



All Born Curious childcare



Apolistic Church, Brynna Road, Cwmavon, Port Talbot, SA12 9LL



07877679438

Date of inspection visit:

12/05/2025

Service Information:

Operated by:	All Born Curious childcare LTD
Care Type:	Children's Day Care
Registered places:	20
Main language(s):	English
Flying Start service:	Yes
Receive funding to provide early years part time education:	No
Promotion of Welsh language and culture:	This service is working towards providing an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language and demonstrates a significant effort* to promoting the use of the Welsh language and culture.

Ratings:



Well-being

Good



Care & Development

Good



Environment

Adequate



Leadership & Management

Adequate

Summary:

Children enjoy their time in the setting. They are happy and relaxed and have strong relationships with staff and their peers. Children have a strong voice and plenty of enjoyable play and learning opportunities. They are developing a good level of independence for their ages and stages of development.

Staff implement policies and procedures effectively. They are positive role models to children and have an appropriate understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. However, not all staff maintain the required level of safeguarding training. Most staff are aware of children's individual needs and abilities.

The environment is warm, inviting and interesting. The setting is organised effectively, making the most of the space available. There is a good selection of high quality and well-maintained resources.

Leaders are passionate and committed to providing high quality childcare. Leaders build strong partnerships with parents, carers, the local authority and Flying Start, which benefit the children at the setting.

Findings:



Well-being

Good

Children are happy, settled and engaged in the setting. They arrive smiling and are content to take part in activities and free play straight away. Their needs and preferences are considered and respected. There are a wide range of interesting resources and activities available to children and they freely decide which activities they would like to play with. Children feel confident approaching staff and their voice is heard. For example, children asked staff for more food during snack time.

Children are confident expressing their wants and needs. They feel valued by staff and are praised for completing tasks, for example, painting a picture. They cope well with separation from their parents and carers and have positive relationships with each other and staff. We saw children laughing and smiling whilst painting and playing with staff. Children are familiar with routines, for example, washing their hands before mealtimes.

Children interact well for their ages and stages of development. Interactions between children and their peers and staff are positive. Children confidently explore the environment and engage in child led activities. Children interacted positively with the inspector, chatting happily and showing their toys and resources.

Children are interested and enjoy their play and learning activities. There are a variety of resources on offer which promote their development. We saw children improving their fine and gross motor skills by completing a threading activity, playing in water trays and painting. Children freely choose which activities they engage with and take part in structured activities with staff. For example, singing and dancing during circle time. Children remain engaged in activities for an appropriate amount of time for their ages and stages of development.

Children are learning to develop their independence skills. During snack time, staff encourage children to serve themselves and choose how much they want to eat. Staff support children to choose activities which interest them. During a painting activity one child expressed they wanted to finger paint which staff encouraged and praised them for.



Care & Development

Good

Staff demonstrate a strong commitment to keeping children safe and well. They understand the principles of safeguarding and successfully describe appropriate responses to child protection scenarios. While most staff hold current food hygiene and paediatric first aid qualifications, not all staff have completed safeguarding training at the appropriate level. While no immediate action is required this is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action. Effective hygiene practices are in place, such as consistent handwashing before meals and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) during nappy changing. Attendance is closely monitored, with clear records of both children and staff present, ensuring ratios are consistently maintained. Staff are familiar with each child and maintain accurate records relating to individual needs, including any additional learning requirements. Staff understand the individual needs of children well and support them appropriately.

Staff communicate effectively with children, helping to create a calm, nurturing environment. They act as positive role models and interact in a respectful and purposeful manner throughout the day. For example, staff ask children for permission before changing their nappies and invite them to join in with activities. Staff are patient and encouraging, consistently offering praise and reassurance as children play and transition through their daily routines.

Staff promote positive interactions, smiling and laughing with children when playing in the water tray and reading stories. They are calm, kind, and supportive, demonstrating a strong understanding of each child's needs. Behaviour is managed sensitively, with staff engaging at children's level and encouraging cooperative play. Staff actively participate in activities such as water play, and use positive reinforcement to boost children's self-esteem. For example, during the inspection, we observed children receive praise for their artwork, with staff describing it as "lovely."

Staff support children's play and learning successfully. For example, they promote Welsh language development as they model words clearly, and encourage children repeat them back. Familiar words and phrases like, "diolch" are routinely used. Children benefit from a wide range of play opportunities that support both physical and creative development. Staff recognise and respond to individual needs, offering reassurance and encouragement in situations that may be challenging, for instance, when waiting for snack time.



Environment

Adequate

The setting provides a safe, warm, and welcoming environment where children feel secure and engaged. The room is spacious with bright and colourful displays and resources which create a fun and engaging atmosphere. Staff manage access to the premises effectively by using a camera doorbell, keeping doors locked, and securing the entrance gate ensuring only authorised individuals enter. They also maintain a sign-in system for all children, staff, and visitors to ensure safety and accountability. While staff have completed basic risk assessments, they need to develop more detailed and robust documentation. While no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action. There is a separate bathroom with nappy changing and toilet facilities, as well as a step for children to use to wash their hands at the sink. There is a separate kitchen area which is not accessible to the children. The setting's fire alarm system is currently not working. A temporary alarm has been installed but this is not a suitable long-term solution, and the original system requires repair. Furthermore, no fire drills have been recorded. This poses a potential risk to safety and while no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement and we expect the provider to take action.

Staff organise the indoor space thoughtfully, offering a range of age-appropriate, high-quality resources that support children's learning and development. Resources and equipment are stored at child height in easily accessible containers so that children can choose which toys they wish to play with. The room is bright and colourful and features well-defined play areas. For example, a home corner, reading area, water play station, and a calm sensory space. Children can also engage in tabletop activities and use the floor area for free movement. Staff provide a rich variety of toys and materials which are of an extremely high quality and standard. These include arts and crafts, small world resources, soft toys, and bilingual books in English and Welsh. These resources are easily accessible, encouraging independence and self-directed play. Children store their belongings on individual pegs when entering the setting, which promotes independence.

At present, the outdoor play area is not easily accessible to children. However, leaders advised they plan to have it ready and open by the end of the year. In the meantime, staff advised they regularly take children to a nearby park to ensure access to fresh air and outdoor play, although this was not observed during the course of the inspection.



Leadership & Management

Adequate

The people running the setting are committed to making improvements to ensure better outcomes for children are achieved. Leaders generally keep Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) up to date with notifications, informing us of any changes in staff. Leaders maintain accurate records. Staff members and visitors sign in and out of the setting at the start and end of the day. Staff record accidents, incidents, and medical information appropriately, and they request parental signatures for each entry. However, not all children's records include signatures or dates and leaders need to ensure that all documentation is fully completed. There are a range of policies and procedures in place which are regularly reviewed. They have up to date certificates such as public liability insurance and are registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). The setting manages the cars used for school runs, there are appropriate documents, including MOT, road tax, and business insurance in place.

There are appropriate systems in place to evaluate the quality of the service. Leaders submitted a recent Quality of Care report alongside the Self-Assessment of Service Statement (SASS).

The setting employs a consistent and long-standing staff members who bring valuable experience. Staff describe the leadership as approachable and supportive. Regular supervision meetings are held to discuss staff performance and well-being. However, annual appraisals are not currently completed. Leaders should implement meaningful appraisals to support ongoing staff development. Additionally, they must ensure that all required documentation is consistently stored in staff files.

Leaders work effectively with other professionals, including the local authority, Flying Start and outside agencies. This is a real strength of the setting. Parents speak highly of the setting and report that their children are happy and well cared for: "My little one has come on loads since starting here," and "All the members of staff are really approachable and communicate really well with the parents." Parents also described staff as being "accommodating". Staff foster positive relationships with families through regular communication with verbal updates and messaging.

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 that regular fire drill practices are conducted and that all fire equipment is in working order.	12/05/25
Ensure all staff have the appropriate safeguarding training.	12/05/25
Ensure detailed risk assessments are completed to ensure potential risks and hazards are identified and minimised.	12/05/25

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 5 - Records	Ensure all children's records and contracts are signed and complete.
Standard 5 - Records	Ensure all staff receive annual and meaningful appraisals.
Standard 22 - Environment	Develop the outdoor play area to offer children a wide range of play opportunities and promote their development.

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