



Inspection Report

Penyffordd After School Club

Ysgol Penyffordd After School

Park Crew

Penyffordd

Flintshire

CH4 0HW



Date Inspection Completed

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About Penyffordd After School Club

Type of care provided	Childrens Day Care Out of School Care
Registered Provider	S4YC Ltd
Registered places	70
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	Post Registration Inspection
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	This is a service that does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language. It does not anticipate, identify or meet the Welsh language needs of people/children who use, or intend to use their service. We recommend that the service provider considers the Welsh Government's 'More Than Just Words follow on strategic guidance for Welsh language in social care'.

<u>Well-being</u>	METADATA_WEB
<u>Care and Development</u>	METADATA_CAD
<u>Environment</u>	METADATA_ENV
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	METADATA_LAM

For further information on ratings, please see the end of this report

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.

S4YC provide after school care at Penyffordd School. Children are very settled, are able to make choices about their play and have good opportunities to develop their independence. Activities both stimulate and interest the children who spend the majority of their time outdoors. Both the indoor and outdoor environments are very well resourced.

The well-qualified team of staff are well motivated and strive to make a difference in children's lives. They understand their responsibilities to keep children safe and provide supportive and nurturing care. Interactions are kind and warm, which creates a perfect environment in which to relax after a day at school. The staff respond to the children's requirements and the relationships between them are very good.

Areas used by children are spacious, welcoming, bright and perfectly suitable for the needs of children who attend. The school premises are safe and secure and there are appropriate safety checks and risk assessments in place to ensure children's well-being.

People who run the setting are experienced in establishing systems to monitor and review the setting. They have an effective online recording and communications system, which informs managers, staff and parents. Good relationships exist between S4YC, the school and parents.

Children have plenty of attention and opportunities to talk about what they would like to do, and are listened to. They benefit from a wide variety of activities to explore and an extensive selection of resources they can access at any time. We saw that whenever they requested more resources, for example, more blankets for their dens, staff did their best to please them. Children told us they contribute their ideas for activities, snacks and special events. Children's specific dietary needs are met due to their being appropriate choices in place, for example a variety of fruit.

We saw children are content and happy. They settle quickly and chat together happily. We saw lovely relationships exist between the children and those who care for them. Many children were smiling; they were full of ideas for play activities and were delighted to see staff. Children are very familiar with the routines in place and the facilities available to them. We heard children respectfully thanking staff for their help when fetching more water for the painting activity. A child was having an interesting conversation with one staff member about their holiday and trips to a waterpark and others joined in, which created a very social atmosphere. Children told us they feel staff know them well, make time for them and value what they have to say.

Children interact well with others in their contact groups, which are in place because of the Covid-19 pandemic. They are learning to regulate their own behaviour, co-operate, take turns, and to help others. We saw children socialising with older and younger age groups when they played outdoors; and they were able to interact verbally with other contact groups, but remain in their own areas and at a safe distance. Children follow the same rules applied during the day in school, so they understand expectations and their behaviour is appropriate. Children look to staff to help them when needed to settle minor disputes and enjoy the positive praise and gentle persuasion provided.

Children thoroughly enjoy their opportunities to play and relax, and were fully engaged with the activities on offer. We saw them taking part in a wide range of activities outdoors. The most popular were ball games, den making and painting with water. Children told us they enjoyed the activities and enjoyed being there.

Children receive frequent and varied opportunities to develop socially and become independent. However, the current pandemic has meant they are not always able to do things for themselves, for example during snack time.

Care staff promote children's health and wellbeing really well. They access an extensive set of policies and procedures online. Staff understand their responsibilities in keeping children safe. They have continued to complete mandatory training, such as first aid and safeguarding online when required, throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. We saw procedures to minimise cross infection are adhered to, hand washing was promoted and social distancing amongst staff was encouraged. People who run the setting are able to keep the children safe. An online video is provided for staff and visitors. This sets out expectations during the pandemic and we were asked to view this before entering and having our temperature checked. Attendance registers and other required records, for example fire safety and administering medication are stored electronically, and examined by those who run the setting, for evaluation purposes.

Care staff promote positive behaviour and provide support for those with additional needs. Staff treat children with respect. They give a clear example of acceptable behaviour, which replicates the strategies used in the school. Care staff have built warm relationships with the children, which creates a friendly environment. We saw children displayed positive behaviour. They were busy and fully engaged in a variety of activities, which contributed to the happy atmosphere. Care staff were heard praising the children and were good role models. They have set appropriate boundaries whilst allowing children the freedom to be relaxed and have fun.

Staff respond to children's needs appropriately. They motivate children, offer support and encouragement, to get the best out of each activity. They work closely with families and teaching staff in the school to support all children. Care staff provide a good variety of activities daily as well as seasonal topics and different cultural festivals/events. Staff also use ideas from the children in their planning and are happy to include activities and topics, which interest them.

People running the service ensure the environment is safe. This works well because the setting operates from a newly built school, and benefits from regular and effective maintenance checks conducted by the school management team and local authority. S4YC uses a spacious community room near to the main school reception area, the school hall and adjoining open plan areas. Outdoor facilities include an enclosed games court, a spacious playground with large play equipment, school field and forest school area. There are numerous security features in operation on the school premises, with several adaptations in place since the onset of Covid-19. The main changes being, the restriction of visitors and parents onto school premises, social distancing and mask wearing by all staff. All areas are meticulously clean with care staff using anti-bacterial spray to clean surfaces and a school team of cleaning and maintenance staff ensuring shared areas are clean and well maintained.

People who run the service ensure children and staff have sufficient space available to them. Effective measures outlined in guidance during the Covid-19 pandemic is followed. This enables the club to continue operating safely. Children have separate toilet facilities for each age group. Furniture and play resources, which are difficult to keep clean, have been stored away for the time being. The local authority carries out maintenance checks and the person in charge gave us assurances that these are up to date, with copies of certificates being available. Risk assessments are in place and agreed in partnership with the school, for all areas used. People who run the service make good use of the new, quality environment and furniture provided in the school and resources bought separately by S4YC. These are age appropriate and suitable for the children, and are replaced when necessary.

Persons who run this setting are effective and are aware of their responsibilities in relation to the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010. All policies and procedures, including those in place for Covid-19, are detailed and contain the appropriate information. People who run the setting ensure policies and procedures are incorporated well into daily practices. There is an up to date and comprehensive Statement of Purpose and welcome pack available to parents and on their website and in hard copies. Contracts and registration forms are detailed and up to date.

Self-evaluation procedures are good. The setting has not received any complaints about the service they offer. They evaluate their service effectively listening to feedback provided from the children, their parents and care staff in order to make improvements. A review is currently being undertaken and they aim to produce a quality of care report by the end of the summer term. People who run the setting are very experienced, they support and manage staff effectively. Care staff have been recruited by S4YC along with relief staff, who are deployed when needed to maintain consistency of care. Care staff are well qualified and trained to meet the needs of children. Responsibilities are delegated to persons in charge when appropriate to do so. The care staff team are well supported and cooperate well as a team. They have opportunities to express their opinions in self-evaluation monitoring and review questionnaires, supervision and appraisal meetings. Care staff and the management team work diligently as a team to ensure good quality care for the children.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1 We informed those who run the setting of templates available on the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) website and information, which would help those at the setting to understand our framework and inspection processes further.

R2 Staff are asked to consider downloading the 'Safeguarding Wales' application for future reference.

R3 We recommend the service provider considers the Welsh Government's 'More Than Just Words follow on guidance for Welsh language in social care' to help them further develop the promotion of the Welsh language.