



Inspection Report

Cylch Meithrin Nant Dyrys / Ynyswen

**Rear of Ysgol Gymraeg Ynyswen
Clinic Road
Ynyswen
Treorchy
CF42 6ED**

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

20/06/2022

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About Cylch Meithrin Nant Dyrys / Ynyswen

Type of care provided	Childrens Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Helen Biggs
Registered places	30
Language of the service	Both
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	18.01.17
Is this a Flying Start service?	
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	No. This is a service that does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language. It does not anticipate, identify or meet the Welsh language needs of people /children who use. However, Welsh is used as part of day-to-day practice.

<u>Well-being</u>	Excellent
<u>Care and Development</u>	Excellent
<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 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. Children are happy and can make choices and decisions independently.

Care staff fully understand and follow policies and procedures to promote healthy lifestyles, safety and personal well-being. They are qualified, knowledgeable, kind and very caring towards children, providing a nurturing and child led setting. Care staff plan and assess purposely and promote an 'in the moment' ethos to ensure children's interests and curiosities are developed further. Care 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 service 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 and nationally.

Children are motivated and 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 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 of the setting. Their feelings and needs are acknowledged and we saw strong bonds of affection and attachment. For example, a child said, 'I love you Bopa', to which a staff member replied, 'I love you too'.

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. 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 part in a tea party using water and a range of flavoured tea bags. They cooperated and waited their turn to use china teapots, tea caddy, tea strainers and china cups and saucers and praised each other on their skills in making different coloured teas, as they all sat at a table chatting.

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. We saw two children dress up saying, 'let's go to the hairdressers,' 'will you do my hair?' 'Do you want curlers?' 'Would you like to see in the mirror?', as they experienced and explore real objects with knowledge and care.

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 planks, beams and blocks and adapting their ideas, in the moment, into an adventure.

Children have excellent opportunities to develop their independence skills throughout the session, enabling them to do things for themselves successfully and to problem solve effectively. We saw children pour water from jugs into their cups, independently use the toilet, move from area to area, both indoors and outdoors, access resources and choose where they wished to eat their lunch.

Care 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. Care staff speak respectfully with children, show interest, pleasure and care in all that they do. They manage any sign of behaviour carefully and quickly and are imaginative and successful in diffusing situations, even before they become issues.

Care 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, medical needs and any behavioural changes and are able to 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. All care 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.

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 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, comforts, closeness and observed that care staff were confident to respond, in the moment, with extended ideas. An example of this is when children led an activity and had built an outdoor bridge, introducing a bear to the activity. Care staff identified the opportunity and supported the activity with music and singing, where children sang, 'we're going on a bear hunt'. Care staff are animated and enthusiastic and able to use resources to enhance children's learning.

Care staff are very knowledgeable regarding resources and told us about transitions in play, explaining how loose parts are utilised into daily practice. 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. Care 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 recent construction area, carefully considered all risks and hazards. We saw documentation where re-occurring accidents at the setting are monitored, where the number of accidents in each area are recorded. We could see that several accidents in the bike area had been identified and that this had been actioned with further measures, which included monitoring the area by reducing the number of children in the area and encouraging them to walk down the ramp. We saw consistent hygiene practices, minimising 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 and with a setting where doors are open continuously, care staff always ensure 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. Indoors is clean, open, airy, well-lit and cool offering many different areas for play. The indoors is arranged and presented with care, offering purposeful opportunities for rich learning experiences, encouraging curious learners to explore. The outdoor area is safe and provides areas all around the setting, particularly shaded areas during hot weather. Outdoor areas provide numerous play opportunities as well as an undercover dining area.

Recent purchases demonstrate how the people who run the setting carefully choose resources to fulfil themes which form part of the planning process. We saw images of a recent construction area, which had included the smallest details to provide the maximum number of experiences for children. Resources for the forthcoming Italian pizzeria have been carefully purchased to prepare a new stimulating learning area. Outdoor resources also include purchases from reputable outdoor manufacturers such as a new planting shed, to appropriate artefacts from local charity shops, enabling care staff to 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 stored confidentially. These reflect the service that is provided to children and families and exceeds the National Minimum Standards. Policies are reviewed annually, with dates and signatures evident on each document. Staff files, children's files, appraisals, individual medical packs, medication, accident and incident books are all completed correctly. All other systems of recording are completed and organised. Parents sign their children in and out of the setting, with daily registers put out on display in the main entrance.

The setting's planning file is comprehensive and key worker files are detailed. They follow a national healthy pre-school scheme and they are in the process of becoming an accredited setting for the curiosity approach. There is a strong culture of continuous professional development and care staff have completed additional training such as autism, woodwork and loose parts training and are all currently working towards their play work qualification. 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 care staff, affectionately known as 'Bopas', promote the Welsh language, even those who have less confidence demonstrate a very good command of the language which forms part of the ethos. Care 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.' The planning and preparation are enhanced further with care staff working additional hours when children have left, to plan and work together on children's observations and personal files.

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 wide range of professionals across the local and wider community. They told us of the collaborative working with the school next door, parents, local settings and a national early years organisation, with visits being made to the setting to observe and learn more of the setting's practice. Parents told us that they are pleased with the care that their children receive and that their children are happy. This is a service which is committed to improvement with many strengths, including significant examples of sector leading practice and innovation.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

No recommendations.

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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