



Inspection Report

Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni

**Ysgol Y Fenni
St. Davids Road
Abergavenny
NP7 6HF**

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

07/07/2022

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About Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni
Registered places	28
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	First inspection
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes – funded places
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>	Excellent
<u>Care and Development</u>	Good
<u>Environment</u>	Excellent
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Excellent

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

Summary

Children are very happy and enjoy attending the setting. They feel very safe and secure in the care of staff. Children have excellent opportunities for play and learning and develop their independence through a range of quality experiences and play.

Staff implement the setting's policies and procedures effectively. They are patient, kind and caring. They support children's learning and development through a wide range of planned activities led by children's interests and developmental needs. Staff keep effective records of children's progress.

The environment is secure, clean, and welcoming. An extensive range of toys and equipment both indoors and outdoors promote children's play very well. Staff follow procedures to ensure the environment is safe, completing risk assessments and daily checks consistently.

People who run the setting are highly motivated and dedicated to delivering high quality childcare. They provide encouragement and support to staff. Required policies and records are in place. Parents are kept well informed and up to date about their child's experiences and development.

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the setting. They are settled and have a strong sense of belonging. Children have opportunities to make choices and decisions about what affects them. For example, they choose their own activities and move around freely in the indoor and outdoor area. Mind mapping is done very effectively? with older children to gather their interests and ideas to inform activity planning.

Children are beginning to form friendships in line with their age and stage of development. They play happily alongside each other or together. Children welcomed us warmly and were excited to chat and show their toys. Children behave very well, are extremely polite and enjoy receiving praise from staff for good manners and being kind and helpful. The setting provides a calm and relaxed atmosphere.

Children thoroughly enjoy their play and learning. They benefit from an excellent variety of age-appropriate play and learning resources in both rooms. Children are highly motivated to follow their own interests and sustain their play for periods suitable to their age and stage of development. They are developing friendships and make strong attachments with the staff that care for them. We saw children eager to include staff in their play, calling them by name. Children are familiar with routines, confident in exploring the environment freely and they know where resources are and how to access them independently.

Children develop a wide range of skills as they play. They have many opportunities to become independent, including pouring their drinks at snack time, tidying up after activities and hanging their belongings on low level pegs.

Care and Development

Good

Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe and healthy. They receive regular safeguarding training and effectively implement the setting policies and procedures should they have concerns about a child. Staff we spoke with were confident to recognise the signs and symptoms of abuse. Accidents and incident records are well completed and signed by parents; however pre-existing injury records are not signed by parents. A wide range of healthy foods are on offer at snack time and drinking water is always available. During the inspection we observed snack plates being placed on the floor by staff due to limited space. We discussed this with the Responsible Individual who changed this practice immediately. Regular fire drill practices are carried out which ensure staff and children are aware of how to leave the building safely.

Staff are kind and caring towards the children. They are responsive and nurturing, which means children approach them with ease. Staff work well together to support and promote children's social behaviour, being mindful of their age and stage of development. There is a comprehensive behaviour management policy, promoting positive strategies. Most staff implement this skilfully, using distraction methods and lots of positive language to reinforce positive behaviour. In addition, staff work very well with outside agencies to seek support to meet individual children's needs.

Staff support children's learning and development effectively. They regularly observe children's play and learning to track their progress. This informs the planning of future activities to promote children's next steps in learning and development. Parents are regularly updated about their children's progress and development. We heard good use of Welsh throughout the inspection.

Environment**Excellent**

The environment is safe and very well maintained. The entrance is secure; locked doors ensure only authorised access. Staff keep children safe because managers regularly review risk assessments for all areas of the setting and any outings undertaken. Staff complete comprehensive daily safety checks of the indoor and outdoor environments to identify and eliminate any risks to children's safety. The people who run the setting organise regular fire drill practices and staff ensure children know how to leave the building safely. These are timed, dated, and evaluated carefully. Registers of staff and children's arrival and departure at the setting are completed well.

The environment is very welcoming and child friendly. Rooms are organised to promote all areas of children's development, with an excellent range of resources, including multicultural resources, and books. Children can access all equipment easily, which supports their independence. Equipment and resources are plentiful and are appropriate for the stage of development of all the children, promoting curiosity and discovery. Wall displays include the children's artwork, which celebrates their achievements, giving them a sense of pride and belonging. The outdoor area has a wide range of suitable equipment. Children enjoy their time outside and show great enthusiasm, moving around the area with ease.

Regular cleaning of toys and equipment is undertaken, and resources are of excellent quality. The setting has suitable furniture and resources to support children's independence. For example, child sized tables, chairs, low level toys storage and individual named coat pegs for their belongings. There are a suitable number of children's toilets and nappy changing facilities available, which are clean and fresh. Liquid soap and paper towels are easily accessible to support children's independence when washing their hands.

Leadership and Management

Excellent

Leadership is excellent. People who run the setting are skilled, experienced and manage the service well. The statement of purpose provides parents with the relevant information about the service so they can make an informed decision about its suitability for their child. There are detailed policies and procedures in place which are reviewed and updated as and when required. Children's contracts and permission slips are well completed.

Children and parents benefit from a setting which is committed to providing high quality care. There is an effective system in place to ensure that a formal self-evaluation of the service is undertaken on an annual basis. Leaders act on feedback provided by external agencies such as Flying Start. There is a complaints procedure in place although no complaints have been received.

People who run the setting work hard to provide a quality care provision to children and their families. The staff team are enthusiastic, motivated and enjoy their work. People who run the setting maintain an organised environment and all documents are easily accessed and in excellent order. Staff files are of a good quality and all relevant checks carried out to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. All staff receive regular supervisions and effective annual appraisals, which enable strengths and areas for development to be identified. There are enough qualified and experienced staff to make sure children are always well cared for.

There is a clear system in place to ensure all staff have up to date Disclosure and Barring Service checks in place. All staff have up to date mandatory training and there are good opportunities for staff to receive additional training as required. Staff told us the management team are supportive.

The setting has established trust, good communication links and a strong partnership with parents and the local community. Staff use an online app to share photographs and information with parents. Staff regularly takes children on outings in the community, including the park and local shops to buy fruit for their snack. Parents we spoke to highly value the service.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1. Ensure pre existing injury records are signed by parents

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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Ratings	What the ratings mean
Excellent	These are services which are committed to ongoing improvement with many strengths, including significant examples of sector leading practice and innovation. These services deliver high quality care and support and are able to demonstrate that they make a strong contribution to improving children’s well-being.
Good	These are services with strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement. They consistently exceed basic requirements, delivering positive outcomes for children and actively promote their well-being.
Adequate	These are services where strengths outweigh areas for improvement. They are safe and meet basic requirements but improvements are required to promote well-being and improve outcomes for children.
Poor	These are services where important areas for improvement outweigh strengths and there are significant examples of non-compliance that impact negatively on children’s well-being. Where services are poor we will take enforcement action and issue a non-compliance notice.

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