



Arolygiaeth Gofal a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol Cymru
Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales

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**Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010
Child Minding and Day Care (Inspection and Information for Local
Authorities) (Wales) Regulations 2010
The Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010**

Inspection Report

Ffrindiau Bach Yr Eos

**Ysgol Llwyn Yr Eos
Penparcau
Aberystwyth
SY23 1SH**

**Type of Inspection – Focussed
Date(s) of inspection – Friday, 20 November 2015
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Summary

About the service

Ffrindiau Bach yr Eos was registered in 2008 to provide full day care through the medium of Welsh for up to twenty children under the age of eight at any one time. They are part of the Flying Start service and therefore two years old is the age of the majority of children who attend. The nursery is situated in a purpose-built building in the grounds of the Ysgol Llwyn yr Eos campus on the outskirts of Aberystwyth. The nursery is part of a number of national schemes, including the Healthy and Sustainable Pre-school Scheme and the Designed to Smile Scheme. They have also received a national quality award.

Gwenllian Lansdown Davies, Dona Lewis and Heather Davies-Rollinson are the responsible individuals on behalf of the company and Debbie Benjamin is the individual in charge.

What type of inspection was carried out?

This was an unannounced, baseline inspection that looked at the quality of life theme only and it was held on the morning of Friday 20 November 2015. Fifteen children, the individual in charge, four members of staff and one student were present during the visit. The following inspection methods were used:-

- Talking to the children
- Talking to the individual in charge and the assistants
- Observing the environment and the interaction between staff and the children
- Looking at some documents in the nursery.

Also, two children were observed playing, using the Short Observation Framework for Inspection (SOFI 2). The SOFI 2 tool enables inspectors to observe and record life from a child's perspective; how they spend their time, activities, interaction with others and the type of support they receive.

What does the service do well?

- All members of staff hold level 3 child care qualifications and several have attained level 5.
- All members of staff have current and valid first aid, food hygiene and child protection certificates.
- The setting promotes children's health through involvement with the Designed to Smile and Healthy and Sustainable Pre-school Schemes.
- The setting has received a national quality award.
- The setting shares information effectively with parents through diaries, letters and meetings.
- The staff co-operate closely with other agencies including schools and the health authority in order to provide the best service for the children.

What has improved since the last inspection?

The setting has maintained its high standards.

The setting provides one messy day a week which includes cookery.

They are introducing a new style of movement and exercise to the children, namely Jabadao.

They use Flying Start assessment forms to monitor the quality of care.

What needs to be done to improve the service?

No cases of non-compliance were identified.

Quality Of Life

We, the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW), saw that the children who attend the nursery enjoy a good variety of play experiences that contribute to their emotional, physical, social, linguistic and creative development. The care is gentle and promotes the sense of safety, self-worth, independence and confidence for children in a stimulating environment. Particular emphasis is placed on developing the speech and language of the children who attend.

The children's individual needs are met and their wellbeing is promoted because staff know the children in their care very well. Relevant information has been collected about the children before they start through conversations with parents during induction visits and through the registration forms. Key workers have been appointed for each child and the children's development has been recorded. Staff follow speech and language programmes for some of the children and they co-operate closely with parents and staff from the Health Authority. The staff present the Welsh language effectively by using songs and repeating simple patterns. During the singing sessions at the end of the morning, pictures of various animals were used and children were encouraged to use 'small', 'big' and to name colours.

Children are stimulated as they enjoy a variety of play activities and a great deal of evidence was seen of their creative work. The children were extremely busy during our visit, with activities led by staff in addition to self-directed play. Other cultures are introduced to the children and we saw the clay candle pots that they had been making to celebrate Diwali. There was a particularly good choice of resources and toys available and the children moved confidently from one play area to the other. As the resources are stored on a low level and in labelled boxes, the children were able to help themselves to the toys. Staff promote the children's independence; for example, the children were encouraged to identify their names and they were responsible for clearing their dishes after their snack and washing their toothbrushes.

We found that the children have fostered a positive relationship with staff and other children. The children were lively, full of excitement and very confident as they chatted and played. Staff sat with the children and the atmosphere was relaxed, happy and positive. We saw the children approaching the staff for a chat, for help or just for a cuddle. The staff responded quickly and sensitively to children who were sad or tired. Our SOFI observation showed that staff talked to the children constantly and showed a real interest in what they were doing and saying. A number of examples were seen of the children playing hide and seek with the children and a great deal of laughter and teasing as they searched for each other.

The children are encouraged and supported to be physically fit and healthy as the nursery offers healthy snacks and foods and places an emphasis on playing outside and keeping fit. The nursery has a very good outdoor area. We found that the nursery's standards of hygiene and cleanliness are very high. We saw staff and children washing their hands regularly and the tables were disinfected before eating food.

Quality Of Leadership and Management

In this inspection, the focus was on the experience of children who use the service and quality of life in the nursery. It was not considered necessary to look at the quality of leadership and management this time, because no lack of compliance was identified in the last inspection. The nursery is managed and led very effectively. All the documents that we saw during the visit were very accurate and in order. One staff file was looked at and it was seen that the responsible individuals had followed regulations in recruiting staff. They used the Flying Start assessment document to monitor the quality of care and had produced an action plan. Parents had responded positively in questionnaires and several of them had referred positively to their children's development.

However, this theme will be considered in more detail during future inspections.

Quality Of Staffing

In this inspection, the focus was on the experience of children who use the service and quality of life in the nursery. It was not considered necessary to look at the quality of staffing this time, as staff were experienced and held appropriate childcare qualifications. A number of them held level 3 qualifications and a number had gained level 5. We found that all staff held first aid, food hygiene and child protection qualifications. Staff were encouraged to attend further training and we found that some had been on exercise and moving with children training and Elkan speech and language training. We saw that the staff who were present during the inspection chatted pleasantly and positively with the children. They were very good role models for the children and created a homely, stimulating and kindly atmosphere.

However, this theme will be considered in more detail during future inspections.

Quality Of The Environment

In this inspection, the focus was on the experience of children who use the service and quality of life in the nursery. It was not considered necessary to look at the quality of the environment this time, because it was identified that the site is well-maintained and no problems were found in terms of health and safety during the visit. We saw that pictures, craft work and displays create a colourful, welcoming and stimulating environment and there were plenty of toys and equipment of a high standard available for the children. The nursery has a particularly good outdoor area.

However, this theme will be considered in more detail during future inspections.

How we inspect and report on services

We conduct two types of inspection; baseline and focused. Both consider the experience of people using services.

- **Baseline inspections** assess whether the registration of a service is justified and whether the conditions of registration are appropriate. For most services, we carry out these inspections every three years. Exceptions are registered child minders, out of school care, sessional care, crèches and open access provision, which are every four years.

At these inspections we check whether the service has a clear, effective Statement of Purpose and whether the service delivers on the commitments set out in its Statement of Purpose. In assessing whether registration is justified inspectors check that the service can demonstrate a history of compliance with regulations.

- **Focused inspections** consider the experience of people using services and we will look at compliance with regulations when poor outcomes for people using services are identified. We carry out these inspections in between baseline inspections. Focused inspections will always consider the quality of life of people using services and may look at other areas.

Baseline and focused inspections may be scheduled or carried out in response to concerns.

Inspectors use a variety of methods to gather information during inspections. These may include;

- Talking with people who use services and their representatives
- Talking to staff and the manager
- Looking at documentation
- Observation of staff interactions with people and of the environment
- Comments made within questionnaires returned from people who use services, staff and health and social care professionals

We inspect and report our findings under 'Quality Themes'. Those relevant to each type of service are referred to within our inspection reports.

Further information about what we do can be found in our leaflet 'Improving Care and Social Services in Wales'. You can download this from our website, [Improving Care and Social Services in Wales](#) or ask us to send you a copy by telephoning your local CSSIW regional office.