Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru
Care Inspectorate Wales

Inspection Report

Meithrinfa Siwgr Plwm Cyf

Ffordd Heulog
Llanedwen
LL61 6EQ



Date Inspection Completed

16/01/2025

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About Meithrinfa Siwgr Plwm Cyf

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Meithrinfa Siwgr Plwm Cyf
Registered places	70
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	Click or tap here to enter text. 02/09/2022
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service promote the Welsh language and culture?	The setting is working towards providing an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language and intends to become a bilingual setting or demonstrates a significant effort to promoting the use of the Welsh language and culture.

Well-being	**Good**
Care and Development	**Good**
Environment	**Good**
Leadership and Management	**Good**

Summary

The children are happy and settled at the setting. They make choices about how to spend their time and feel safe and confident as they have developed positive relationships with the staff and their friends. The children enjoy the activities available to them, and they learn positive social skills by taking part in these activities with their friends.

The staff have a suitable understanding of their responsibilities to keep the children safe and healthy. They know the children well and speak to them in a warm and friendly manner. The staff support the children's development effectively through a variety of engaging activities and experiences.

Those responsible for running the setting ensure that all areas used by the children are safe and welcoming. There is a range of good quality toys and resources both inside and outside, and these provide interesting opportunities for the children to learn and develop their skills.

Those responsible for running the setting are committed to ensuring that the service is managed effectively. They share their vision for the service with the staff, supporting them to follow policies and procedures effectively. Those responsible for running the setting strive to provide a good quality service for the children and their families. However, the training that is arranged for the staff does not always reach the National Minimum Standards, and there are no records of supervision meetings.

Well-being Good

The children are happy and settled at the setting. They are confident making decisions about how to spend their time and they move freely around the activities and toys that are available to them following their interests. For example, some children chose to join a craft activity with the staff whilst other children chose to dress up in the role-play area. Children of every age express themselves confidently. The younger children communicate their needs through chatter and facial expressions, and the staff respond promptly. For example, children who show signs of tiredness are settled to sleep straight away.

The children feel safe as they have formed close relationships with the staff who care for them. They feel comfortable asking the staff for comfort when needed. For example, they approach staff for comfort when they are tired. The children speak confidently with other adults visiting the setting. They chat and make friends during lunch time, play time and during activities and smile and laugh while doing so.

The children are friendly and interact positively with the staff and each other. They share toys, wait their turn and work together well to complete tasks. For example, during a dough making activity they listen carefully to instructions from staff before waiting their turn to pour the water and mixing it with the flour in the bowl. Children learn good manners and say please and thank you at appropriate times.

The children enjoy the activities available to them and they concentrate well. For example, a group of children had a great deal of fun playing in the cafe. They pretended to sell sweet treats to their friends, and concentrated well on placing cutlery on the tables. One of the children chose to play on the balance bike, and showed significant pride as they rode around the yard showing their skills to the staff and their friends.

The children are given opportunities to develop their independence skills by completing tasks for themselves. For example, the children wash their hands independently and are encouraged to put their coats on by themselves. All children have the confidence to choose which activities they wish to take part in independently.

Care and Development — Good

Staff understand their responsibilities to keep the children safe and healthy. They have completed the latest safeguarding training and are aware of the correct procedures to follow should they have any safeguarding concerns about a child in their care. Accidents are recorded appropriately and these records are signed by parents to show that they have been informed of the incident. Staff ensure that the children are aware of how to evacuate the building safely in an emergency by ensuring that regular fire drills are held and that detailed records are kept.

Staff promote healthy habits by ensuring that the children have regular opportunities to develop their physical skills and to spend time outdoors. There are a wide range of healthy meals and snacks available for the children, and there are effective systems in place to ensure that staff are aware of the children's dietary needs. Good hygiene is promoted and the staff encourage and support every child to wash their hands as required. The nappy changing procedures comply with the current infection control procedures.

The staff have formed a positive relationship with the children, and speak to them affectionately and treat them with care and respect. They use effective and consistent strategies to promote positive behaviour in accordance with the setting's policy. For example, they distract children with another activity if they find it difficult sharing or taking turns, and provide a clear explanation when their behaviour is not acceptable. The staff also display social skills effectively.

Staff provide a range of fun activities that the children enjoy, including a variety of indoor and outdoor activities. They know the children well and are familiar with their likes and dislikes. They collect comprehensive information on the children's care, personal and medical needs before they attend the setting, and this enables them to plan effectively to ensure that they can meet their individual needs. Children with additional needs are supported well, and the staff work effectively with external agencies to ensure the best results for the children. The use of the Welsh language is strong in every part of the setting.

Environment — Good

Those responsible for running the setting ensure that there are procedures in place to make sure that the premises are safe and that hazards are managed appropriately. There are comprehensive written risk assessments which outline any potential hazards to the children's safety and the action taken to manage or eliminate these hazards. Staff keep an accurate register of the children's attendance, including every child's arrival and departure times.

Those responsible for running the setting provide a wide variety of areas where children can play and learn. They ensure that the setting is used effectively to encourage the children's development, imagination and curiosity. Those responsible for running the setting ensure that all areas used by the children are spacious and welcoming. Toys and resources are stored at a low level to enable the children to have easy access to them. They have toilets with suitable facilities as well as low level sinks to promote the children's independence. There is a large outdoor area that offers the children opportunities to develop their physical skills by using climbing equipment or by choosing from the variety of outdoor toys that are available. A large area of grass offers the children opportunities to play and run.

Those responsible for running the setting provide a good range of toys and resources which are in good condition and appropriate for the children's ages and stages of development. For example, by playing with blocks, and taking part in craft activities and role-play activities. The resources in the outdoor area are of a high quality and promote the children's curiosity and their desire to explore. Those responsible for running the setting offer opportunities for the children to explore and recycle materials that reflect real life.

Leadership and Management — Good

Those responsible for running the setting ensure that the required policies and procedures are in place, and these include the relevant information. The setting's statement of purpose includes detailed information and an accurate description of the service provided. Those responsible for running the setting endeavour to provide a high-quality service to the children and their parents. They inform Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) of changes to the service, as required.

Those responsible for running the setting are keen to ensure that they continue to develop and improve. They ask parents and staff for verbal feedback regularly and they also send feedback questionnaires. Feedback is collected from the children by speaking to them and observing them daily. Those responsible for running the setting have produced a report in response to the feedback received. This report outlines the improvements which have already been made and proposed improvements for the future.

Those responsible for running the setting ensure that the staff have training and support to fulfil their roles. However, the first aid training they have completed does not reach the National Minimum Standards. Those responsible for running the setting have taken prompt action following the inspection and have arranged appropriate paediatric first aid training for the staff. Staff files are comprehensive and include all the required information to ensure that safe recruitment checks are in place. The staff told us that they are supported by those responsible for running the setting, and that they feel comfortable approaching them to ask questions or discuss any problems. We saw written records of annual appraisals and those responsible for running the setting and the staff noted that they were supervised regularly. However, there are no records of these meetings.

The staff communicate effectively and consistently with the parents. They use an app to document the children's achievements and to share information with their parents such as pictures and observations, as well as information about their personal care. The parents we spoke with said that they have a good relationship with the staff and that they are very satisfied with the care that their children receive. Those responsible for running the setting ensure that the children are given opportunities to learn about the community in which they live. For example, the children regularly visit a local residential home and enjoy taking part in activities with the residents.

Summary of non-compliance	
Status	**What each one means**
New	This non-compliance was identified at this inspection.
Reviewed	Compliance was reviewed at this inspection and was not achieved. The target date for compliance is in the future and will be tested at next inspection.
Not Achieved	Compliance was tested at this inspection and was not achieved.
Achieved	Compliance was tested at this inspection and was achieved.

We respond to non-compliance with regulations where poor outcomes for people, and / or risk to people's well-being are identified by issuing Priority Action Notice (s).

The provider must take immediate steps to address this and make improvements. Where providers fail to take priority action by the target date we may escalate the matter to an Improvement and Enforcement Panel.

Priority Action Notice(s)		
Regulation	Summary	Status
N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this inspection	N/A

Where we find non-compliance with regulations but no immediate or significant risk for people using the service is identified we highlight these as Areas for Improvement.

We expect the provider to take action to rectify this and it will be followed up at the next inspection.

Area(s) for Improvement		
Regulation	Summary	Status

N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this inspection.	N/A
30	The responsible individual has not ensured all required information had been gathered in the children's individual records and not ensured all staff are recording their daily attendance consistently including their breaks. Not all accident and incidents had been signed by parents to evidence they have been kept informed. The responsible individual must ensure all the required information is in the children's individual records, ensure all staff record their daily attendance including their breaks and make sure all parents acknowledge and sign their child's accident and incident form to evidence they have been informed.	Achieved
28	The responsible individual has not ensured all the required information has been collated in the staff employment files. The responsible individual requires collating all the required information to ascertain staffs suitability to safeguard children.	Achieved
29	The responsible individual has not ensured staff receive consistent and appropriate supervision and appraisal in order to identify areas of improvement that staff are motivated to work towards to improve better outcomes for children. The responsible individual must ensure staff receive appropriate supervision and appraisal and make sure these discussions are recorded.	Achieved
31	The responsible individual has not notified CIW of staff leavers and newly appointed staff at the setting. The responsible individual needs to ensure she submits the relevant notifications to CIW via the CIW online portal account.	Achieved
25	The responsible individual has not ensured all staff are following infection control procedures correctly in relation to nappy changing procedures and serving food for children. The responsible individual needs to ensure staff consistently follow the correct infection control procedures in regards to the PPE and handwashing requirements when changing a child's nappy and when serving meals and snacks for children.	Achieved

Where we find the provider is not meeting the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Child Care but there is no immediate or significant risk for people using the service, we will highlight these as Recommendations to Meet National Minimum Standards.

We expect the provider to take action to address these and we will consider them at the next inspection.

National Minimum Standards	
Standard	Recommendation(s)
Standard 10 - Healthcare	Ensure that the staff attend a paediatric first aid training course which meets the requirements of the National Minimum Standards.

Where we think it helpful, we may make best practice recommendations. These are to encourage settings that are doing well to become even better at helping children thrive.

Best Practice
Recommendation(s)
Keep records of supervision meetings to evidence the decisions made and the actions agreed.

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.

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