Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru
Care Inspectorate Wales

Inspection Report

Clwb y Ddwylan

Ysgol Y Ddwylan, New Road, Newcastle Emlyn, SA38 9BA

07989694056

Date(s) of inspection visit(s): 22/07/2025

Service Information:

Operated by:	Clwb y Ddwylan
Care Type:	Children's Day Care
Registered places:	40
Main language(s):	Welsh and English
Flying Start service:	No
Receive funding to provide early years part time education:	No
Promotion of Welsh language and culture:	The service provider is not meeting the Welsh language and culture needs of people and this requires improvement.

Ratings:

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

Summary:

Children are happy and comfortable at the setting. They have positive bonds of affection with staff and form strong friendships with their peers. Children make choices and they enthusiastically engage in activities available to them.

The setting's policies and procedures are in place to safeguard and promote children's well-being. Staff provide a nurturing and caring environment. They understand and meet the children's individual needs.

Children are cared for in a safe, clean environment. Staff have identified unnecessary risks to children and as far as possible, eliminated them. Children have access to furniture, equipment, toys and materials that are appropriate and suitable for their needs.

Leaders have a clear statement of purpose, which describes the vision for the setting, well. They have made significant improvements to ensure the setting is compliant. They actively support and

challenge everyone to do their best. The people who run the setting follow safe and thorough recruitment processes to ensure there are sufficient qualified and experienced care staff for the range of children cared for.

Findings:

Well-being — Good

Children make their own decisions about how they spend their time at the club and can direct their own play. Children are confident to initiate games and ask for support from staff when needed. We saw children and staff engage in friendly, supportive conversations and it was clear that children are listened to and their views considered. Children told us they can do what they choose and ask to do, and that staff are very accommodating. Children are content and settle quickly as staff welcome them on arrival. New children to the setting settle well and are befriended by children to help them feel happy and relaxed. Nearly all children are happy to play alongside each other or together.

Nearly all children have close bonds with familiar adults who help them feel secure and relaxed. Children value their time at the setting. Several children told us they enjoy the opportunity to meet friends and make new friends from other schools. They have good and fun relationships with staff, and we heard children sharing information about their families and upcoming holidays with them as well as sharing jokes. We saw children approach staff for cuddles and high fives.

Children from a wide age group use the service and overall, older children are supportive of younger children and are regarded as role models. Children are clear about how they are expected to interact, and older children are reminded about loud behaviour or running indoors, where there are younger children to consider. Children are polite and use manners, role modelling acceptable behaviours to younger children. For example, when they are offered more toast at snack time, they use ‘please’ and ‘thank you’. Children choose from a good range of activities, which are stimulating and interesting. Many of the younger children take advantage of drawing and colouring, board games and craft activities such as painting wooden templates. Others enjoy a game of football and ball games outside. Children told us they particularly enjoy the weekly trip to the swimming pool during the summer holidays. Children washed their hands regularly throughout the session, as well as before snack and mealtimes. The Welsh language is used exclusively at the setting.

Care & Development — Good

There is a good range of appropriate health and safety procedures in place to ensure the well-being of children. All staff have completed first aid, food hygiene and safeguarding training. Staff remind children about staying in areas where staff are there to supervise. Staff remind children about playing safely. For example, they highlight the appropriateness of playing with a large ball indoors and to take it outside instead. Staff follow hygiene procedures of regular hand washing and wearing gloves and aprons when serving toast and drinks. Fresh water is available for the children throughout the day, and they can refill their bottles from the cooler. Safety procedures are in place for taking the children to the swimming pool, such as a first aid kit and emergency contact numbers. Accident logs are recorded, and parents are informed by phone immediately if there are any serious injuries. Staff are confident with the setting's safeguarding procedures and respond appropriately to given scenarios of a disclosure.

Staff manage children's interactions well, helping the children to cooperate and learn social skills. Staff sit and chat with the children responding appropriately to discussions. They remind younger children to be considerate and respect other children's work. They offer affectionate praise and encouragement throughout the session and console children who are upset or anxious. Staff respect children who are happily playing alone and want their own space. However, they offer the opportunity to join in group activities if they want to.

Staff meet children's individual needs as they know them well. They provide a nurturing and caring atmosphere and give responsive care, as they know and act upon details the parents share, both verbally and in registration forms about their children.

Staff promote the development of children by planning and providing good play and learning experiences. The person in charge plans activities that are recurring so that all children can do everything that goes on. However, these are flexible should children want to do something else on the day. Staff give verbal feedback clearly to parents upon collection but also encourage parents to call during the day should they want to check on their children.

Environment — Good

The setting operates within the school, and people who run the setting ensure that the environment is safe and secure and children are supervised well. All areas, indoors and outdoors are hazard free and staff complete daily risk assessments for all areas, activities, equipment and outings. All visitors sign in upon arrival and departure. Staff record their and children's arrival and departure times daily. Fire drills are carried out regularly to ensure all children are familiar with the evacuation procedure.

People who run the setting provide a child friendly environment for children. Indoors, children have access to the main hall which is used for eating and play activities. There are suitably sized chairs, tables and furniture throughout. Children can access equipment and resources independently as everything is stored on their level. Staff make use of the classrooms, and one is dedicated to craft activities such as painting. Outside, there is a sheltered area for messy activities such as pottery. In addition to this, children have the use of the large yard area for ball games and water activities, grassed areas, the garden and climbing equipment.

Leaders ensure children have access to a wide range of good quality, play and learning resources. Leaders invest regularly to ensure there are always enough resources for everyone. Activities and toys are available in sufficient quantity to ensure children have an interesting choice. Leaders showed us new equipment that has been purchased this year. All toys and games are kept clean, in good order and stored at children's height. Equipment and furniture are suited to the ages of children attending.

Leadership & Management — Good

Leaders promote good outcomes for children. Many staff have worked there for several years and tell us they are happy and very well supported. There are consistent practices throughout the setting and staff work effectively as a team. Leaders have worked hard to make improvements to ensure they comply with Regulations and National Minimum Standards. All Areas for Improvements from the previous inspection have been met. They have an updated statement of purpose which reflects what is being offered.

Leaders know their service well. They consult with children, parents and staff as part of the evaluation process and plan ahead for the next holiday club. Feedback from parents and carers is very positive and commends the care given and the exciting experiences children have there.

Leaders manage the staff effectively through regular supervisions and annual appraisals. These are recorded and available to view. Staff files include all the correct supporting documents and robust checks have been carried out prior to employment. All staff employed at the service speak Welsh.

Parents are kept informed about their child's day through verbal feedback. Parents told us the service is invaluable, and their children enjoy attending and meeting their friends over the holidays.

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.

CIW has no areas for improvement identified following this inspection.

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)
	No NMS Recommendations were identified at this inspection

Mae’r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

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