



## Inspection Report

**Cylch Meithrin Traed Bech Twymyn**

**Neuadd Cemaes  
Cemaes  
Machynlleth  
SY20 9PR**

**Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg**

**This report is also available in Welsh**



**Date Inspection Completed**

16/03/2023

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## About Cylch Meithrin Traed Bech Twymyn

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Cylch Meithrin Traed Bech Twymyn
Registered places	12
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	This is the first inspection post registration
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	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><a href="#">Well-being</a></u>	<b>Adequate</b>
<u><a href="#">Care and Development</a></u>	<b>Adequate</b>
<u><a href="#">Environment</a></u>	<b>Adequate</b>
<u><a href="#">Leadership and Management</a></u>	<b>Poor</b>

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

### **Summary**

Children are happy, comfortable and relaxed at the setting. They have formed bonds of affection with care staff and are forming friendships. Children are beginning to understand their feelings and are becoming sensitive to others. They are learning to manage their behaviour, co-operate, take turns and share. Children are interested and persevere for appropriate amounts of time to complete activities.

Care staff are consistent in their approach and model positive behaviour. They provide a nurturing and caring environment and treat all children with dignity and respect. Care staff implement the setting's policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting children's well-being.

People who run the setting ensure that children are cared for in a safe, clean and secure environment. Adequate toys and resources are available to the children and they are of a suitable design and condition. There is currently no useable adjoining outdoor space at the setting however this is being developed.

The setting registered with CIW in December 2022. People who run the setting have an up-to-date statement of purpose which accurately reflects the service provided. Policies and procedures are reviewed and implemented in practice. The setting promotes the Welsh language and meets the obligations of the Active Offer. However, the responsible individual is not compliant with all regulations and as a result, we have issued two priority action notices and highlighted one area for improvement. There are six recommendations summarised at the end of the report.

## Well-being

## Adequate

Children have some opportunities to make choices and decisions about what affects them. They share with the care staff what they would like to do next from a limited choice. For example, choosing between which story they would like to read, or which toys they would like to use next. Children have adequate freedom to safely explore their indoor environment. Moving from one learning area to the next. For example, we saw some children playing in the role play kitchen area before moving to play with the blocks. Children have some opportunities to develop their independence skills enabling them to do some things for themselves successfully. For example, at snack time, children were allowed to choose between water and milk to drink and breadsticks and grapes. However, the drink and the snack were placed in front of the children rather than them being able to help themselves.

Children experience some variety of age-appropriate opportunities that enable them to follow their own interests. Children persevere with building a train track. They were able to sustain their interest and concentration, amending and developing the layout of the train track as they shared ideas with each other and the care staff playing alongside them. Children take care of the equipment and resources available to them.

Interactions between children and adults are positive. Most children co-operate and are generally interested and engaged. They are starting to show empathy and becoming sensitive to the needs of others. Children build shapes using magnetic tiles, copying the designs modelled to them by the care staff. Children build different shapes and name them correctly, such as "*Triongl*". They play creatively using their imagination to design and build a rocket and a house before adding to the shapes to create a train. Children share the resources, waiting and taking turns with the magnetic tiles or asking politely for different shapes. Children are spoken to quietly and at their level when reminded to play nicely, "*Dydan ni ddim yn bwrw*".

Children are content and express enjoyment. They have a sense of belonging, are beginning to form friendships and are becoming familiar with routines. Children cope well with separation from their parents and settle well into their morning routine. They play happily and are relaxed in the care of the staff. Children are mostly engaged in their play and learning. They enjoy a reasonable selection of appropriate opportunities indoors. Children concentrate on their task, moving compost into a pot and then planting a seed. Children enjoy creating gifts for their parents on special occasions.

## Care and Development

**Adequate**

Care staff implement appropriate policies and procedures which promote children's health and safety. For example, nutritionally, well-balanced meals, snacks and drinks are offered. They implement appropriate hygiene practices such as cleaning tables after use and ensuring children have their faces and hands wiped regularly. Care staff complete accident/incident forms and share these with parents. They complete children's attendance registers accurately. Most care staff attend regular and relevant training and have up-to-date certificates in paediatric first aid, food safety and child protection. They have a general understanding of safeguarding, including how to respond to child protection concerns and the process to follow when dealing with an allegation against the person in charge or the responsible individual.

Care staff understand and follow the setting's behaviour policy and manage interactions appropriately. They are positive role models, showing warmth and kindness towards the children and encouraging positive behaviour. For example, they get down to the children's eye level and sensitively encourage sharing. They diffuse situations by providing children with alternative toys to play with and give plenty of praise and cuddles for their achievements. This helps build children's self-esteem and confidence. Care staff are developing their understanding of child development and are learning to understand how this can impact children's behaviour.

Care staff have a caring, nurturing approach and enjoy spending time with the children. They know children well and are aware of their individual development. Care staff are beginning to develop and implement the new Curriculum for Wales by listening to children's ideas, likes and dislikes. However, there is no record of monitoring children's progress or using children's voice to refine planning of future learning and experiences.

## Environment

**Adequate**

People who run the setting have adequate measures in place to ensure that everyone is aware of their responsibilities in relation to the safety and welfare of children. The environment is safe and secure. The setting is located in the local community hall. The space available to the setting is restricted, however, the people who run the setting manage the space available to them reasonably well. No visitors can gain access to any part of the setting unless admitted by care staff.

Satisfactory risk assessments are in place which are implemented in practice. People who run the setting ensure staff can easily access first aid kits and any hazardous substances are kept out of the reach of children. Heating safety certificates and PAT testing certificates have been completed. However, people who run the setting have not yet completed any fire drills and do not keep records of regular fire drills. The people who run the setting cannot be sure that children can leave the setting carefully in the event of an emergency. There are currently no displays celebrating the children's work.

The premises are in the main welcoming, warm and accessible to most. It is adequately maintained with satisfactory heating and ventilation dependant on the temperature. However, staff confirmed that on occasions children sleep in the hallway while strapped in pushchairs due to noise disruptions within the main playroom. On the day of the inspection the hallway was very cold and did not have any heating. Care staff confirmed that they did not have a means for measuring the temperature of the hallway nor did they consider the implications of children sleeping while strapped into pushchairs.

The people who run the setting ensure the premises provides adequate space for play and learning. There is sufficient space and facilities available to meet the needs of most children. However, toys and equipment are not appropriate for all children's ages and there are no toys and resources which promote children's diversity and cultural awareness. Indoors, care staff provide children with clean, age-appropriate resources that are well-maintained and stored where children can reach them easily. Furniture is age-appropriate, promotes independence and ensures that children are comfortable and safe when playing. Children do not currently have access to an outside play area which is adjacent to the setting however this is being developed. On occasions, children are taken to the local park by care staff.

## Leadership and Management

Poor

Leadership and Management is inconsistent. People who run the setting have an up-to-date, satisfactory statement of purpose that reflects the service provided and ensures parents can make an informed choice about the setting. They have some knowledge and understanding of their regulatory responsibilities. People who run the setting review their policies and ensure that these are implemented in practice. They keep some records in relation to children's contracts, permissions, and children's individual needs. However, people who run the setting do not ensure all children's contracts and parental permissions have been sought fully before children attend the setting. This is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action.

People who run the setting manage their teams satisfactorily. Many care staff told us they are happy at work and enjoy working as a team to support each other. However, some care staff spoken to during the inspection do not always feel supported or listened to by some of the people who run the setting. This is an issue which needs addressing internally, to ensure constructive feedback is considered. People who run the setting are actively working towards the implementation of Welsh Government's best practice guidance, '*Food and Nutrition for childcare settings*'. They are working in partnership with a local food business to have hot, home cooked food delivered to the children.

People who run the setting undertake some of the required recruitment checks for care staff in line with regulations. They include references for all staff and disclosure and barring checks (DBS) which are updated and on record. People who run the setting do not always follow safe recruitment processes to safeguard children. The setting does not always have enough fully qualified staff members to meet the needs of the children. They do not always thoroughly plan for care staff absences. Volunteers have covered staff absences without having recruitment and suitability checks in place, in line with the regulations. We have therefore issued two priority action notices. The provider must take immediate action to address both these issues.

People who run the setting have submitted the Self-Assessment of the Service Statement (SASS). They are in the process of completing a quality-of-care report and questionnaires are to be sent to parents. Parents we spoke to were happy with the setting and the care the children receive, stating that their children are always keen to attend the setting. People who run the setting share information with parents through an online platform. This includes information such as nappy changes, sleep times, food eaten and photographs of activities.

## Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards



R1 Develop a system to track children's progress and use this to plan provision and develop future learning and experiences.

R2 Ensure children have good opportunities to develop their independence skills.

R3 Ensure all care staff are made aware of guidance on sleeping children and record the temperature of the room children sleep in.

R4 Develop the outdoor play space adjoining the setting.

R5 Ensure resources, toys and equipment are appropriate for all children's ages and promote children's diversity and cultural awareness.

R6 Complete fire drills at regular intervals and maintain the appropriate records.

### Summary of Non-Compliance

Status	What each means
<b>New</b>	This non-compliance was identified at this inspection.
<b>Reviewed</b>	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.
<b>Not Achieved</b>	Compliance was tested at this inspection and was not achieved.
<b>Achieved</b>	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
27	The Responsible Individual must ensure there is at least 80% non-supervisory staff holding a qualification to at least level two from Social Care Wales' Qualifications Framework.	New
28	The Responsible Individual must ensure care staff and volunteer suitability checks are completed prior to working with children.	New

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
30	The responsible individual must be consistent in keeping clear and accurate records for all children attending the setting.	New

Ratings	What the ratings mean
<b>Excellent</b>	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.
<b>Good</b>	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.
<b>Adequate</b>	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.
<b>Poor</b>	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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