Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru
Care Inspectorate Wales

Inspection Report

Acorns Day Nursery Mini Adventures

Adventure Centre, Bluestone Resort, Canaston Wood, Narberth, SA67 8DE

01834869900

www.bluestonewales.com

The inspection visit took place on 05/08/2026

Service Information:

Operated by:	Bluestone Resorts Ltd, The Hive
Care Type:	Children's Day Care
Registered places:	76
Main language(s):	English
Flying Start service:	No
Receive funding to provide early years part time education:	No
Promotion of Welsh language and culture:	The provider is not promoting the Welsh language and culture needs of people, and this requires improvement.

Ratings:

Well-being	Good
Care & Development	Good
Environment	Good
Leadership & Management	Adequate

Summary:

Children are settled and happy. They enjoy attending Acorns Day Nursery Mini Adventures and the activities available. Children interact well and can make choices and decisions about how they spend their time and the activities they take part in. They have a good range of opportunities to make choices and decisions about what affects them.

Staff are kind and caring and engage positively with children. They understand their responsibilities and roles for keeping children safe and healthy. Staff know the children well which enables them to cater to children's individual needs and support their development. They implement positive routines and procedures to promote safety and children's health and well-being.

The environment is secure, clean, welcoming, and well organised to support children's play and learning. Appropriate activities and resources are made available to help children follow their interests. There is a range of high-quality equipment both indoors and outdoors, which are easily accessible and encourage children to play and learn. The environment provides children with

interesting opportunities to make independent choices in their play. Leaders ensure risk assessments are place. However, opportunities to support safe fire evacuation procedures are not in place.

Leaders generally manage the setting appropriately and provide staff with support and opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills. Leaders develop good partnerships with parents. Overall, there are suitable policies and procedures in place. However, not all records and documentation are complete and up to date to ensure regulatory requirements are consistently met.

Findings:

Well-being — Good

Children of all ages are supported and enjoy their time at the setting. They know their opinions are listened to and have free choice of activities that interest them. Children are confident and happy to join in and find an activity they want to do. For example, they get to choose from a list of activities and areas on offer at the resort. Children form friendships and excitedly find friends they want to spend their time with.

Children feel safe, happy and welcome. They are familiar with the expectations and routines. Children approach staff spontaneously to seek reassurance or support and enjoy receiving praise and recognition for their efforts. Although children only attend for a short period of time over a set number of weeks, they develop warm relationships with staff and feel valued at the setting. Children are very familiar with the environment and are comfortable exploring the play space and engaging with resources as they wish.

Children interact and communicate well and show respect for one another, staff and resources at the setting. They take turns, cooperate during games and include others in their play. Children interact positively with their friends and with those caring for them. They can patiently wait their turn when waiting to access play areas. They enjoy sociable snack times, chatting happily with their friends and staff about their day and about their families. Children are listened to and responded to appropriately and with interest by staff. This helps them to communicate effectively and confidently, sharing their needs and thoughts.

Children engage well in their chosen activities and clearly enjoy what they are doing. They focus for appropriate lengths of time for their ages and stages of development, showing they are motivated. For example, children are focused and enthusiastic while taking part in a clay moulding activity. Children are given the space, time, support and resources to allow them to explore through their play. For example, children can choose a selection of paints for colour mixing and create designs of their choice as they paint pebbles.

Children are encouraged to be independent, and they have opportunities to develop skills through play. They move freely around large play spaces and confidently make choices about how they spend their time, including the soft play area and bouncy castle. We saw children happily playing independently while staff provided time for them to develop their play yet offered support when needed.

Care & Development — Good

Staff are effective in their roles and understand their responsibilities. They work consistently to keep children safe and healthy. For example, they position themselves purposefully indoors and outdoors to maintain effective supervision. Staff provide access to a wide range of opportunities for physical exercise through the activities and equipment available in the setting and extended periods of outdoor play. They follow appropriate hygiene procedures, including practising thorough handwashing before food and after using the toilet. On the day of inspection, the correct number of staff held a suitable first aid qualification for the number of children attending. Staff ensure a first aid kit is always carried with them. There are procedures for recording the administration of medication, accidents, incidents and existing injuries. Managers monitor records monthly to identify any trends in accidents sustained at the setting and take actions to reduce future risks.

Staff speak confidently about safeguarding procedures and know that managers will be responsive to any concerns they raise. Staff interact with children in a calm and caring manner. They act as positive role models, offering praise and encouragement. Staff implement the behaviour management policy effectively by using positive reinforcement. They praise children for their efforts, for example saying, *'Yay, well done.'* which makes children smile and feel supported. Staff ensure children know what is expected of them by clearly explaining the behavioural expectations when moving around the setting and before entering play areas.

Staff provide a satisfactory range of play activities. They support children's choices, allowing them opportunities to explore play areas and follow their own interests. They engage skilfully with children during activities and play. For example, when playing mini golf, they encourage children to count the total points. Staff create a relaxed and friendly atmosphere where children can confidently play energetically or engage in quieter activities. They support children's language skills through clear communication and thoughtful questioning.

Environment — Good

The environment is safe, secure and welcoming. Staff are vigilant and always supervise children closely. The ratios of staff to children meet those required by the National Minimum Standards. Registers of staff and children's attendance record times of arrival and departure accurately, and there are robust systems in place to ensure security whilst they are on the premises. Managers keep records of all visitors to the setting. All visitors sign in and out at the main entrance of the resort, always ensuring controlled access. Staff complete daily safety checks to identify, and where possible, eliminate any risks to children's safety. There are suitable risk assessments in place for all areas. Staff are mindful of risks in the setting and act to mitigate those risks. For example, one member of staff always positions themselves at the entrance of the bouncy castle whenever children are playing on it to monitor and remind the children how to keep safe.

Records show all regular and routine maintenance checks for the resort and appliances are in place. However, regular fire drill practices are not carried out with children. Outcomes for children require improvement because leaders do not provide opportunities for children and staff to practise safe fire evacuation procedures, and we expect the provider to make improvements.

The premises provides a rich and stimulating environment for children to play and learn. It is well maintained and provides interesting and appealing spaces and activities, for example access to the soft play area, bouncy castle, mini golf and the indoor adventure area. The space is well utilised; we saw the children using and enjoying the resources made available to them. The indoor and outdoor space available to children is well organised and used regularly as part of the provision offered. Toilet facilities are shared with those staying at the resort and are suitable, clean and appropriately sized for children. Children are familiar with procedures for walking around the resort safely whilst staff closely supervise.

Leaders offer a range of stimulating environments with a variety of resources accessible to children. They provide quality furniture and materials suitable for children's developmental needs. For example, there is appropriately sized furniture for children to sit at to undertake tabletop activities and eat snacks. Leaders ensure the environment provides valuable and appropriately challenging opportunities for children to explore and develop their creativity, physical skills and independence.

Leadership & Management — Adequate

Leaders demonstrate a clear vision and are committed to developing their understanding of the National Minimum Standards and regulatory requirements to drive improvements at the setting. They have created a warm, positive atmosphere where children are happy, and staff feel supported and valued. Leaders are motivated to provide a quality service to children and their families. They have policies and procedures in place. However, documentation needs updating to include the names of current service persons and their roles. Leaders provide a statement of purpose which gives parents the information they need to decide whether the setting meets their child's needs; however, information on all facilities is not included. Leaders collect nearly all essential information about children before they begin at the setting to ensure their needs are addressed appropriately. However, consent for the administration of emergency medical treatment is not in place.

Leaders ensure the annual quality of care review has been completed, and the Self-Assessment Service Statement (SASS) is submitted as required. The current quality of care report is evaluative and identifies areas for development and improvement using feedback from service users. For example, it highlights how the setting has prioritised changes to the range of sessions available and revised the age range.

Overall, leaders ensure staff have appropriate childcare qualifications and have attended relevant training. Records demonstrate that annual appraisals and regular supervisions are conducted with staff. They have formal opportunities to reflect on their strengths, practice and discuss any concerns. Staff understand their responsibilities to report child protection concerns, and most have attended safeguarding training provided by the setting. However, on the day of inspection, not all staff have completed training as required by the National Minimum Standards. We found evidence that leaders do not follow safe recruitment procedures with regards to suitability checks and Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificates. Outcomes for children require improvement because leaders do not always ensure they are promoting children's health and welfare through safeguarding opportunities, and we expect the provider to make improvements.

Staff we spoke to said they felt well supported by leaders, who are approachable and responsive. Leaders have developed meaningful and positive relationships with parents and carers. There are good systems in place to keep parents well informed about their child's time at the setting. Feedback received from parents following the visit highlighted they are happy with how caring staff are and the range of activities on offer. Feedback included, *'children are looked after really well. They have a great relationship with the workers'* along with *'caring staff and brilliant facilities.'*

Areas identified for improvement

Where we identify **Areas for Improvement** but we have not found outcomes for people to be at immediate or significant risk, we discuss these with the provider. We expect the provider to take action and we will follow this up at the next inspection.

Where we find outcomes for people **require significant improvement** and/or there is risk to people's well-being we identify areas for **Priority Action**. In these circumstances we issue a Priority Action Notice(s) to the Provider, and they must take immediate steps to make improvements. We will inspect again within six months to check improvements have been made and outcomes for people have improved.

The table(s) below show the area(s) for priority action and/or those for improvement we have identified.

Summary of Areas for Improvement	Date identified
The provider must ensure all staff have full suitability checks in place prior to employment. A failure to do so could result in poor outcomes for children.	05/08/26
The provider must ensure children attending the setting are familiar with fire evacuation procedures. A failure to do so can result in poor outcomes for children.	05/08/26

CIW has not issued any Priority action notices following this inspection.

National Minimum Standards

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.

Standard	Recommendation(s)
Standard 20 - Safeguarding	Ensure all staff have attended safeguarding training as per National Minimum Standards requirements.
Standard 5 - Records	Ensure records are in place to evidence parental permission for emergency medical treatment as well as other permissions if required.
Standard 14 - Organisation	Ensure all documentation reflects current service persons.
Standard 1 - Information	Ensure the Statement of Purpose is updated to include information about the setting's facilities.

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