



Childcare Inspection Report on

Osbourne Lodge Day Nursery

**Osborne Road
Pontypool
NP4 6LT**



Date Inspection Completed

31/10/2019

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Description of the service

Osbourne Lodge Day Nursery is located in the centre of Pontypool. It has been registered since April 2002 to care for up to 53 children. It offers care for children aged from six weeks to five years of age. The service operates Monday to Friday, 8.00am to 6.00pm. The Registered Person (RP) is Nikola Masters, who owns the nursery, and is also named as a Person in Charge (PiC). An additional PiC is employed to manage the nursery on a day to day basis. The nursery is an approved Early Years Education Provider for Torfaen County Council and is therefore subject to joint inspections from Estyn and Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW). Care is delivered through the English language, with the use of incidental Welsh.

Summary

1. Overall assessment

This was a focused inspection which concentrated on the areas of well-being and the environment. We therefore did not consider the other themes of our inspection framework on this occasion. Children are happy and settled at the service. They have good bonds of affection with staff who know them well. Children have good opportunities to lead their own play and learning and develop independence skills. They benefit from a wide range of activities that appeal to their interests. Children are cared for by suitably qualified and experienced staff, who have sound knowledge of how to keep them safe. There are effective systems in place to ensure children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. All areas used by the nursery are well maintained and resourced. The PiC has been at the service since it registered in 2002 and provides consistent and effective leadership.

2. Improvements

We did not consider any progress achieved regarding the recommendations made at the previous inspection on this occasion. These will be considered during the next full inspection.

3. Requirements and recommendations

We did not identify any areas of non-compliance or make any recommendations during this inspection.

1. Well-being

Summary

This was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full and therefore we have not issued or revised any ratings awarded previously. However, we found that children are happy and settled at the service. They have good opportunities to develop independence and form positive relationships with staff and peers.

Our findings

Children attending the service have a strong voice. They are confident to approach staff and communicate because they know they will be listened to. We observed children receiving lots of affection and individual attention from their carers. For example, babies were given cuddles and toddlers enjoyed staff reading stories to them individually.

Children have plenty of opportunities to lead their own play and learning. They access resources independently and make appropriate decisions because they can see what is available to them.

Children interact well with staff and peers and older children are beginning to form friendships. They play happily alongside each other or together according to their age and stage of development and are engaged for appropriate periods of time. For example, a group of pre-school were totally engaged in story time. Their interest was obvious through comments they made and the questions they asked. Meal times are sociable occasions. Children sit in groups at tables and chat happily as they eat. They use age appropriate cutlery well and pour their own drinks.

Children enjoy their time at the service. Their enjoyment was evident through their smiles and laughter. On the day of the inspection, there was much excitement as staff and children had worn fancy dress and taken part in Halloween activities.

We will consider this theme in more detail at our next full inspection.

2. Care and Development

Summary

This was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme and therefore we have not issued or revised any ratings awarded previously. This will be addressed at the next full inspection.

3. Environment

Summary

This was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full and therefore we have not issued or revised any ratings awarded previously. However, we found that children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. The premises are clean, well maintained and in good decorative order. There are effective systems in place to ensure that risks are identified and where possible eliminated.

Our findings

Leaders ensure that the nursery environment is safe, secure and well maintained. They prevent any unauthorised access and visitors are unable to enter the building or outdoor play area unless admitted by the person in charge. An accurate record of visitors to the premises is maintained. Risk assessments are robust and actions identified as a result are carried out in a timely manner. This ensures that possible risks to the children's safety are managed effectively. The play areas are arranged over three levels with the garden on the lowest level. Staff give careful consideration to the safety of children using the stairs and closely supervise the children. Hand rails have been placed at two levels by the stairs to accommodate children of different ages and heights. Younger children are supervised on a one to one basis while moving up and down stairs.

The service employs a professional company to carry out detailed fire risk assessments and we saw that all recommendations had been implemented. The fire officer had also visited recently and confirmed that the fire safety procedures were satisfactory. Safety checks for fire fighting equipment and alarms were up to date. Emergency evacuation procedures are clearly displayed in all rooms and regular emergency evacuation drills are carried out so that all children and staff know what to do in the event of an emergency. The PiC told us that they practice evacuating the building through different exits, in case one becomes inaccessible during an emergency situation. Careful consideration has been given to keeping children safe while evacuating the building through the front door, which is on a public highway. Staff are fully aware of their responsibilities and children are very closely supervised while moving along the pavement to the evacuation point. Gas and electrical safety testing is carried out within the required timescales and public liability insurance is up to date.

The nursery environment was clean, well maintained and in good decorative order throughout. Cleaning schedules are displayed in every room and the infection prevention and control audit is used effectively. The service has a pest control contract, which includes a minimum of eight visits a year. Daily checks of all play areas are undertaken by

staff to identify possible issues before they are used by the children. We carried out a visual inspection of the nursery premises and did not identify any unnecessary risks or areas of concern.

The outdoor play space, whilst quite small, is well utilised and provides an appropriate space for children to be physically active and engage in outdoor play. There are a number of covered areas, allowing children to access the outdoors in a range of weather conditions such as rain or heat. The area is very well resourced with natural, recycled and loose parts play equipment.

4. Leadership and Management

Summary

This was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme and therefore we have not issued or revised any ratings awarded previously. This will be addressed at the next full inspection.

5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection

5.1 Areas of non-compliance from previous inspections

None

5.2 Recommendations for improvement

We did not make any recommendations during this inspection.

6. How we undertook this inspection

This was a focused, unannounced inspection undertaken following a concern raised about the building, which we considered as part of the inspection process. The inspection was carried out by two inspectors who spent approximately 3 hours at the service. Information for the report was gathered from the following:

- Visual inspection of the premises;
- conversation with the person in charge;
- scrutiny of documentation such as risk assessments, fire evacuation records, fire equipment safety test records and pest control contract and
- brief observation of care practices and interactions between staff and children.

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

www.careinspectorate.wales

7. About the service

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Nikola Masters
Person in charge	Nikola Masters Lisa Jones
Registered maximum number of places	53
Age range of children	Six weeks to five years
Opening hours	Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.00pm
Operating Language of the service	English
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	15 & 16 October 2019
Dates of this inspection visit(s)	31 October 2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Is early years education for three and four year olds provided at the service?	Yes
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 Welsh Government's 'More Than Just Words follow on strategic guidance for Welsh language in social care'.
Additional Information: None	

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