



Childcare Inspection Report on

Cylch Meithrin Y Bedol

**Ysgol y Bedol
Folland Road, Garnant
Ammanford
SA18 2GB**

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

23/10/2019

Welsh Government © Crown copyright 2019.

You may use and re-use the information featured in this publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government License. You can view the Open Government License, on the National Archives website or you can write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk
You must reproduce our material accurately and not use it in a misleading context.

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 Y Bedol provides a full day care service for a maximum of 24 children. They operate from a designated room in Ysgol Y Bedol school, Garnant. The hours of operation are between 8.30am to 3.15pm, Monday to Friday during term time only. The care is provided through the medium of Welsh. The registered person is Helen Williams and the person in charge is Melanie Freeman.

Summary

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

1. Overall assessment

Children attending Cylch Meithrin Y Bedol are happy and enthused by their learning experiences. They are cared for by knowledgeable, nurturing and consistent staff who are committed to meeting their individual needs. They benefit from a thoughtfully planned child-centred service. The children are happy and evidently enjoy their time here.

Parents are happy with their children's progress and the service that is provided.

2. Improvements

Since the last inspection, the service has registered onto a national healthy pre-school scheme. The person in charge has completed leadership training in March 2019.

3. Requirements and recommendations

None

1. Well-being

Good

Summary

Children's well-being is good. This is because children have a strong voice and have opportunities to contribute to the service. They decide how and in which area to spend their time and participate in a variety of different activities that are interesting and fun. Children interact with others positively and are making good progress and are becoming increasingly independent.

Our findings

Children have a strong voice as they choose how and where to spend their time. Children moved freely between the activities that had been set out indoors and outdoors, as the doors remained open for them for most of the session. They confidently speak and express themselves. Nearly all children sat in a circle for story and song time. However, a few didn't want to and sat at the table, and joined in the singing from there. A child was asked if he wanted to take his coat off and replied firmly, "no!" and kept the coat on. We saw mind maps where children had contributed their ideas to the planning of activities.

Children feel very settled and cope well with separation from their parents as they are familiar with their surroundings and the routine of the day. Almost all children chatted freely with others. They chatted to us and to each other as they played, even those who had recently started at the service. All children confidently explored the room and the outdoor area, which showed that they felt comfortable in their surroundings and in the staff's company.

Children interact positively and show empathy towards each other. For example, one child asked another "are you my friend?" and replied with "yes" and they smiled at each other and skipped off to play. Children are beginning to understand about sharing and playing co-operatively. When a child took a jigsaw from a child, another child told him several times to "share". They confidently asked for help from staff if they needed it and we saw a child ask a member of staff for a cool pack after he had fallen over.

Most children are motivated and engaged in their play and ran excitedly to feed the chickens. Children laughed and screeched as they stepped from one large stone to another in the woods. Children laughed and made siren noises as they pretended to be firemen and ran around the outdoor area with water pipes. Children were engaged for over 20 minutes making pumpkin pies in the tuff tray and the mud kitchen.

Children generally make good progress as they benefit from participating in a variety of experiences that enable them to develop skills and they are becoming increasingly independent. Children had opportunities to develop physical development through taking risks when climbing on large stones and jumping off them. Children showed they could undertake tasks themselves as they ably used the toilet and washed their hands independently. The helper of the day

handed out cups for everyone. Children spread their own toast with butter and independently helped themselves to a selection of fruit from the plate.

2. Care and Development

Good

Summary

Staff successfully keep children safe and healthy in a caring atmosphere. They manage interactions consistently and are good role models, using positive strategies. Staff promote children's learning through play effectively, providing stimulating activities and meeting children's individual needs.

Our findings

Staff understand and implement policies and procedures for the service consistently. They had completed safeguarding training and knew who to contact in the relevant agencies if they had concerns. All staff had current first aid qualifications and accident forms showed they had dealt with incidents appropriately. Leaders provided healthy snacks and drinks such as fruit, water or milk. Staff ensured children enjoyed the benefits of playing outside on a daily basis. Records of regular fire drills showed that staff and children know how to evacuate the premises safely.

Staff manage children's interactions consistently and positively, helping the children to co-operate and learn social skills. They sat with the children during mealtimes chatting and offering help when needed. Staff used every opportunity to praise the children for being kind or for doing a task they had not managed to do before. Staff were consistent and reminded children to be kind when they saw any negative behaviour. Staff celebrated children's achievements with hugs, stickers and clapping.

Staff meet individual needs effectively as they knew the children well. They provided a nurturing and caring atmosphere and gave responsive care as they knew and acted upon details about the children the parents had shared both verbally and in registration forms. For example, staff were able to tell us about children who did not want to be fussed over and supervised them by observing from afar. Staff promoted the development of all children by planning and providing good play and learning experiences. They effectively promoted the Welsh language as the children understood what was said and responded in Welsh.

3. Environment

Good

Summary

The environment is spacious, light, colourful and safe. The quality and variety of the resources are good. Leaders provide a clean, secure and safe environment and risk assessments ensure all practitioners are aware of how to keep children safe. They ensure children are supervised well both inside and outside.

Our findings

Leaders ensure that the environment is safe and secure and they supervise the children well. The main entrance and gates were locked and school staff verified visitors' identity before asking them to sign the visitor's log. Staff recorded children and staff arrival and departure times daily. All areas inside and outside were hazard free and leaders completed risk assessments successfully. Regular fire drills were carried out and recorded and we saw current the heating safety certificate and evidence that all electrical items had been PAT tested.

Leaders provided a child friendly and interesting environment for children. Areas of play and learning were set out at child height for children to access easily. Indoors, children used child sized chairs, tables and furniture. Pictures of the children and their work were attractively displayed. Children had access to a large secluded outdoor area to the rear of the building with learning areas in line with the curriculum. As well as this, children had access to the large community garden area where children fed the chickens and explored woodland areas safely.

Leaders had ensured children had access to a range of good quality, stimulating play and learning resources. Activities and toys were available in sufficient quantity to ensure children had an interesting choice. All toys and games were clean, in good order and stored in labelled boxes at child height. Equipment and furniture was suited to the ages of children attending.

4. Leadership and Management

Good

Summary

Leadership is very effective. The person in charge strives to provide a high quality service. Policies and procedures are available and regularly reviewed. Self-evaluation shows that areas for improvements are identified and plans made to move forward. Leaders manage staff well and they ensure they have sufficient ongoing training, support and resources. Partnerships with parents and the local community are very effective and benefit children and their families.

Our findings

Leaders set achievable expectations to promote improvement and good outcomes for children. There was consistent practice throughout the service and the long-standing staff worked well as a team. Leaders complied with the National Minimum Standards and regulations and demonstrated confidence in their roles and responsibilities. The Statement of Purpose is accurate and is a true reflection of what the service offers. Leaders told us that they shared policies with staff at the beginning of each term to ensure a good understanding.

Leaders have complied a detailed quality of care review and have taken into account parents, children and staff views. Leaders have plans to further develop the outdoor play area and purchase new resources. We saw records of staff supervisions and annual appraisals. All staff hold relevant qualifications and individual files showed there was a robust recruitment system in place.

Leaders told us that they have established excellent partnerships with parents, the local school and the community. The school head teacher often calls in to greet the children and the nursery teacher visits prior to the transition to school. Children are invited along to the school summer trip. Leaders arrange visits into the community, for example adventure farm, caves, play areas and park. Parents told us that leaders and staff know their children so well, and keep in regular contact regarding events held at the service or in relation to their child

5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection

5.1 Areas of non compliance from previous inspections

None

5.2 Recommendations for improvement

None

5. How we undertook this inspection

This was a full inspection undertaken as part of our normal schedule of inspections. One inspector undertook one announced visit to the service on 23 October 2019 for a total of five and half hours. Feedback was given over the telephone on the 29 October 2019 for a total of 30 minutes. As part of the inspection we:

- observed children and the care being given to them by staff;
- spoke to leaders, staff, children, parents, and carers;
- looked at a sample of documentation which included staff and children's registers, staff files, risk assessments, accident logs; and
- viewed the premises inside and outside.

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

www.careinspectorate.wales

6. About the service

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Helen Williams
Person in charge	Melanie Freeman
Registered maximum number of places	24
Age range of children	2 – 4 years
Opening hours	8.30am – 3.15pm Monday to Friday, term time only
Operating Language of the service	Welsh
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	14 April 2017
Dates of this inspection visit(s)	23 October 2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes
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 the '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

No noncompliance records found in Open status.