Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru
Care Inspectorate Wales

Inspection Report

Home From Home Children`s Day Nursery Ltd

Bethlehem Chapel
Mount Pleasant
Porth
Rhondda
CF39 0DF



Date Inspection Completed

23/06/2021

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About Home From Home Children`s Day Nursery Ltd

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Home From Home Children`s Day Nursery Ltd
Registered places	68
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	4 May 2017
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	The service is working towards providing an Active Offer and intends to become a bilingual service.

Summary

This is an inspection undertaken during the Covid19 pandemic. We have therefore focused on the priority areas for this setting and not the full quality framework.

Children settle well and are happy. The service is child centred with a strong emphasis upon children directing their own play and learning. They have opportunities to become independent and develop their skills through a range of high quality creative experiences and play. Children form close bonds with each other and staff, making them feel safe and secure.

Staff are professional, well qualified and work together as a highly effective team. They have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. Staff have implemented new policies and procedures in response to Covid19 effectively. They plan for a wide variety of activities, which capture children's imagination. Staff keep very good records of children's progress and development.

The environment is clean, welcoming and well organised. Staff follow procedures to ensure the environment is safe and suitable, completing risk assessments and daily checks. An extensive variety of indoor and outdoor toys and resources promote children's all round development.

The leadership and management of the setting is strong. The manager is experienced, listens to staff and involves them in making decisions. They feel well supported and enjoy their work. They receive good development opportunities to keep their skills and knowledge up to date. There are good policies, procedures and records in place. Parents are very complimentary, and speak highly of the staff and the care their children receive.

Well-being

Children make decisions and staff listen to them. They can choose their activities freely and know they will receive help or support if they ask for it. They are familiar with the daily routines and know what to expect. They feel a sense of belonging to the nursery and this makes them feel safe and secure. Children feel confident to voice their preferences and they develop good self-esteem. For example, we saw children expressing satisfaction with the wide range of play and learning resources available to them.

Children are happy, safe and valued. They are beginning to develop friendships in line with their age and stage of development. They benefit from being in a small familiar peer group or 'bubble' during the Covid19 restrictions. Children share and take turns whilst playing games. For example, we saw children are helpful, passing crayons and books to each other and working as a group in the craft area. They are confident to show their work and talk about what they have been doing. Children clearly like looking at books and were keen to tell us about the stories they listen to and how this makes them feel. Children have regular exercise and fresh air and value the time they spend outside in the outdoor area being active and on daily walks. Children approach staff for comfort and reassurance and know their feelings, likes and dislikes are considered at all times.

Most children are developing independence skills appropriate to their age and ability. They are confident to try new activities and experiences. They are developing a new range of skills that enables them to participate within group situations and are acquiring new interests. Children understand they can decide not to participate in any activity. Children have good routines. We saw them tidying up before mealtimes and when activities change. They put on their coats when going outside and enjoy the sense of achievement from doing this.

Care and Development

Staff are effective in keeping children safe and healthy. There are rigorous safeguarding procedures in place which promote the welfare of children. Staff understand their responsibility to be vigilant and are clear about the processes to follow to deal with any concerns. Staff receive regular safeguarding training and keep up to date with all relevant changes. All information which relates to children's safety and welfare is recorded appropriately. Staff hold monthly fire drill practices for children and staff to ensure they know how to leave the building safely. The person in charge records and evaluates all accidents and incidents on a regular basis and parents sign these records. All staff have first aid training and are confident to deal with minor injuries.

Staff support children to develop the skills to make healthy lifestyle choices, which includes good hygiene practices. Regular hand washing is encouraged and social distancing maintained as far as possible. Non-essential visitors do not enter the building when children are present. Children receive a healthy snack, which includes yogurt, fresh fruit and milk or water each session. Staff share and carefully monitor information about children's allergies, likes and dislikes.

Staff act as positive role models and interact in a kind and caring manner with the children. They are consistent in their approach and mindful of the age and stage of development of the children when managing behaviour. For example we saw staff use soft tones to distract children who are frustrated or upset and praise them for all their efforts. Children receive comfort if they are distressed. Staff encourage children to identify and share their feelings and emotions by engaging in planned activities, such as mirror play and role-play games.

Staff support children's learning and development effectively. Key workers receive training to use a tracking system to assess children's progress and plan activities to meet specific outcomes. Staff carry out observations of children and provide activities to support the development of new skills. Parents receive a digital record of achievements. There is good use of the Welsh language within the service with a Welsh speaker in each of the base rooms. Staff encourage the use of the Welsh language with children. We saw children enjoy singing in Welsh at circle time. There is a plan in place to improve the use of Welsh and for the service to operate bilingually.

Environment

The environment is safe, secure and welcoming and provides spacious accommodation for children's activities over two floors. Staff are vigilant and supervise children closely at all times. The ratio of staff to children is usually higher than required by National Minimum Standards. Staff complete daily safety checks to identify and where possible eliminate any risks to children's safety. Registers record the times children arrive at and leave the premises. Managers keep records of all visitors to the setting although during the Covid 19 pandemic non-essential visitors do not enter the building. There are rigorous risk assessments in place for all areas of the setting. Records show all regular and routine maintenance checks for the building and appliances are in place.

The environment is clean and well maintained and provides light and attractive areas for children to explore. There is a wide range of good quality resources and a rich environment for play and learning in each of the separate areas, promoting the development of curiosity and discovery. For example, children are able to access toys easily, which supports their independence. There are two separate sleep areas for babies which are fully equipped and regularly monitored by staff in person and via the CCTV system, which operates throughout the building.

Children have free flow access to the outdoor area, from the lower ground floor. The area is in regular use throughout the session, which is located round the perimeter of the building. People who run the setting provide children with extensive opportunities for active play. Children have a very good choice of outdoor activities, which includes climbing frames, water play, and outdoor role-play offering suitable and age appropriate challenges. Children highly value their time outside and show great enthusiasm, moving around the well-equipped area with ease. The new garden room is well planned and appealing and used by children after school.

Leadership and Management

People who run the service are skilled and experienced and manage the service to a very high standard. There is a clear statement of purpose in place, which provides an accurate picture of how the service runs, and reflects any changes as needed. The responsible individual provides daily support to the person in charge and her team to ensure a well-planned and responsive service. Children's needs receive due consideration at all times.

People who run the service work hard to provide a quality care provision to children and their families. The staff team are enthusiastic and motivated and enjoy their work. The individuals within the team complement each other and work together well. All necessary policies and procedures are in place, updated regularly and contain the required information. Managers ensure all checks to ensure staff are suitable to work with children are in place before they take up their post. There are enough qualified and experienced staff to make sure children are well cared for at all times.

There are highly effective systems in place to consistently develop the quality of the service provided. People who run the service are keen to receive feedback from parents and children about the service to inform the annual quality of care report. Children's views are gained through observations and activities designed by key workers to support children to show their preferences. Parents respond extremely favourably to an online questionnaire to provide their views on the quality of the service. Staff receive regular one to one supervision sessions with the person in charge. They are encouraged to raise any concerns, share information and good practice.

Staff are very well equipped to meet the needs of all children in their care. Appropriate learning opportunities enable individual staff to do their work and to develop personal and professional skills. All staff complete or update mandatory training as needed. This includes child protection, first aid and food hygiene.

Partnerships with parents are very good. The service maintains good communication with parents mostly by an app to provide information on their child, including photographs throughout the day. Parents are welcome to arrange to meet with the person in charge or their child's key worker if needed. Parents are very satisfied with the service and value the close and supportive relationships their children form with staff.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

None

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	

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