



Inspection Report

Cylch Meithrin y Drenewydd

**Safle Ysgol Dafydd Llwyd
Lon Y Blanhigfa
Y Drenewydd
SY16 1JE**

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

17/09/2021

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About Cylch Meithrin y Drenewydd

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Cylch Meithrin y Drenewydd
Registered places	56
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	First inspection since registration 12/09/2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	Yes The service provides an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language. It anticipates, identifies and meets the Welsh language and cultural needs of people who use, or may use, the service.

<u>Well-being</u>	No Rating Required
<u>Care and Development</u>	No Rating Required
<u>Environment</u>	No Rating Required
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	No Rating Required

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

Summary

This is an inspection undertaken during the Covid 19 pandemic, therefore we have focused on the priority areas for this setting and not the full quality framework.

Children are happy, contented and enjoy themselves at this setting because they are respected and busy with a range of activities. They are able to make choices and decisions and their interests are valued. Children feel safe, learning to be independent and interact well.

Capable staff care for the children well and give children's safety high priority. They manage children's behaviour kindly, fairly and in a way children understand. They are experienced and provide interesting activities to help children develop well.

The environment is safe, stimulating and set out with plenty of activities and areas of play and learning to develop children's skills. The indoor and outdoor spaces are suitable for children. There are plenty of toys and games, which are in good condition, and assist with children's development.

People who run the setting are knowledgeable about current childcare practice and this ensures a good level of care for children. They make improvements to benefit children and their families. They support a team of committed staff. There are successful and strong partnerships with parents, the school and the local community, which helps children feel settled and their families supported.

Well-being

No Rating Required

Children have a strong voice and are able to influence their care. They make choices and decisions and their interests are valued. For example, they can choose to play indoors or outside for long periods and can choose when to have their snack.

Children are settled and form very strong bonds with staff because the same staff care for them. Children happily approach staff for cuddles and chats. Parents told us their children greatly enjoy attending the setting and are fond of the staff. Children have a sense of belonging, as there is personal space for their clothing and bags.

Children are very confident and resilient. For example, when a child fell, they got straight back up and continued to play happily. They co-operate well with staff, happily putting things away when asked. Children make friends and share, appropriate to their stages of development. They are able to recognise how other children are feeling and show kindness, as we observed a child helping another to go across the stepping logs.

Children are interested, enthusiastic and engaged in their play. We observed children very immersed in activities such as balancing on the logs and pretending to mend computers. They concentrate for lengthening periods, for example, whilst using their brushes to make marks. They are eager to share what they are doing with others and it was a pleasure to hear them negotiating what to build with the life size bricks.

Children have opportunities to do things for themselves. They choose toys and activities, and help themselves to their snack. They also have the opportunity to pour their own drinks. Most children can go to the toilet independently.

Care and Development

No Rating Required

Staff keep children safe and healthy. They implement effective policies and procedures, and have reviewed the setting and care, in line with guidance related to the Covid 19 pandemic. They have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. They are able to talk confidently about safeguarding and the correct procedures to follow should they be concerned about a child. All staff have up-to-date training in child protection, first aid and food hygiene. Staff provide opportunities for children to participate in regular periods of exercise outdoors and follow effective cleaning routines, for example, they wipe tables between activities. They provide healthy snacks, such as a wide range of breads and fruit, and recently have been awarded the highest rating for safe food preparation by the local Environmental Health department.

Staff are very engaged in their interactions with children and guide small groups and individual children in their activities. They support children to manage their behaviour and boost children's self-esteem; for example, they give them lots of praise for trying to write their names and for being kind to each other. Staff are good role models as they interact well and make time to talk politely with children.

Staff work very well together to meet children's needs effectively. They know the children's skills and preferences well. They record observations of children and plan activities to advance development. This enables the planning of activities to be tailored around the individual child. The staff know the children's strengths, needs and likes well and ensure they meet their needs, such as, dietary requirements and allergies. Staff follow various schemes to help children learn Welsh. We heard staff speaking Welsh with the children and helping them to understand. Parents told us their children enjoy playing outside and they are happy with the range of interesting activities.

Environment

No Rating Required

The environment is secure, clean and well maintained, which provides a safe and comfortable place for children to relax and learn. People who run the setting are developing a stimulating environment to enhance children's experiences. They have identified risks and taken steps to minimise or eliminate them. For example, staff lock the outer gate and safety gates to prevent children entering the kitchen area. Regular and recorded fire drills evidence that staff and children know how to evacuate the premises safely in an emergency.

People who run the setting provide a variety of child centred spaces where children can play and explore. Two large playrooms contain resources and play areas specific to the age group attending. A kitchen area is safely out of bounds to children whilst staff can see children when preparing snacks. There are outdoor areas for each age group, which include sand play, large construction, computer mending table, and a woodworking station, which children use only when they are being supervised. There are easily accessible toilets and this enables children to use them independently. People who run the setting and staff have put colourful and suitable art work on display which gives children a sense of achievement.

There is suitable furniture, resources, toys and books for the children, which are appropriate to the age of the children, are clean and of good condition. In addition, there are many real items in the home corner and wooden and natural items for children to handle including, cones and shells. Children are encouraged to recycle and they enjoy making things from junk. Resources are stored at child height for children to reach them independently.

Leadership and Management

No Rating Required

People who run the setting are knowledgeable in current childcare practice and this is set out in the Statement of Purpose, which is reader friendly. The document is comprehensive and observations during the inspection evidenced that the people who run the setting meet the needs of children and their parents. Parents told us they are happy with the service and have used the Cylch for childcare previously for older siblings. They told us one of the reasons they choose the service is to enable their child to speak Welsh. Parents appreciate the additional opening hours to fit with their needs.

People who run the setting effectively monitor and evaluate the service. They take the views of parents and children seriously and strengths and areas for improvement are identified in the Annual Review of the Quality of Care. This has resulted in the areas for play and development being changed so they look fresh and inviting for children. Parents told us they appreciate the frequent photos sent to them showing what their child has done during the day. This is a recent improvement in response to parent's comments, using an app and secure social media, and reflects a forward-looking approach by leaders.

The recruitment of staff is robust. Staff files demonstrated that all the checks are in place to evidence the staff are suitable to work with children including current DBS checks. Annual appraisals and staff supervision documentation are meaningful and include areas for future development and training. The staff work well as a team, each knowing their roles and responsibilities and taking the initiative to guide children appropriately. The outcome is that children enjoy care given by relaxed and enthusiastic staff. Parents told us staff are approachable and friendly. Regular and relevant training is provided for staff and records are kept noting all staff training and the dates of DBS checks. Additional courses are also completed, which ensures staff have up to date information on how to provide a rich learning environment for the children. Whilst staff are aware of the Infection Control Audit Tool document, this has not been looked at recently. It would be good practice for all staff to re visit this document as part of their on-going training.

People who run the setting have effective communications with parents, including an end of year book, showing a child's process, which a parent told us was amazing. This reflects how important staff consider partnership with the parents to be. These practices enable parents / guardians to remain involved with the care of their children. Relationships with other professionals are positive and contribute to the well-being of children, as staff also accept advice from the Early Years Entitlement and Flying Start teams. Children also enjoy outings to the library and other places and we saw photos of visitors to the group such as a police officer, which help create good relationships within the community.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1 to refresh knowledge of the Infection Control Audit Tool document

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Achieved

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Not Achieved

None	
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Areas where priority action is required

None	
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Areas where improvement is required

None	
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Date Published 20/10/2021