of play to develop skills. The indoor and outdoor spaces are suitable for the children. There are plenty of toys and games, which are mostly in good condition.

People who run the service are knowledgeable about current childcare practice and this ensures a good level of care for children. They make improvements to benefit children and their families. They support a team of committed staff. There are successful and strong partnerships with parents, which helps children feel settled and their families supported.

Well-being

Children have a voice and are able to influence their care. They are able to make choices and decisions and their interests are valued. For example, after lunch there was a time of free play. Whilst there was a reduced number of books and areas of play due to Covid restrictions, children had a choice of five areas to play. Children are listened to, for example, a child wanted the slide moving so they could use it and staff were quick to respond. Children are confident to talk and express themselves in the language of their choice, Welsh or English.

Children form strong bonds with staff who consistently provide good quality care. They are comfortable and happily approach staff for help and chats. Children happily co-operate with staff when asked to go and wash their hands. A parent told us their child greatly enjoys attending the service and another said their child had settled well. Children are content and some have formed relationships with other children. They gain a sense of belonging as they have a personal space for their coats and bags and some of their creations are displayed.

Children are interested and engaged in their play. They laughed as they ran around outside and they were heard playing imaginatively in the sand. Children enjoyed drawing a picture of their favourite animal with support from the staff. Children share and are making friends, appropriate to their stages of development.

Children have some opportunities to do things for themselves. They choose toys and activities, and put items away after use before their snack. Children wash and dry their hands independently and some can put on their coats without help.

Care and Development

Staff work very well together to meet children's needs effectively. Staff implement effective policies and procedures, and have reviewed the care in line with guidance related to the Covid 19 pandemic. They have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. All staff have up-to-date training in child protection, first aid and food hygiene. They are able to talk confidently about safeguarding and the correct procedures to follow if they had a concern for a child. We observed a list of healthy snacks, such as yogurt and fruit. There are robust cleaning routines. Staff provide opportunities for children to participate in regular periods of exercise in the fresh air. Accidents are dealt with satisfactorily and recorded, then parents sign to acknowledge receipt of the information. A parent told us the staff let them know of any significant event. Fire drills are completed and we saw very detailed records, ensuring that staff know how to keep children safe in an emergency.

Staff are very engaged in their interactions with children, constantly playing and chatting with them. They are good role models, being polite and considerate of each individual child. They make sociable times for the children including meal times, sitting and chatting with them. Staff praise and celebrate good behaviour such as washing their hands or building a tower. This enhances their self-esteem and sense of achievement.

Staff know the children's strengths, needs and likes as this information is gained from parents and they ensure they meet children's needs. They know of children's allergies and ensure certain foods are avoided. Staff record observations of children's development which they use to plan activities to advance development. Medium term and weekly planning includes areas of learning and adult led activities, ensuring the all-round development of children. Interesting activities include planting sunflower seeds, making birds for a display and we saw photos of children baking, playing in the park, chalking and going for a nature walk. Staff give each child the attention they need and help them to get the best out of each activity.

Environment

The environment is secure, clean and fairly well maintained, which provides a safe and comfortable place for children to relax and learn. People who run the service have made improvements to some areas indoors and have identified other areas for improvement. They have identified risks and have taken steps to minimise or eliminate them and detailed written risk assessments are reviewed regularly. For example they supervise the children as they go to the toilet to ensure they negotiate the doors safely.

The premises are suitable and indoors is particularly spacious. There is a large kitchen for the preparation of snacks and an area for staff to use for record keeping. The foyer is used for storing children's coats and bags. The outdoor area has many toys and activities such as sand play. However, some outdoor equipment and toys are a little worn and the flooring needs replacing. People who run the service have identified the outdoor environment as a priority in their improvement plan. Space is used effectively and whilst the outdoor space is smaller, staff supplement outdoor play with trips to the local park.

There is suitable furniture for the children both indoors and outside. The resources, which are suited to the age of the children, are mostly of good condition. People who run the service and staff have developed areas for play and learning with many toys and games accessible to the children. There is ample organised storage and supplies of consumables and outside storage is sufficient. This ensures staff have the equipment to provide stimulating activities for children.

Leadership and Management

People who run the service are knowledgeable in current childcare practice and this is set out in the Statement of Purpose which is reader friendly. The document is comprehensive and observations during the inspection evidenced that the people who run the service meet the needs of children and their parents. Policies and procedures are updated and shared with all staff. This ensures they are familiar with all the processes to follow.

People who run the service effectively monitor and evaluate the service. Parents have been asked for their views using questionnaires. The views of parents and children are taken seriously and strengths and areas for improvement are identified in the Annual Review of the Quality of Care. As a result, there are long-term plans for improvement, which include improvements to the outdoor area. Staff told us funding has been found to finance this project which will enhance the opportunities for children.

The recruitment of staff is robust. Annual appraisals are meaningful and include areas for future development and training. The staff spoken to said they were involved in the running of the service and they spoke highly of the supportive committee and Responsible Individual. The staff present during the inspection, who were the regular staff, worked well as a team, each knowing their roles and responsibilities and taking the initiative to guide children appropriately. The outcome is that children enjoy care given by relaxed and enthusiastic staff. Regular and relevant training is provided and staff told us all mandatory courses have been attended and the DBS checks are current. Additional courses on play, additional needs, managing difficult conversations and Early Child Care management have also been completed. This ensures that staff have up to date information on how to provide a rich learning environment for the children.

Relationships with parents are positive and contribute to the well-being of children as parents are able to tell staff what their children have particularly enjoyed. The people who run the service have effective communications with parents, which reflect how important they consider partnership with the parents to be. These practices enable parents / guardians to remain involved with the care of their children. We spoke to two parents who told us they have plenty of information about the care their child receives, including texts and regular newsletters. They said staff made them feel very welcome and told us they are like friends.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1. The outdoor environment should be considered a priority for new equipment and flooring.

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Achieved

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Not Achieved

None	
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Areas where priority action is required

None	
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Areas where improvement is required

None	
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