



Inspection Report

Briton Ferry Childcare

**The Scout Hut
Old Road
Briton Ferry
Neath
SA11 2HA**



Date Inspection Completed

16/06/2021

Welsh Government © Crown copyright 2021.

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.

About Briton Ferry Childcare

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Bethan Davies Rhiannon Phillips
Registered places	36
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	Manual Insert 4 January 2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	Manual Insert Yes
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	The service is working towards providing an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language and intends to become a bilingual service or demonstrates a significant effort to promoting the use of the Welsh language and culture. They pair Welsh speaking children with Welsh speaking key workers and use conversational and incidental Welsh.

Summary

Children at this setting have a strong voice and are happy, settled and confident. They engage happily in their play and show enjoyment in their chosen activities.

Care staff follow good health, hygiene and safety processes and manage the children's behaviour positively. They plan for children's learning and support children with additional needs very well. Care staff keep records about children's progress and use them to plan effective activities to support children's learning and development. There is a very good key worker system in place.

People who run the setting provide a clean, secure and welcoming environment that is appealing for play and learning and offers a good range of resources and equipment.

Leadership at the setting is very good. The people who run the setting effectively review their service and policies and ensure children's records are in place. They follow a safe recruitment process and have an effective system for care staff supervision and appraisal. The people who run the setting and the care staff work very well with parents and other relevant professionals to meet children's individual needs. They keep parents well informed about their children's progress, well-being and care.

Well-being

Children are able to make decisions and choices about how they spend their time at the setting. They move freely around the play areas in the setting and are confident to ask for things they want that are not readily available. For example, a child asked a member of care staff if she could have a story sack to play with after circle time showing that she knew this would be possible even though they were outside and the story sacks were inside. Children who are not yet talking communicate effectively in a variety of non-verbal ways, as they know they will receive an appropriate response.

Children are happy, settled and clearly comfortable with care staff. We saw older children chatting easily with care staff as they completed puzzles or walked back from school and younger children were relaxed as they explored the toys in their own area.

Children interact very well with each other. They play together or alongside each other in ways that are appropriate for their age. During our visit, we saw the younger children join the older children outside for a short time before moving to their own separate outdoor area. The older children were careful of the younger ones whilst they were together showing that they are learning to be aware of others and their different needs.

Children very much enjoy their play and learning whilst at the nursery. They are able to spend a great deal of time outside where they can choose from a wide variety of activities that cover all areas of development. They join in with routines such as circle time and activities led by care staff many of which also take place outside. This means children have time to settle to the activities they choose and move easily through the routines of the day. They sustain interest and concentration in what they are doing for good amounts of time. For example, older children joined in with circle time for almost 20 minutes whilst those who are not quite ready for this were enabled to move away and do other things.

Children at this nursery are developing well although pre-school age children are currently not developing some of their self-help skills as much as usual due to Covid 19 considerations. They have plenty of time to follow their own interests and show confidence in their abilities as their independence grows. We saw two children climb unaided to the top of a tall climbing frame and then carefully work out how to get down again.

Care and Development

People who run the setting have very good policies and procedures in place to keep children safe and healthy. They and the care staff are very confident about child protection procedures although some of the care staff were not clear about who to report any concerns to about the registered persons should they arise. Overall, care staff follow good hygiene procedures although they did not always use the personal protective equipment such as aprons at times when policies and risk assessments state that they should. They ensure that they keep toilet and nappy changing areas clean and tidy throughout the day and clean tables using appropriate methods before children sit down to eat. Care staff know and follow the procedures for managing any allergies that children might have. They complete accident and medication forms as necessary although occasionally accident forms lack detail and sometimes parents have not signed them.

Staff are good role models for children as they are calm and consistent in their care and interactions. There is a very good key worker system in place that is thoughtfully worked out and ensures that care staff have appropriate knowledge to meet the individual needs of the children. For example, ensuring that Welsh speaking children have a Welsh speaking key worker.

Care staff promote and support children's play and learning very well. For example, care staff led a ball game with a group of older children who chose to join in. Other care staff sat with children to help them complete puzzles and circle time was enthusiastically led and joined in with by all care staff alongside the children. Each key worker helped children in their group to make a Father's Day card throughout the session. During our visit, we also saw examples of on-going projects such as growing flowers and vegetables. Care staff know the children well and understand how to meet their individual needs. People who run the setting ensure that support for children with additional needs is available including one to one adult support when needed and individual play plans. Care staff use Welsh throughout the nursery in both a conversational and incidental way depending on the needs of children. Care staff plan for children's learning and development and have a good knowledge of how children learn. For example, using elements of activities such as planting and growing to develop different areas of learning such as language and maths concepts. They use a theme-based approach and identify the learning and development outcomes they need to promote in a variety of ways including observing the children and drawing on current trends and research. Care staff observe what children are able to do and keep records about their progress. They keep parents informed about their children's day through a daily diary and verbal feedback.

Environment

People who run the setting ensure that children are cared for in a safe, secure and very clean environment. Effective risk assessments are in place. People who run the nursery ensure they maintain the building and carry out checks as appropriate such as boiler servicing. They maintain records of visitors to the nursery although they have only admitted essential visitors during the Covid-19 pandemic. They have put in place extra cleaning routines during the Covid-19 pandemic and have employed an extra member of staff for several hours a day to regularly deep clean all areas of the nursery including toys and equipment. People who run the setting carry out regular fire evacuation practices although these are not always as frequent as stated in their policy and the records do not contain the detail recommended at the previous inspection.

The premises both inside and outside are spacious and welcoming. People who run the setting provide a good amount of resources and equipment that is suitable for children of all ages. They have altered the layout of the indoor environment during the Covid-19 pandemic to limit the amount of resources freely available to the children to help reduce the risk of spread of infection. Children do know though that they can ask for what they would like to play with if it is not readily accessible. People who run the setting provide good quality furniture, equipment, toys and resources that are suitable for the needs of the children.

People who run the setting provide an extremely well laid out outdoor environment and have divided it into several areas. The equipment provides challenge for all ages whilst reducing risks. For example, there is an area for bikes and scooters and climbing equipment has appropriate critical fall height surfacing underneath. The outdoor area provides for all areas of learning and development and includes a shaded area for less physical activities such as exploring books, puzzles, small world toys and drawing.

Leadership and Management

Leadership at this nursery is very good. People who run the setting have a clear vision of what they want to achieve and they communicate this effectively to all staff. There is a very positive ethos in the nursery and all those who work there feel valued as evidenced by the extremely low turnover of staff in. They have all the policies, procedures and documentation in place to support the running of the nursery and comply with regulations and the national minimum standards. These include records of attendance for children and staff although occasionally staff do not sign out when leaving the nursery. Overall, people who run the nursery ensure that they and all staff understand and consistently follow the vast majority of their policies and procedures. People who run the setting are clearly involved in the day-to-day operation of the nursery including in the planning and monitoring of outcomes for children.

People who run the setting have an effective system for evaluating the service they offer. They produce an annual quality of care review report that takes account of the views of children, parents, care staff and other professionals. It is detailed and evaluative and identifies areas where they would like to make improvements. For example, renovating an unused outdoor area into a gardening area and water play area and helping older children become more independent.

People who run the setting follow safe and robust recruitment procedures. Whilst they do not recruit regularly, they demonstrated that they keep up to date with any changing legal requirements as they hold all the required information for employees who have been with them for 20 years. All staff receive regular supervision meetings and annual appraisal that are effective in maintaining or improving practice.

People who run the setting and care staff have extremely good relationships with parents and other professionals involved in supporting the nursery. They have contracts and a variety of signed permission forms in place for all children. All the parents we spoke to were highly complimentary about the nursery and their only complaint was that one day their children would be too old to attend anymore. Several parents commented that they feel the nursery goes 'above and beyond' in their efforts to support children and families. People who run the setting and care staff ensure that they communicate with parents in a variety of ways that take account of individual preference. For example, they operate a closed facebook group for messages and newsletters but also use whatsapp or messenger and send hard copy newsletters for those who prefer other methods of communication.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1 Ensure all staff are fully aware of who to report concerns to about the registered persons.

R2 Ensure all staff consistently follow all procedures detailed in policies and risk assessments.

R3 Ensure documents such as fire drill records and accident forms consistently record sufficient detail and that parents always sign accident forms.

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	
------	--

Areas where priority action is required

None	
------	--

Areas where improvement is required

None	
------	--

Date Published 10/08/2021