



Inspection Report

Schoollane Pre-School

**Church Walks
Llandudno
LL30 2HL**

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

27/07/2021

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About Schoollane Pre-School

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Schoollane Pre-School
Registered places	52
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	Manual Insert
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	The 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.

<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 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. They are safe, interact well and learn to do things for themselves.

Capable staff care for the children effectively 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 and set out with plenty of stimulating activities and areas of play to develop skills. The indoor and outdoor spaces are suitable for the children. There are a variety of toys and games, which are in good condition.

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 and enthusiastic staff. There are successful and strong partnerships with parents, which helps children feel settled and their families supported.

Well-being

No Rating Required

Children have a voice and are able to influence their care. They make choices and decisions and their interests are valued, for example, the outdoor areas were set out with a range of activities for children to choose. Children who were interested in growing things were encouraged to identify trees and younger children watered plants. Children who are bilingual hear occasional words in their home language, which helps to make them feel at home.

Children form bonds with staff and happily approach them for cuddles and chats. Children are very confident and resilient, for example, when a child fell off a bike they checked their hands and with the support of staff went back to play on the bike. Children have a sense of belonging as there is personal space for their coats and bags.

Children interact well with staff and children. They share resources and are making friends, appropriate to their stages of development. For example, they co-operate with staff when they suggest riding another bike and are polite with each other.

Children are enthusiastic and enjoy their play. We observed children immersed in activities such as balancing on special inverted bucket type stilts and we heard them cheering. Children develop their play as they make up their own games, including using the movable arrows on the ground, and they were heard negotiating how and when to come down the slide.

Children have opportunities to do things independently. They help themselves to toys and choose activities, and are learning to put on shoes. They drink from their own bottles outside, if necessary, and put them back.

Care and Development

No Rating Required

Staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. They implement effective policies and procedures, and have reviewed the setting and care in line with Welsh Government guidance related to the Covid 19 pandemic. They have up-to-date training in child protection, first aid and food hygiene and provide opportunities for children to participate in regular periods of exercise outdoors. They are able to talk confidently about safeguarding and the correct procedures to follow should they be concerned about a child. There are cleaning rotas and instructions on display in many areas. Staff clean areas when necessary and also remove toys which have been in children's mouths, ensuring there is no cross infection. Staff told us they provide healthy snacks, such as a wide range of breads and fruit. However there was no record of foods offered to children.

Staff manage children's behaviour effectively using positive methods. They are engaged in their interactions with children, speaking to them individually and in small groups, helping them to get the best out of the activities. They support children to manage their behaviour and boost children's self-esteem; they give them lots of praise, including for listening and following instructions.

Staff know the children's skills and preferences well because parents complete comprehensive registration forms and additional information about their children. They work very well together to meet children's needs effectively. Staff record observations of children's development which show they make good progress at this service and they plan activities to advance development. They are proactive when planning children's language needs and this enables the planning of activities to be tailored around the individual child. Staff promote curiosity through activities and resources provided including messy play and watching, handling and feeding the tortoise. Welsh is promoted as a second language because Welsh words and phrases are displayed inside and Welsh is used regularly by staff and two speak Welsh fluently.

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 have identified risks and taken steps to minimise or eliminate them. For instance, staff ensure they know where children are by checking registers when children move from one area to another. Regular and recorded fire drills evidence that staff and children know how to safely evacuate the premises in an emergency.

People who run the setting are developing a good environment to enhance children's experiences. They have made improvements to some areas and have identified further areas for improvement. There are outdoor areas with suitable interesting resources, which include separate areas for younger and older children, a yard for children to ride bikes and a garden for children to experience seeing and caring for fruit trees. There are easily-accessible toilets for children and a dedicated private, well equipped nappy changing area. People who run the setting and staff have put colourful and suitable art work on display in Welsh and English. There are also notices in Welsh to help staff speak Welsh to the children.

The resources, toys and books are suitable, including those to promote cultural awareness and equal opportunities. People who run the setting and staff have developed areas for play and learning both inside and outdoors where there are a good variety of resources. These include number areas and painting where children can mix their own paints. Rooms and areas have ample resources, which ensure staff have the equipment to provide stimulating and exciting activities for children. There is suitable, wooden furniture for the children in each of their rooms, including cupboards and shelves at child height to help children be independent. People who run the setting provide natural resources for the children to explore, such as shells, twigs, leaves and wooden toys. Handling such items enhances children experiences and helps them to know the properties and describe them.

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 because there is strong effective leadership. A parent told us the leadership here is excellent and she is thankful for their hard work.

People who run the setting effectively monitor and evaluate the service. The parents have been asked for their views using questionnaires. This has resulted in parents being informed about their child's day more frequently using secure social media. Strengths and areas for improvement are identified and as a result there are long term plans for improvement including purchasing more natural and wooden items for children to play with outside. Parents told us they had noticed the improvements made to the outdoor areas.

The recruitment of staff is robust. Staff files demonstrated that all the checks have been made to ensure the staff are suitable to work with children including current DBS checks. Annual appraisals and regular monitoring which are meaningful include areas for future development and training. The staff spoken to said they were supported well so that they can prioritise caring for the children. The staff worked 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. Regular and relevant training is provided for staff, for example staying safe on line. This ensures that staff have up to date information on how to provide a rich learning environment for the children.

Relationships with parents and other professionals are positive and contribute to the well-being of children, as parents are able to tell staff what their children have particularly enjoyed. People who run the setting have effective communications with parents, which reflect how important they consider partnership with the parents to be. A parent told us staff send daily photos of what the children are doing, and there are regular newsletters and helpful information on notice boards. These practices enable parents / guardians to remain involved with the care of their children. The setting also accepts advice from the Early Years Entitlement team and Flying Start professionals.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1 We recommend that a record is kept of foods offered to children. This would evidence that healthy snacks are consistently provided.

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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 7 September 2021