Arolygiaeth Gofal Cymru
Care Inspectorate Wales

Inspection Report

Meithrinfa Enfys Fach Pwllheli

Meithrinfa Enfys Fach Pwllheli Cyf, Cardiff Road, Pwllheli, LL53 5NU

01758472073

Date(s) of inspection visit(s)

The inspection visits for this service took place on 07/08/2025

Service Information:

Operated by:	Meithrinfa Enfys Fach Cyf
Care type:	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered places:	35
Main language/languages:	Welsh
Flying Start service:	No
Do you receive funding to provide early years part time education:	No
Promotion of Welsh language and culture:	The service provider anticipates, identifies, and meets the Welsh language and culture needs of people.

Ratings:

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

Summary:

The children are settled, happy and are given good, valuable experiences. They are given opportunities to make choices about the activities in which they are keen to participate. Children are free to move between all opportunities offered, and each child has a warm relationship with the staff. Children have good social skills which develop purposefully according to their age. The older children's independence is developing well.

Staff keep children safe and follow the setting's policies and procedures successfully. Most of the interaction between the staff and children is warm and positive. Staff support the needs of the children successfully and promote their personal development. They provide a variety of good activities for the children based on different themes. These include activities based on children's interests or suggestions.

The environment is welcoming and has been arranged to promote the children's development. There are consistent hygiene and infection control procedures in place at the setting. The environment is clean, safe and appropriate for the children's ages. There are purposeful risk assessments in place which ensure that every possible risk is reduced effectively. The setting has a range of good quality toys and resources for indoor and outdoor activities.

There are good leadership and management arrangements at the service and the staff have a clear vision. Staff are led effectively and they work well together. Parents speak highly of the setting, the opportunities provided and the warm care their children receive.

Findings:

Well-being — Good

Children are happy and excited when they arrive at the setting and clearly cope well when parting from their parents / guardians. They are completely at ease in their environment and in the company of all staff working at the setting. Nearly all children have formed strong relationships with the staff and each other, and this has an effective and clear impact on their welfare. The care children receive is in line with their individual needs and based on their requirements. On arrival, the children are eager to start participating in activities, whilst others need support to settle. A small number of children require comfort and reassurance, but the support provided by staff ensures that they settle quickly into the activities. Children understand that the staff respond effectively to their needs and requirements. For example, they were keen for the staff to sit on the floor and help them with the activities.

Children have formed successful and worthwhile friendships with each other and work together effectively. For example, children worked together to create pictures and played with each other with the role-play resources. Nearly all children throughout the setting await their turn patiently during activities. For example, children were seen sharing resources in the different spaces and taking turns with the available toys. They also worked together effectively when tidying at the end of a session ready for snack and lunch time.

Older children interact successfully with the staff and show a positive interest in activities. Nearly all children show curiosity and explore the variety of play opportunities that are available to them. For example, children take part in play activities such as creating an adventure course in the outdoor area or enjoying the reading session. Children are aware of each other's feelings at the setting and they are encouraged to choose which activities they wish to participate in based on their feelings and preferences. For example, we saw and heard the children laughing and enjoying, with the children playing with one another. At the end of the sessions, children were seen putting resources away as part of their routine without any prompt from staff.

Children develop their independence skills and are familiar with their daily routines, such as washing their hands before and after eating. They can choose which purposeful activities they wish to participate in. Children do most things for themselves with positive encouragement from staff. The older children are given an opportunity to be the "helper of the day". As part of the role, they are given an opportunity to collect food plates from the kitchen door and share them with the rest of the children. After finishing, they collect the plates and carry them to the kitchen. They wash their hands after finishing without having to be reminded to do so. Every child of all ages are encouraged to feed themselves.

Care and Development — Good

Staff follow the setting's policies and procedures purposefully whilst ensuring children are safe and healthy. They are given regular safeguarding training and they understand the setting's safeguarding procedures effectively. Staff record accidents and incidents and ensure that all records are signed by the staff and parents. All current members of staff have completed paediatric first aid training, enabling them to deal with accidents appropriately. Staff do not usually administer medication, but they have an effective policy and systems in place to store and record administration of medication safely if needed. Staff encourage children to eat healthily, and food that is freshly prepared on site, is served as well as milk or water to drink. Children's dietary requirements and allergies are managed effectively. All information is updated ensuring staff are aware of children's individual needs. Staff wear personal protective equipment (PPE) when preparing and serving food for the children.

Staff ensure that they have a positive and warm relationship with the children. They are caring and patient when speaking with them, using humour regularly. Examples of conversations include discussing how many birds and animals they could see on the trip around the area. The atmosphere throughout the setting is relaxed and the children are clearly comfortable in the staff's company. Staff support children's social behaviour in the indoor and outdoor areas purposefully and positively. For example, they are quietly reminded of appropriate behaviour and there are effective strategies in place to deal with any inappropriate behaviour. Staff interact regularly and effectively during activities, including during lunch time. For example, *"alli di dorri y fish finger?"* (can you cut the fish finger?),*"sut wyt ti yn gwneud hynny?"* (how do you do that?) and *"da iawn ti am chwythu ar dy fwyd gan ei fod yn gynnes."* (Well done you for blowing on your food because it is warm.)

Staff promote children's play, learning and development through a variety of purposeful activities based on their age and development. Examples include thematic work, art as well as role-play. The opportunity to develop children's awareness of other cultures is currently very limited. Staff undertake regular observations of the children, especially during activities. Records are kept of their development and achievements and the information is used to plan further activities to support the next steps of their development. Staff promote the Welsh language throughout the setting.

Environment — Good

The setting's environment is safe and welcoming. There is secure access to the outdoor area. However, individuals who walk past the setting can observe children in the outdoor area. Visitors are given access to the setting by staff through the secure main door and arrival and departure times are recorded purposefully. Relevant risk assessments are in place at the setting which are reviewed regularly. They ensure that audits are held daily and are completed by noting issues to be considered. All maintenance and safety audits for the site are completed within the appropriate timescales. Examples include audits of fire and smoke alarms, fire extinguishers and electrical tests. The toilet facilities are appropriate for the children's age, including sinks that have been installed appropriately. The nappy changing area meets the requirements with regards to children's privacy and dignity. The cleanliness of the setting is purposeful and effective, and staff ensure that it is cleaned regularly. Staff were seen cleaning the tables regularly and effectively during the day, especially before and after snack time. Cleaning materials are stored securely.

The setting is warm and offers a purposeful and effective environment to encourage children's learning and development. The open nature of the room at the setting promotes children's opportunities to explore and develops their independence by giving them opportunities to participate in activities and use resources appropriate for their age. The resources include musical instruments, sensory resources and arts and crafts resources. Resources are stored at an appropriate level and children can reach them independently. The outdoor area contains a range of useful resources, including opportunities to enjoy and take controlled risks. For example, children are encouraged to use the tyres, recycled resources as well as balls and balancing resources. The outdoor resources include a climbing wall, sand and water area as well as a bus created out of wood and recycled seats.

Children have independent access to the indoor and outdoor resources and they are stored appropriately and securely. The setting offers a variety of toys and resources that are effective and appropriate for children's age. These resources include books, role-play area and art areas. All furniture and equipment are appropriate for children's age and of good quality. All toys and play equipment are clean and well-maintained. We saw them being cleaned regularly during the day. An appropriate variety of resources were available to promote children's cultural awareness, celebrations and diversity at the setting, including books and dolls. However, the opportunities given to the children to learn about cultures and equal opportunities need addressing.

Leadership and Management

Good

Leadership and management arrangements at the setting are consistent, positive and purposeful. Those responsible for running the setting are effective and skilful and they have a clear vision. They have strong expectations of the staff, and they support them consistently and effectively to do their best. Those responsible for running the setting ensure that the Statement of Purpose complies with the requirements and includes relevant information as well as a beneficial vision of the setting for parents. Those responsible for running the setting review their policies and procedures regularly and ensure that the staff follow them successfully. They ensure that there are beneficial record-keeping systems in place including children's contracts, registers of children's attendance and staff files. Those responsible for running the setting inform Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) of incidents as stated in the regulations and provide relevant information at the appropriate times.

Those responsible for running the setting have appropriate systems in place to evaluate the service. They collate feedback from parents and children about what works well at the setting as well as ideas for developments. As the setting has not been open for long, they have not had an opportunity to hold a formal review of their performance. Those responsible for running the setting value their staff. For example, staff noted that they relocated when the service was moved from a nearby area. As a result, there is a valuable and positive ethos of team work within the staff team, and they work together to ensure the children have the best possible opportunities.

The majority of staff are experienced and all staff ensure that children are safe. Those responsible for running the setting have ensured that there are sound recruitment processes in place in regards to staff suitability checks. Those responsible for running the setting undertake regular supervision sessions and appraisals with staff, whilst discussing the quality of their practice and raise any safeguarding concerns. Nearly all members of staff reported that they are encouraged to develop and attend appropriate training. Staff felt they were supported by the setting's manager and felt that they could speak to her and discuss ideas and concerns with her confidently.

There are strong partnerships with parents and external agencies which support the work of the setting. Staff share daily updates with parents regularly through an online app. The information includes photographs, information about sleep habits and the food children ate. Parents are encouraged to respond to the information shared by the setting. The setting has a useful partnership with the local school and makes use of the resources and areas that are within walking distance, such as the forest and the beach.

Identified areas for improvement

When we note **Areas for Improvement** and have not found immediate or significant risks to the people, we will highlight these with the provider. We expect the provider to take action and we will consider the matter again during the next inspection.

Where we find a **need to improve** the results for the people **significantly** and/or there is a risk to the people's well-being, we note a **Priority Action** matter. Under these circumstances, we will issue a Priority Action Notice(s) to the Provider, who will need to take immediate steps to make improvements. We will conduct another inspection in six months to confirm that improvements have been made and that the results for the people have improved.

CIW did not note any areas for improvement 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 the 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 23 - Equipment	Ensure sufficient resources to promote children's cultural awareness and equal opportunities.

Best Practice

Where we believe it would be useful, it is possible that we will make recommendations with regards to best practice. The aim of these recommendations is to encourage settings that do well to become even better by helping children to thrive.

Recommendation(s)
Ensure opportunities for children to develop their cultural and diversity awareness.
Ensure the outdoor area offers privacy to children when accessing activities and resources.
Ensure that the Quality of Care Review will represent a continuous improvement cycle and forms a part of a culture of quality improvement.

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