

Inspection Report

Si Lwli Nursery (Whitchurch)

24 Park Road Whitchurch Cardiff CF14 7BQ

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

03/08/2023

About Si Lwli Nursery (Whitchurch)

Type of care provided	Childrens Day Care
	Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Meithrinfa Silwli Nursery Ltd
Registered places	58
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	10 and 13 July 2018
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service promote Welsh language and culture?	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.

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Well-being	Excellent
Care and Development	Excellent
Environment	Excellent
Leadership and Management	Excellent

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

Summary

Children are happy and can make choices and decisions independently. They have a very strong voice. Children are very confident in their communication with each other and with care staff. They develop strong relationships and express their views openly, knowing that they will be listened to.

Staff fully understand and follow policies and procedures to promote healthy lifestyles, safety, and personal well-being. The majority are qualified to different levels, and all staff we saw are knowledgeable, kind and very caring towards children, providing a nurturing and child led setting. Staff plan and assess purposely and promote an 'in the moment' ethos to ensure children's interests and curiosities are developed further. Staff show genuine passion in their roles.

The people who run the setting have excellent measures in place to ensure the environment is safe, secure, and well-maintained, indoors and outdoors. They ensure children have access to an excellent and extensive range of resources and equipment to nurture children's overall developmental skills.

The people who run the setting ensure they comply with all the relevant regulations and exceed the national minimum standards. They have a strong vision for the future and ensure that they manage their team with effective support and continuous training. They are passionate in ensuring they offer a very high standard of care to their children. They have developed excellent collaborative partnerships across the community.

Well-being Excellent

Children are motivated, very confident and know their ideas and wishes are fully considered. They have exciting and innovative opportunities to make choices and decisions about what affects them, and their opinions and interests are highly valued. Children's voice is strong, and they have the free choice of playing and learning what and where they wish. Some children chose to remain playing outside for the best part of the day.

Children are immensely happy and have a strong sense of belonging. They have formed strong close relationships with their peers and carers. They are very familiar with routines as well as the ethos and values which is to respect each other and the setting. Their feelings and needs are acknowledged, and we saw strong bonds of affection and attachment with staff.

Interactions between children and adults are consistently stimulating and children cooperate enthusiastically. Children express empathy and care towards each other and listen carefully to one another, responding and communicating with interest and affection. Children took each other's hand to balance and help them climb out of the bus they had made from crates. They are fully engaged and show respect for others and to the setting. Children cooperate, take turns and share. An example of this is when we observed children taking turns to climb a ladder to look over the fence. One child held the ladder whilst the other climbed up and reported back about what they could see, then reversed their roles.

Children immerse themselves in their play, using language and developing their skills across all areas of development, through purposeful resources that are available to them. A group of children playing with dinosaurs said, 'I'm a mummy dinosaur', 'well I'm the daddy dinosaur', 'please don't eat me!' and 'let's go looking for food', as they excitedly explored for food in the kitchen area.

Every child is busy and active in their play. Children take their time in the activities that they choose and are provided with an extensive range of resources to enrich those experiences further. The experiences and opportunities they receive fully promote their all-round development. Outdoors we saw children using their imagination to set up a bridge out of large blocks whilst others adapt their ideas into an adventure when they become owls and monkeys climbing the tree.

Children have excellent opportunities to develop their independence throughout the session, enabling them to do things for themselves successfully and to problem solve effectively. Children are responsible for setting the table for dinner, serve themselves food, pour water from jugs and clearing plates and bowls afterwards. They move from area to area, both indoors and outdoors, and freely access resources they want to use.

Staff have a comprehensive understanding of the setting's policies. They are consistently implemented to promote healthy lifestyles, personal safety of children and ensure their well-being. They are all continuously proactive and effectively manage any risks as they arise. Staff speak respectfully with children, show interest, pleasure, and care in all that they do. They manage any sign of unwanted behaviour carefully and quickly and are imaginative and successful in diffusing situations before they become issues.

Staff know the children exceptionally well and are all able to provide examples of how they have developed and understand what their needs are. They demonstrate that they are knowledgeable regarding children's individual developmental learning, additional learning needs, and any behavioural changes. They can handle and manage these responsibilities sensitively and effectively. In terms of good practice, care staff ensure children are hydrated and have continuous access to water. They wear aprons and gloves when helping with food handling or nappy changing and offer support and comfort when children experience any discomfort, trips, or falls. Staff are very confident with safeguarding scenarios and can explain all aspects of the setting's policy and procedures in detail. They show a thorough understanding in their duty to safeguard every child, and this is reinforced in the comprehensive and clear policy of the setting.

Interactions between staff and towards children are always respectful. Staff are consistently responsive and genuinely listen and respect children's views. Interactions are very positive, and staff demonstrate warmth and kindness. They are sensitive to children's needs and take every opportunity to enhance interactions. They do this through careful responses, correct spoken language and extend responses and discussions with rich opportunities for sustained shared thinking. We saw children approaching staff for reassurance, 'cwtshes' and closeness. Staff are confident to respond, in the moment, with extended ideas. An example of this is when children enjoyed making coffees and babycinos in the café. Staff identified the opportunity and supported the activity with a visit to the local café for babycinos. Staff are animated and enthusiastic and able to use resources to enhance children's learning.

Staff are very knowledgeable regarding resources and told us about how loose parts are utilised into daily practice. For example, different size wooden circles, shells, pebbles and twigs that allow children to direct their own play. They have a rich understanding of diversity issues and fully promote children's rights. They are committed to providing an excellent range of play and learning activities and opportunities and are fully aware of children's individual development. Staff plan carefully for the next steps, with each child having a learning journey file which includes development pathways, observations, assessments, and reviews.

Environment Excellent

The people who run the setting have comprehensive and effective measures, policies and procedures in place to ensure that everyone fully understands their responsibilities. They ensure that the environment is safe, secure and extremely well maintained both indoors and outdoors. Even the activities that are planned, for example the forest school area with a firepit, are carefully considered for all risks and hazards. We saw documentation where reoccurring accidents at the setting are monitored, and where the number of accidents in each area are recorded. Several accidents in the garden area had been identified and that this had been actioned with further measures, which included monitoring the space and the number of children in the garden and encouraging them to walk where they can. We saw consistently good hygiene practices, which reduces the risks to everyone's health and safety. The people who run the setting complete highly effective and comprehensive general and fire risk assessments which are reviewed, and emergency procedures are communicated clearly. They ensure that staff/children ratios are correct. As the doors are open continuously, care staff always ensure there is high levels of observation and communication as consistent safety measures.

The setting is safe, welcoming, warm, and excellently maintained. Children can easily access excellent quality furniture and resources both indoors and out which stimulate children's interests and imagination. The people who run the setting are committed to providing stimulating resources that promote children's curiosity. Equality and cultural awareness are promoted throughout the practice. Indoor areas are clean, with neutral tones. It is arranged and presented with care, offering purposeful opportunities for rich learning experiences in different rooms, encouraging curious leaners to explore. The downstairs rooms are aptly named 'Lolfa' 'Popty' 'Gweithdy' and 'Stiwdio' and each room provides different learning experiences from cooking, construction, arts and craft to imaginary play and quiet time. The under 2's are cared for upstairs and also have open access to the outside play area. The outdoor area is safe and provides play areas all around the setting, including shaded areas during hot weather. Outdoor areas provide numerous play opportunities such as mud play, sand, water, painting, construction, and craft.

People who run the setting carefully choose resources to fulfil children's interest and ideas. They include a vast selection of 'real' resources such as crockery, utensils, and food. Outdoor play areas such as the mud kitchen, have an area alongside where children can dig for their own mud to use. They can also help themselves to water to add to their play. Staff consistently ensure that they are providing rich learning experiences for children.

Leadership and Management

Excellent

The people who run the setting have an innovative vision which is shared with the entire team. Policies and procedures are in place and reviewed annually with dates and signatures evident on each document. They reflect the service that is provided to children

and families and exceeds the National Minimum Standards. Staff files, children's files, appraisals, medication, accident and incident logs are all completed correctly and available to view on the secure, online app. All other systems of recording are completed and organised. Children's and staff attendance times are recorded daily on the app.

There is a strong culture of continuous professional development. Some staff have developed their career from being unqualified to a high level of qualification whilst at the setting. This has led on to promotion and additional responsibilities in their roles which they are very proud of. An effective and meaningful self-evaluation process is implemented, and the setting's quality of care report reflects the service with staff and children's views being welcomed and listened to.

The people who run the setting effectively promote current best practice which is relevant to children. All staff promote the Welsh language, even those who are less confident demonstrate a very good command of the language which forms part of the ethos. Staff describe the setting and team as a family and feel very much supported by management, with one member stating, 'nobody is better than anyone, we all chip in to do anything that needs doing, it is such a lovely place, and we are all so happy.' Another told us 'We have excellent terms and conditions and are very well respected and looked after here'

The people who run the setting ensure that all communication and engagement systems with parents are innovative and fully inclusive and they have very strong links with a range of professionals across the local and wider community. They told us of the collaborative working with the local Welsh school, parents and carers and the local community. Parents told us 'I am extremely happy with all aspects of care and development my child receives. It's evident that procedures are followed and that the staff feel valued, motivated and empowered- this translates to the day-to-day culture and environment. I am delighted with all aspects of the organisation' This is a service which is committed to improvement with many strengths, including significant examples of sector leading practice and innovation.

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

N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this	N/A
	inspection	

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

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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