



Inspection Report

Mathern Day Nursery (childcare services) LTD

**Northgate House
Caldicot
NP26 5NZ**



Date Inspection Completed

09/11/2023

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About Mathern Day Nursery (childcare services) LTD

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Mathern Day Nursery (Childcare Services) Ltd
Registered places	72
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	21 September 2022
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes
Does this service promote Welsh language and culture?	This service does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language and does not demonstrate a significant effort to promoting the use of the Welsh language and culture.

Summary

This was a focused inspection, on this occasion, we only considered well-being, care and development and leadership and management.

Children are happy, safe and enjoy their time at nursery. They confidently explore their environment and are developing positive relationships. Children can follow their own interests and know their wants and needs will be met. They have good opportunities to develop their independence skills.

Staff work positively to keep children safe and healthy. They have a strong understanding about safeguarding and their responsibilities to keep children safe. They have warm, kind relationships with children and follow the children's interests. Staff provide appropriate activities and opportunities for children to develop and learn.

The management team work well to develop the service. They have sound documentation and records in place. The managers ensure that staff are well qualified, and registers show that ratios of staff to children are correct. The setting has a list of staff they can call upon if regular staff expected on duty were to be absent. The setting keeps parents informed appropriately and work with outside agencies to support children's needs.

Well-being

Children have good opportunities to make choices and decisions. For instance, a child in the pre-school chose to stay at his preferred activity indoor engaged in completing a construction activity and was reassured that he could visit the adult led activity to do music and movement when he was ready. All children were actively listened to by all staff. Toddlers happily sat in the dining room having snacks, they happily chatted to their friends as well as staff who were sitting at the table with them.

Children feel safe, happy, and valued at the setting. They happily engage with visitors, with some children confident to approach adults to show what they are doing with their toys. They communicated their happiness through positive facial expressions. Children's opinions and interests are valued and acted upon, and children are consistently encouraged to choosing activities and toys themselves.

Children cope well with separation; they transition well from activity to activity and from session to session. Staff and children have established good bonds of affection and attachment. For example, young toddlers ran into the arms of the staff when they arrived back in the room from nappy changing or from having a nap. Children are encouraged to be actively involved in making decisions about their play and learning. For example, some older children chose to play outside while others stayed indoor in their base room.

Children play alongside each other, sharing and taking turns, which is consistently role-modelled by the staff. Interactions between children and adults are consistently good and children co-operate well for their age and stage of development. They are encouraged to actively participate. For example, after snack time some older toddlers on the ground floor chose to do quiet activity, such as looking at books or doing puzzles while others slept.

Children have freedom to safely explore their indoor environment. They are fully engaged in their play and learning and there is a good balance of child and adult-led activities. While playing outdoors children enjoy the variety of age-appropriate equipment in different parts of the garden area.

Children have good opportunities to develop their independence skills enabling them to do things for themselves. For instance, during snack time, they butter their own crackers or toast and with adult support, poured their own milk. Children ask for help with confidence when they need it. For example, a child asked a member of staff to help with her coat before going out to play.

Care and Development

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

staff have suitable systems in place to keep children safe and healthy. They ensure they follow appropriate hygiene procedures and encourage children to do the same. Staff have a clear understanding about safeguarding children. They confidently talked about how they would deal with a safeguarding scenario both within and outside the service. Staff keep satisfactory records of any accidents and incidents or concerns that occur in the service. These records were shared with parents. Staff take children on outing on a regular basis and records show that staff ratios are always adhered to.

Staff work positively and understand the behaviour management policy. They consistently implement positive behaviour management strategies. For example, they regularly praise the children; *"Very good, lovely, and well done"*. They are responsive; they listen and respect the children's opinions. The interactions are positive, displaying warmth and kindness. Staff are sensitive to the needs and experiences of individual children. For instance, they ask if the children would like to join the activity and respect the child's choice. They follow the children's interests and ensure that all children have equal opportunities to enjoy the resources.

Leadership and Management

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

The management team work well, keeping in touch with the registered person regularly and continue to work well to develop the service. There is an up-to-date statement of purpose that accurately reflects the service provided and meets the National Minimum Standards. The manager has ensured that the setting has suitable policies in place. They frequently review their policies and ensure that these are implemented in practice.

Records show that the management team follow timely and robust recruitment processes to safeguard children. All staff have completed disclosure and barring service (DBS) checks, and staff waiting for clearance are not able to provide intimate care or look after children without supervision of other qualified staff. The managers have ensured that pre-employment checks have been completed. There is a culture of continuing professional development modelled by the management team. The manager has continued to provide regular supervision for all staff. Staff feedback is very positive. They are happy and confident at work. They told us that they feel well supported by their manager and deputy and they have reported that the registered person has regular contact with the nursery. Staff feel that they can go to them if they have any questions, ideas or concerns and they feel listened to.

The managers ensure that communication and engagement systems with parents are appropriate and timely. They keep parents informed through daily verbal feedback or electronic messages. There is very positive feedback from parents about the service. Parental feedback showed parents are happy and satisfied with the setting.

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. Where the provider has failed to make the necessary improvements we will escalate the matter by issuing a Priority Action Notice.

Area(s) for Improvement

Regulation	Summary	Status
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N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this inspection	N/A
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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)
	No NMS Recommendations were identified at this inspection

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