Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru
Care Inspectorate Wales

Inspection Report

Cylch Meithrin Llangynnwr

Llangunnor Cp School
Penymorfa Lane
Carmarthen
SA31 2NN

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

16/10/2024

Welsh Government © Crown copyright 2024.
You may use and re-use the information featured in this publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government License. You can view the Open Government License, on the National Archives website or you can write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gov.uk
You must reproduce our material accurately and not use it in a misleading context.

About Cylch Meithrin Llangynnwr

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Cylch Meithrin Llangynnwr
Registered places	18
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	Click or tap here to enter text.This is their first inspection following registration.
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes
Does this service promote Welsh language and culture?	This service anticipates, identifies, and meets the Welsh language and cultural needs of people who use, or may use the service.

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

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

Summary

Children are settled and happy to take part in the activities available to them. Nearly all have developed close relationships with their peers and staff members. Children have opportunities to communicate and make choices and attention is always paid to the voice of the child.

Nearly all staff follow policies and procedures to promote well-being, safety and healthy lifestyles. Staff encourage children to express themselves and interact with them in a caring and positive manner. They plan appropriately to meet children's requirements and interests.

Staff provide a safe and clean environment. Overall, people running the service have suitable measures to keep the environment safe and secure. They offer a resource base that meets children's individual requirements and stages of development. Children have daily access to an appropriate outdoor area.

Overall, people running the service comply with most regulations and many relevant requirements within the National Minimum Standards. They keep records and certificates in order. They ensure staff are provided with good opportunities to develop professionally. Partnerships are good.

Well-being Good

Children are happy and have formed good relationships with staff and their peers. They are active and express enjoyment in their play. They have a sense of belonging and they are clearly familiar with daily routines. Children arrive happily at the setting. They enjoy the freedom to choose play areas and resources within the room and in the outdoor play area. For example, we heard children request the box of blocks. Children are learning to understand their feelings and show delight in what they do. For example, children smile and chat to one another happily during snack time. Children express confidently their feelings during registration.

Children have a strong voice and are given positive opportunities to make choices and decisions. For example, children are free to choose activities and move around the setting. During lunch time, one child wanted to stay in the main base room rather than watch television and this was allowed. They communicate confidently with staff and peers. Their wishes, feelings and needs are considered. For example, a child told a staff member they didn't want to eat meat at lunch time, and this was acknowledged. Children's individual needs and preferences are considered. For example, one child confidently asked staff for support to wear their shoes before outdoor play. Children feel a sense of achievement. They smile when praised for assisting with pouring of drinks at snack time.

Nearly all children interact positively and openly. They work together and socialise in a friendly manner. They show respect and care towards others. For example, after a gluing activity, we heard one child tell another to make sure their sleeves were up in preparation for hand washing. Children happily take turns on the ride on toys outdoors, with encouragement from staff. Most children understand how to take their turn, wait and share. The interaction between the children and staff demonstrates that children develop good communication skills. During indoor play, we observed a small group of children and a staff member playing together, naming shapes and colours before placing shapes into the shape sorter. Most children work together to tidy resources at the end of the session.

Most children are active learners and take part in activities enthusiastically. They show interest and excitement as they use different materials and real-life food to create artwork based on the theme. Photographs and samples of work evidence they enjoy a range of good opportunities both indoors and outdoors. For example, exploring slime, play dough, number and colour matching and constructing play dens. Children develop their independence skills by using the toilet, washing and drying their hands, pouring drinks and feeding themselves.

Care and Development — Good

During the inspection visit, many staff were relatively new in their roles. They are aware of policies and procedures to promote healthy lifestyles, physical activities, safety and personal well-being, and nearly all implement them effectively. Overall, they follow effective cleaning and hygiene routines. For example, disinfecting tables before and after snack-time, washing their hands regularly, as well as ensuring toys and resources are cleaned and disinfected regularly. They ensure written records evidencing regular cleaning of areas, toys and resources are in place. Staff ensure they use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to prepare food for children. However, not all staff ensure this during nappy changing. We discussed this with staff following a nappy change and staff highlighted they are aware of the need to wear an apron. We also discussed the condition of the nappy changing mat and were informed a replacement had been ordered following the visit.

All staff have completed safeguarding and food hygiene training. Many have completed first aid training or are in the process of renewing their training. Staff identify risks and manage them consistently, for example ensuring children take care whilst eating and re arranging the placement of resources ensuring these don’t pose a risk of falling on children. They provide a healthy snack of fruit and toast, and children enjoy eating, chatting and socialising with peers as well as staff at the table. Discussions with staff demonstrate they understand the need for good safeguarding practices.

Staff are consistent in their approach and respond well to children's views and respect them. They interact well and demonstrate encouragement, warmth and kindness as well as sensitivity to individual children's needs and experiences. They know the children well and know when to intervene with reminders. For example, staff remind children of the need to share. The leader told us they consider children’s interests and requests as they plan and present activities to enhance children’s learning. We saw evidence of this in the ‘in the moment’ planning.

Overall, staff offer a variety of play and learning activities suitable to the age and development of the children in their care. However, during the inspection, planned activities were minimal. Staff have started on the journey of planning for the next stages and review children’s progress regularly. They have systems in place to provide suitable care and opportunities for children with additional needs and are proactive in ensuring early intervention for extra support and guidance.

Environment — Adequate

The service is located within a primary school. It provides a clean, warm and safe environment. People running the service ensure the physical environment is secure, however the indoor environment is need of maintenance in relation to the painting work. They ensure that daily and general risk assessments, as well as fire risk assessments, are conducted, however there are no specific risk assessments in place for outdoor areas and activities. People running the service ensure regular fire drills are carried out and recorded effectively. However, these are not carried out with all children attending the service.

People running the service ensure the safety and security of the children and the setting with a visitor's book, along with children's and staff registers in place. People running the service have measures and policies in place to ensure they fulfil their responsibilities in relation to the safety of children in their care. They keep a daily risk assessment checklist of all indoor and outdoor areas. Building safety, fire checks and certificates are valid and evidences their awareness of safety requirements. People who run the service provided copies of safety certificates following the visit.

Overall, people running the service ensure indoor play resources are displayed and presented within children’s reach, for example a loose parts play table, role play home corner, arts and crafts materials and a sensory room. Appropriate fittings and furniture are at a suitable height for a child, such as the toilets, sinks, tables, and chairs. The play space available to children is limited and the layout and set up of the room does not always allow the children space to move around freely. Children’s toilets are accessible directly from outside the playroom. The setting has access to a kitchen for food preparation.

Staff ensure the environment reflects some artwork the children have created. We discussed celebrating different cultures and promoting diversity with the person in charge. She informed us they do celebrate Chinese New Year, Diwali and other cultural celebrations with the children. They also ensure children have access to loose parts and sustainable resources.

People running the service ensure children have access to a dedicated outdoor area which present some opportunities for children to explore. They ensure children use these areas regularly. These areas present potentially interesting opportunities for children. For example, a mud kitchen, water and sand play and space for children to develop their gross and fine motor skills. However, on the day of the visit a lack of planning meant these areas were not fully set up for children to freely access them, for example the sand tray was not ready for use and mark making materials were not openly accessible for the mark making boards on display.

Leadership and Management — Adequate

People running the service have adequate knowledge of their regulatory responsibilities. They ensure relevant policies are in place and are current. People running the service ensure the required documents are in place. We viewed children's files and found all permissions are in place. The statement of purpose was updated during the visit to include information on facilities and now includes all the information required by National Minimum Standards (NMS). The person in charge ensures daily registers reflect the number of children and staff present. These records show ratios are correct and adhered to. However, on the afternoon of the visit, the person left in charge of the setting did not have the relevant qualification or experience required by regulations and NMS. This did not have a negative impact on the running of the setting during the inspection visit. However, this is noted as an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action. People running the service told us they have faced staffing difficulties. People who run the service do not always inform Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) of significant events, for example closure of the setting. A notification was submitted following the visit.

People running the service ensure arrangements are in place should they require the support or assistance of backup staff, and this was evident during the visit. They have ensured staff suitability checks are completed before they start working at the setting. People running the service have ensured all named service persons have Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks and are current. Records of incident and accidents are in place, and these are shared with parents, however not all records contain parents' signatures. We discussed this with the leader and were told there are instances where children leave the setting to attend school, and parents are informed via the app or verbally over the telephone.

People running the service obtain informal feedback from children and share questionnaires with parents. Staff views are discussed during one-to-one meetings. However, the annual quality of care review we viewed during the inspection was a duplicate of the review from the previous year.

The responsible individual does undertake annual reviews with the person in charge, and regular one to one staff supervisions are undertaken. People who run the service shared further copies of supervisions and appraisals with CIW following the visit. Staff spoken to during the visit felt opportunities for meetings and training are in place. They also stated they felt well supported and are happy in their role.

People running the service told us they communicate with parents and carers verbally upon drop off and pick up. They also share information through their social media page and through an app. We spoke to parents/carers during the visit and the feedback was generally positive. They told us their children are settled and enjoy attending Cylch Meithrin Llangynnwr. They also told us they receive information on their child's time at the setting via

photographs through the app. We discussed sharing of information in relation to children's progress and development with people running the setting and were told this information is shared if staff or parents have concerns in relation to development or if parents request a meeting. They also provide information on children's development before children transition to school.

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.

Area(s) for Improvement		
Regulation	Summary	Status
27	The provider is non compliant as children are left in sole charge of a staff member who does not	New

	currently hold a childcare qualification or has the two years experience as per standards and regulation requirements.	

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 21 - Notifications of significant events	Ensure you notify Care Inspectorate Wales of all significant events.
Standard 22 - Environment	Ensure the environment is maintained in a suitable state of decoration.
Standard 24 - Safety	Ensure fire drill practices are in place for all children attending the service.
Standard 7 - Opportunities for play and learning	Ensure resources are readily accessible to children in all play areas.
Standard 6 - Working in partnership with parents	Ensure parents are kept fully involved in and informed about their child's activities, achievement and progress.
Standard 22 - Environment	Ensure the indoor environment provides adequate space for movement and all areas are accessible to children.
Standard 24 - Safety	Further develop risk assessments to include outdoor play areas and activities.
Standard 5 - Records	Ensure accident and incident records reflect the action taken to inform parents/carers.
Standard 18 - Quality assurance	Ensure the quality of care review is updated on an annual basis.

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.

Was this report helpful?

We want to hear your views and experiences of reading our inspection reports. This will help us understand whether our reports provide clear and valuable information to you.

To share your views on our reports please visit the following link to complete a short survey:

- Inspection report survey

If you wish to provide general feedback about a service, please visit our Feedback surveys page.

Date Published 22/11/2024