Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru
Care Inspectorate Wales

Inspection Report

Sweet Peas Nursery

Charleston House 44-46, High Street, Bargoed, CF81 8RD

01443566700

The inspection visit took place on 21/10/2026

Service Information:

Operated by:	BARGOED NURSERY LTD
Care Type:	Children's Day Care
Registered places:	55
Main language(s):	English
Flying Start service:	Yes
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	Good

Summary:

Children enjoy their time at the nursery and are happy and settled. They have a strong voice and make choices and decisions about how they spend their time. Children develop close, friendly relationships with staff and each other. They have good opportunities to learn and develop.

Staff understand their responsibilities to keep children safe and healthy and implement the settings procedures successfully. They know children well and are kind and nurturing in their interactions with them. Staff support children's learning and development well through their interactions and planning around children's individual needs.

Leaders ensure the environment is safe and secure. There is a good range of quality toys and resources, and these provide appropriate opportunities for children to learn and develop their skills. Children have access to an outdoor area which offers further play opportunities.

Leaders are motivated and committed to making improvements and maintaining good standards within the nursery. They have good oversight of the nursery and staff report feeling well supported. They maintain records effectively and partnerships with parents and outside agencies are reported as positive.

Findings:

Well-being — Good

Children have a strong voice. They choose what they do and what they play with for much of the session from a good range of toys, resources and activities. Children are confident communicators as they know staff will listen to them and respond. For example, some children requested help at lunch time, and this was facilitated by staff. Children confidently express their ideas and interests which staff then record as part of their observations and planning.

Children arrive happy and settle to play quickly. Children develop warm, friendly relationships with staff showing they feel safe, secure and comfortable. They learn and follow the routines of the setting which helps them develop a sense of security. For example, children know they wash their hands when returning from playing outside. Photographs of the children in their play, with their families and examples of their work are displayed around the setting. This helps them develop a sense of pride and belonging.

Children behave and interact well in line with their ages and stages of development. During the inspection, children in the baby room brought us toys and enjoyed seeing what we were doing. Older children enjoyed showing us what they were playing with one child exclaiming "*look at this, can you see what I've got?*" while showing us a toy they enjoyed interacting with. Younger children happily play alongside each other, with staff or alone whilst older children make friends and play together. Many children are confident to approach visitors and hold short conversations with them.

Children are enthusiastic in their play and enjoy exploring their environment. They learn to concentrate and persevere for appropriate amounts of time on things they choose to do and are interested in. For example, some enjoy playing in the home corner with life-like equipment and some enjoy emptying and filling tubs of different materials.

Children have good opportunities to learn and develop during their time at the nursery. They develop knowledge and skills as they build with blocks, use scissors and pencils and use their imagination in role play. They also have some opportunities to learn to do things for themselves, such as washing hands, managing their own coats, helping themselves and feeding themselves independently at mealtimes.

Care & Development — Good

Staff successfully implement policies and procedures to keep children safe and healthy. They have a good understanding of child protection procedures and what they should do if they have any concerns about a child. Staff record accidents, incidents and pre-existing injuries effectively. They maintain full and accurate registers of children's and staff attendance. Staff also sign in and out when they leave the building and return from their breaks. Overall, staff implement good hygiene procedures. However, during the inspection, some tables were not sanitised correctly before mealtimes. Leaders ensure documentation with regards to the administration of medication are signed by staff and parents. Staff have valid paediatric first aid, food hygiene and safeguarding training. Food provided to children is of a good standard and cooked fresh on the nursery premises. Meals served are nutritious and careful consideration is given to ensure they are made and served in line with dietary and allergy needs and preferences. Staff record when babies are placed down to sleep, when they wake and record how often they are checked when asleep.

Staff are kind, caring and patient in their interactions with children. They follow positive behaviour management techniques and encourage children to cooperate, be kind to each other and look after resources. Staff create a warm, friendly environment and make sure they provide children with reassurance, comfort and guidance when needed. Staff are good role models and responsive to children's needs. For example, we saw a member of staff approach a child in a calm manner *"Let me wipe your nose."*

Staff facilitate children's play well and use opportunities to support and extend children's learning. Staff plan some activities around themes but are mindful to enable child-led play and follow children's interests. They evaluate their planning and build on their evaluations to move activities and children's skills along. The use of the Welsh language is good with staff frequently using incidental Welsh with children. For example, staff promote the Welsh language by asking children questions such as *"do you know what blue is in Welsh? Yes, that's it, da iawn it's glas."* Staff know children well. They track their progress well and keep detailed records of their development. Staff follow good procedures should children have emerging or identified additional learning needs and seek help and support from their local authority advisory teacher regularly.

Environment — Good

Leaders ensure the premises are safe and secure and that building safety checks such as electrical safety and annual boiler servicing are completed as required. They ensure doors are locked when children are present and have a robust system to check and record visitors to the nursery. Leaders have risk assessments and daily checks in place, and records evidence these are used effectively to minimise any emerging risks. They consistently carry out daily safety checks including for the kitchen and food handling. The premises is clean and well maintained. Leaders successfully carry out and record fire evacuation drills at suitable intervals to ensure children and staff know what to do in an emergency. They have recently had repair and maintenance work carried out at the nursery to ensure that all areas are fully accessible to children. For example, they have had steps leading to the garden area replaced, the gate leading into the garden repaired and rubbish disposed of in the outdoor area, with further maintenance planned.

The nursery is large giving children lots of space to move around freely and play. Leaders and staff organise the base rooms' toys and resources into distinct areas such as a home corner and craft or construction areas which children can access independently. There are ample appropriately sized tables and chairs for tabletop activities and for mealtimes. An entrance foyer provides parents with additional information about the service, staff and leaders. Leaders told us they have plans to further enhance this area in the near future. There is ample space for children to store their belongings on a low level, further encouraging independence. Children access toilet facilities directly from the playroom which allows them to begin to manage their own personal care successfully as they get older. Nappy changing facilities enable staff to protect the privacy and dignity of children when changing them. Babies have a clean quiet cot room allowing them to sleep undisturbed. Staff provide an outdoor play area which offers additional play opportunities such as riding trikes, stepping stones, balancing planks and ride along cars.

Leaders provide a good range of furniture, toys and equipment that are suitable for the children using them. They enable children to develop skills and are plentiful in quantity for them to play together and share. Many resources and equipment are new that have been purchased through a grant from the local authority. These include a good range of natural materials and life like resources to promote real life play. There are resources on offer that promote diversity and cultural awareness.

Leadership & Management — Good

Leadership and management of the nursery is good. They provide clear direction for the nursery and demonstrate a good understanding of their regulatory responsibilities. Leaders ensure they have relevant policies and procedures in place which are implemented by staff and support the smooth and safe running of the setting. Leaders maintain a clear Statement of Purpose which reflects the service they offer and provides parents with useful information. They are involved with the day to day running of the nursery and work well with staff to ensure children are safe and well cared for.

Leaders have suitable procedures in place for self-evaluation. They review their quality of care annually and seek the views of parents, children and staff to inform this process. They produce a report which identifies relevant areas for improvement or development. They are motivated to continually develop the service and make positive impacts upon children's well-being and experiences whilst cared for at the nursery. Leaders work with the local authority and implement advice and guidance on making improvements to the setting.

Leaders follow safe recruitment procedures and staff files we looked at during the inspection contained all the information and checks necessary to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. They ensure mandatory training such as paediatric first aid, safeguarding and food hygiene is kept up to date and have good oversight of when training needs to be renewed. Leaders provide staff with regular supervision and appraisal meetings and staff report feeling well supported, happy in their roles and listened to by higher management.

Leaders develop positive relationships with parents. They collect relevant information and permissions before children start at the nursery to ensure they can provide appropriate care for each individual child. They keep parents informed about their child's day through verbal feedback. Parents we spoke with as part of the inspection told us they were happy with the care provided by the staff at the nursery. They also said they valued staff's feedback at the end of the day and enjoyed hearing what their children had done at nursery every day. Leaders work well in partnership with outside agencies and seek additional support and guidance for children when needed.

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)
Standard 12 - Food and drink	Ensure sanitising routines are consistent across the nursery.

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