

Inspection Report

The Laurels

The Laurels Day Nursery
Ty Nant Road Morganstown
Cardiff
CF15 8LB



Date Inspection Completed

26/06/2023

About The Laurels

| Type of care provided | Children's Day Care | |
|--|---|--|
| | Full Day Care | |
| Registered Provider | The Laurels Morganstown ltd | |
| Registered places | 77 | |
| Language of the service | English | |
| Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection | 22 November 2022 | |
| Is this a Flying Start service? | No | |
| Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer? | This 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. | |

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Summary

This was a focused inspection and on this occasion, we did not consider all themes in detail.

Children are happy and relaxed at the setting. They have good relationships with staff, showing trust and warmth. Children behave kindly and considerately, communicating effectively with both adults and their peers. They are independent and confident in their own abilities.

Staff keep children safe through implementing suitable routines, policies and procedures. They interact in a kind and caring manner with the children in their care. They work well together to support and promote children's development and ensure that their individual needs are met.

The environment is safe, clean and secure. Managers and staff identify and minimise risks appropriately. Resources are interesting and varied for children of different ages.

Managers are experienced and committed to ongoing improvements.

Well-being

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

All children can make choices freely while at the setting. They are confident to communicate their needs as they know staff will listen to them. For example, they tell staff whether they want their sauce on top of their food or to the side. Children of all ages have input into activity planning. Staff observe the interests of younger children, while older children share their ideas verbally.

Children have clear bonds of affection with staff. They are happy and settled, and cope well with separation from their parents. Children transition to older age groups smoothly. Children respond positively to praise from staff members. We saw a child beaming as a staff member said, "Good boy!".

All children behave and interact well, in line with their ages and stages of development. They show care and sensitivity towards each other, considering each other's needs through sharing and taking turns. Children communicate effectively with adults and their friends. For example, older children greet each other excitedly when arriving from school. They show an interest in what others are doing and respond thoughtfully to questioning from staff.

Children are curious and keen to investigate their environment. They take great interest in resources and activities provided. For example, we saw younger children enjoying active play outdoors with a slide and balls, and older children moving happily around the indoor climbing resources while role-playing animals.

Children are inquisitive and keen to show adults what they can do. All children concentrate well, sustaining interest in things they have chosen to do for extended periods. They have many opportunities to develop their independence skills. Children of all ages are encouraged to feed themselves with age-appropriate cutlery. Older children pour their own water and take their plates to staff members after use. They use flannels and mirrors to wipe their own faces and hands before putting them in a basket.

Care and Development

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

Staff understand how to keep children safe and healthy. They demonstrate good hygiene and infection control through wearing gloves and aprons to serve food and through regular cleaning routines. Staff follow clear procedures to manage any allergies, individual dietary requirements or medical needs. Staff we spoke to were very confident regarding their role in protecting children. They record accidents and incidents in good detail and inform parents promptly by telephone call or communication app. Managers analyse accident and incident reports monthly to identify patterns and emerging risks.

Staff are responsive to individual children's needs and know the children well. They provide warm, responsive care and a consistent approach. They use gentle, calm reminders of room rules when needed.

The nursery operates a keyworker system. Staff carry out regular observations on each child within their key group. They undertake monthly activity planning which they then evaluate in detail. They use this analysis to influence planning and next steps for the children in their group. Staff regularly update children's individual support plans to ensure children's specific needs are identified and met. The nursery is beginning to implement the new Curriculum for Wales.

Environment

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

The nursery is set across two buildings, each with a secure outdoor space. The premises are well-maintained and welcoming. They provide good space for children to play. Staff ensure only authorised entry to the nursery and they keep a log of any visitors. They undertake daily safety checks. There are stairgates throughout the buildings to ensure children do not have unsupervised access to stairs.

High quality furniture, toys and resources, both indoors and outdoors, promote children's play and development. They are age and stage-appropriate and are set out to allow children to access them easily, which supports their independence.

Leadership and Management

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

The setting is organised suitably and managers are keen to improve standards for children and their families. Managers have employed sufficient qualified and experienced staff. However, they were unable to clearly evidence that they consistently maintain correct numbers of qualified staff within all areas of the nursery, in line with National Minimum Standards for Regulated Childcare for children up to the age of 12 years. Managers took immediate action to address this issue by amending staff attendance records to ensure they clearly show that qualified staff are deployed suitably across the nursery.

| 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 | | |

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