Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru
Care Inspectorate Wales

Inspection Report

Gilfach Goch Kids R Us Playscheme

Gilfach Goch Community Recreation Centre
Cambrian Avenue
Gilfach Goch
Porth
CF39 8TG



Date Inspection Completed

15/02/2024

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About Gilfach Goch Kids R Us Playscheme

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Open Access Play Provision
Registered Provider	Gilfach Goch Community Association Ltd
Registered places	100
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	30 May 2018
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service promote Welsh language and culture?	This service is working towards providing an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language and 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	**Adequate**

For further information on ratings, please see the end of this report

Summary

Children are very happy, settled, and safe at the club. They have a strong voice with very good opportunities to make choices and decisions about what they do. They thoroughly enjoy attending, behave very well and play enthusiastically with their friends. They develop social and individual skills and learn to be independent within the environment.

Staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe. They are warm, responsive and provide safe, nurturing care. They manage behaviour sensitively but firmly and as a result children know their boundaries and behave well. Staff support children well and provide a good range of activities they know will interest children and which support their learning and development.

The leader ensures the premises are safe. They put in place suitable risk assessments and carry out daily safety checks as they set up. Leaders make good use of the space to provide a balanced range of activities. They provide good quality resources and equipment suitable for all ages, abilities, and interests.

The leader has a good vision for the club and works very well with staff to achieve a positive ethos. Overall, the leader runs the club effectively, however, they do not fully meet all regulations.

Well-being — Good

Children are at the centre of this setting and are very confident communicators. They know staff will listen to them. They independently choose from a good variety of activities and resources set out for them. For example, children chose to participate in planned activities, such as pebble painting whilst others played independently with construction resources in which they were interested. Children have opportunities to influence the activities provided and the resources bought.

Children have fun, express enjoyment and are thriving. They are happy and positively engage in play on their own, with their friends or with staff. Children have a good sense of belonging because staff know them well and show a genuine interest in them. They feel safe, secure, and valued because they are forming strong relationships with staff. Children are familiar with routines, for example where to store their belongings on arrival and where to sit during snack time.

Children interact and behave very well at the setting. Nearly all are sensitive to the needs of others, for example we saw older children helping the younger ones on the climbing frame. Children of different ages play together. For example, children worked well as a group to build a den from large cardboard boxes. They take turns jumping on to the crash mats and share the craft materials and ball games happily. Children are confident to approach staff for help if they require it. For example, a child asked for help finding felt pens for a craft activity.

Children thoroughly enjoy their play and learning. They benefit from a good range of activities and as a result are confidently self-motivated. They develop concentration and perseverance. Several children spent an extended period absorbed in building structures out of wooden blocks. Children feel proud of their achievements and are eager to share them with others. One child was eager to show staff members the pebble they had painted whilst another went to show their friends what they had created out of plastic construction blocks. Children we spoke to said they look forward to coming to the playscheme and enjoy being there.

Children are developing their independence and their individual skills successfully. They pour their own water from a container when they need it and find their own play equipment. Children take calculated risks, when playing on the climbing frame for example, and problem solve well when creating dens.

Care and Development — Good

Staff have a good understanding of their responsibilities in relation to child protection, to ensure children are safe. They confidently answered questions around safeguarding procedures and were able to talk about what action they would take if a safeguarding situation arose. However, they do not record any existing injuries children may have when they arrive at the club. All staff are experienced and consistently implement the relevant policies and procedures to keep children safe. There are suitable facilities for providing personal care for children although there is no policy in place to support staff should this be needed. Staff keep accurate records of any accidents or incidents that occur. They do not administer medication other than any needed in an emergency for on-going health conditions such as asthma. There is a suitable first aid kit on site and all staff have completed training in emergency first aid although insufficient staff have full paediatric first aid training. Staff encourage a healthy lifestyle with plenty of opportunities for active play. Records evidence that leaders instigate regular fire evacuation drills to help children and staff know what to do in an emergency.

Staff consistently interact positively with children, demonstrating warmth and kindness. They have a gentle approach to providing care and express genuine affection to reassure and respond to children's needs. They stand back and allow children to learn from their experiences and intervene only when they see a risk to children may become too great. When a child decides to move from a task or activity, staff allow them to engage in their own time and at their own pace. Staff are positive role models to the children and frequently offer praise and reassurance, such as "Well done! That's great - you gave it a go!"

Staff and children discuss activities that children would be interested in to inform their planning. They know the capabilities of the children who attend on a regular basis and respond to their individual needs. Staff provide good support to children to ensure they benefit from the play and learning opportunities provided. They welcome children with additional learning needs and the leader ensures they receive the level of support they need. Staff consider the age ranges and abilities of children when planning. For example, children have access to two designated football areas, one for larger groups of older children and a separate smaller area for the younger children. Staff plan focused activities based on festival themes such as Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day which help promote their cultural awareness and understanding of diversity.

Environment — Good

The leader has systems and procedures to ensure the environment is safe. The club operates as an open access playscheme and as such children can come and go as they please, however, the policy of the club is that this only applies to children over eight. The leader ensures children are signed in when they arrive, and they know they need to tell staff if they are leaving so they can be signed out. Visitors enter through the main building entrance and the leader records their presence at the club. The leader has developed suitable risk assessments which they re-visit and check the environment against at the beginning of each playscheme. Staff visually check equipment and resources daily during the set-up of the activities. The club runs from the sports hall of a community centre, during the inspection the leader was able to liaise with building staff to confirm all relevant building safety checks are completed as necessary.

The leader ensures they make good use of the large open space to provide a balanced range of activities for children. There is ample space for children to move about and play unhindered, independently accessing activities. Children use tables and chairs of a suitable height to enjoy craft activities or drawing. An enclosed structure provides a quiet area and there is a dedicated space for children to eat and leave their belongings. Toilets are easily accessible just outside the hall and include an appropriate space for changing children or helping them if needed. The club has use of an attached outdoor space although this is not used so much during the winter holidays. The leader told us they can also use the wider outdoor facilities of the community centre such as the football pitch.

The leader ensures there is a good variety of toys, materials, and equipment available that provide well for the wide range of ages, abilities and interests of children who attend the club. These range from a large area of the hall sectioned off with netting to provide a place to play football to small scale construction toys in a builder’s tray. Resources are clean and well maintained.

Leadership and Management — Adequate

The leader has a very good vision for the club and puts children and families at the heart of what they do. They work very well with staff to achieve a positive ethos which is reflected in the high attendance and attitudes of children. The leader provides a useful Statement of Purpose and a range of good policies and procedures that support the smooth and safe running of the club. However, one or two do not fully reflect practice or current Welsh Government guidance, for example, the safeguarding policy. The leader does not always ensure they notify Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) of relevant information. Whilst no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement and we expect the provider to take action.

The leader understands their responsibility to review the quality of their provision. They carry out an annual quality of care review that takes account of the views of children, parents and staff and identifies some areas for development. The leader is receptive to receiving feedback and acts upon issues which are brought to their attention.

Overall, the leader follows a suitable recruitment process. However, staff files sampled were incomplete and did not contain all the required information and documentation. Since the inspection visit the leader has confirmed in writing this is all now in place. Regular staff meetings and group meetings support staff and keep them up to date with new information, however, there is no formal system in place for staff appraisal and supervision for those staff who work with the leader beyond the context of the playscheme. Whilst no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement and we expect the provider to take action. Staff are very experienced, and many have appropriate playwork qualifications, although the leader is fully aware that training requirements are changing and is taking proactive steps to ensure staff can access any further training as necessary. They have good opportunities to access short courses via an online training portal. Staff told us they feel well supported and love working in the club. They meet prior to every playscheme to carry out staff induction and discuss new ideas.

The leader works well with the local authority to provide a funded playscheme provision which includes placements for children with additional learning needs. They develop good relationships with parents and provide them with a clear registration form that gives concise information about the terms and conditions of the club. The leader gathers information about children that is above and beyond that needed for an open access playscheme, but which enables them and staff to meet children’s needs well.

Summary of Non-Compliance	
Status	**What each 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 we will follow this up at the next inspection. Where the provider has failed to make the necessary improvements we will escalate the matter by issuing a Priority Action Notice.

Area(s) for Improvement		
Regulation	Summary	Status

29	The provider must put in place a system of appraisal and supervision which supports staff to develop in their professional role.	New
31	The provider must ensure they notify CIW of all relevant occurrences specified in regulation.	New

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 highlight these as Recommendations to Meet National Minimum Standards.

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

National Minimum Standards	
Standard	Recommendation(s)
Standard 20 - Child protection	Review and revise the safeguarding policy to reflect new practice and knowledge, the most recent Welsh Government guidance and Prevent duty.
Standard 4 - Meeting individual needs	Consider developing a policy to support procedures for carrying out personal care.
Standard 18 - Quality assurance	Further develop the quality of care review to evaluate the impact on children of the service provided so that it fully informs development and action planning.
Standard 10 - Healthcare	Ensure there are sufficient staff with a full paediatric first aid qualification.

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)
Ensure you have full knowledge of, and training to support if needed, the particular health needs of relevant children.

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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