



## Inspection Report

**Cylch Meithrin Creigiau**

**Scout Hall  
Castle Close  
Creigiau  
Cardiff  
CF15 9NJ**

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

**This report is also available in Welsh**



**Date Inspection Completed**

16/01/2024

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## About Cylch Meithrin Creigiau

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Committee of Cylch Meithrin Creigiau
Registered places	18
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	16 November 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.

<a href="#"><u>Well-being</u></a>	<b>Adequate</b>
<a href="#"><u>Care and Development</u></a>	<b>Adequate</b>
<a href="#"><u>Environment</u></a>	<b>Adequate</b>
<a href="#"><u>Leadership and Management</u></a>	<b>Poor</b>

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

## **Summary**

Children make suitable choices and are engaged in their play and learning. Children are content and express enjoyment. They are beginning to form friendships and are becoming familiar with routines. Children have some opportunities to develop their independence skills.

Staff are professional, qualified and enjoy their work. They are kind, caring and interact well with children. They are attentive to the needs of the children and respect the children in their care.

Leaders ensure that the environment is clean and suitable for all the children who attend. They register children and visitors appropriately.

The leadership and management at the setting is inconsistent, and several areas require attention to ensure compliance with the Child Minding and Day Care Regulations. One priority action notice and two areas for improvement have been issued. The responsible individual is keen to make improvements and has told us they will address issues raised as a matter of priority.

**Well-being****Adequate**

Children make suitable choices about how they spend their time at the setting and choose freely between adult led and independent activities. We saw children move easily between the activities, resources, and toys on offer to them. Children are often confident communicators as their wants, moods and needs are generally considered. For example, we saw a child ask a member of staff for support to build a tower in the outdoor construction area.

Children are happy and settled at the setting. They know staff well and approach them for guidance and comfort. They cope with separation from their parents and carers and have good bonds of affection with care staff. For example, we observed children having reassuring cuddles when they wanted or needed them. Children are familiar with daily routines. For example, many children know to fetch their coats when it's time to go outdoors and we saw them wait patiently to go outside without much prompting from staff. During the inspection, there were no displays of children's work.

Children interact positively with their friends and with those caring for them. They form friendships in line with their age and stage of development. Children play happily together or alongside each other. For example, a group of children were engaged in playing with toy cars and a ramp for a sustained period of time. Children are beginning to co-operate with each other and able to wait their turn. We observed children, with support, taking turns to play with vehicles in the outdoor area.

Children enjoy the activities on offer. They are free to explore the indoor environment and spend time on activities that interest them. For example, we saw children enjoying changing baby dolls' nappies. We also observed children eager to play with the push bikes and cars available outdoors. Children concentrate for appropriate periods of time during activities such as imaginative play, games, and circle time. Children are keen to show adults what they are learning. For example, we observed a child showing staff imaginary ice creams they had created in a toy ice cream cart.

Children have suitable opportunities to develop their independence skills and receive support if needed. For example, we saw children putting on coats and wellies to go outdoors and receiving support from staff with their gloves. Children are beginning to be independent when using the toilet and washing their hands. However, children's independence skills at snack time requires development.

## Care and Development

**Adequate**

Staff have a suitable understanding of their roles and responsibilities within the setting. They are competent in keeping children safe, healthy, and secure. Staff have completed child protection training and are aware of the setting's safeguarding policy and the procedures to follow if they have concerns about a child. Staff have an understanding of children's health needs including allergies and dietary requirements. Accidents and incidents are recorded appropriately. However, they do not currently evaluate accidents and incidents to identify any patterns. There is currently no formal process to document existing injuries when parents report accidents outside of the setting. Staff follow hygiene process when preparing for snack time. For example, they wipe down tables and children wash their hands. However, during the inspection, we identified that the setting was not registered with Cardiff Council's Environmental Health department as a service that provides food. Since the inspection, the Responsible Individual has assured us that they have taken action to register with Environmental Health. Staff told us that they check the temperature of the setting daily. However, this is not formally recorded.

Staff work well together to support and promote children's social behaviour, taking into consideration their age and stage of development. They are positive role models to the children in their care, treating them and each other with care, respect and kindness. Staff understand and consistently implement positive behaviour management strategies. They provide care and affection when children require it. Interactions are positive, demonstrating warmth and kindness. For example, we saw staff sit with children and engage in an activity celebrating St. Dwynwen's Day.

Staff provide a range of play and learning activities, taking into consideration children's interests. They support children's choices, allowing them to have opportunities to explore indoors, following their own interests. However, there is no record of formal planning nor are there record of observations and monitoring of children's developmental achievements and next steps in their learning. The use of Welsh language at the setting is consistent and children are able to understand simple commands and questions when asked in Welsh. Children's knowledge and understanding of the world around them is developed by celebrating festivals from different cultures as well as their own. For example, we saw examples of children celebrating Diwali, Chinese New Year, Christmas, and Easter.

**Environment****Adequate**

The premises are warm, safe, and well maintained. The entrance is secure and locked doors ensure only authorised access is granted by members of management. Visitors sign in and out of the building. Children's attendance is recorded with exact times of arrival and departure noted. Routine safety checks and certificates for the building and appliances are in place. Staff set up and pack away the setting each day, as the premises is shared with local groups. Leaders conduct fire drills regularly which ensures that staff and children are familiar with the evacuation procedure in case of an emergency.

The environment is welcoming and child friendly. It offers children a light, calm area which provides plenty of space for appropriate activities. There are sufficient toilets and sinks that provide for children's age, as well as their privacy and dignity. Appropriate nappy changing facilities are also available. There is an outside area which allows children the opportunity for outdoor play experiences, giving them the benefit of fresh air. People who run the setting organise the children's play space into clearly defined play areas.

Leaders ensure resources and equipment are of good quality, clean and well maintained. Tables and chairs are of a suitable size for the age of the children. Leaders ensure children can access resources easily, promoting their independence. These are appropriate for their age and stage of development and promote their curiosity and learning. Leaders also provide age-appropriate multicultural books and toys for the children. We saw children taking part in a craft activity in preparation to celebrate St. Dwynwen's Day.

## Leadership and Management

Poor

Leadership and management of the service is inconsistent. Paperwork and pre-employment checks require improvements. This is because during the inspection, we found that the responsible individual (RI) did not have any risk assessments in place for the setting, activities and resources. During the inspection, inspectors identified possible risks within the environment which hadn't been considered by the RI. Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) cannot be assured that the RI reviews risks effectively. This has potential to impact on children's safety and well-being and we have therefore issued a priority action notice. The provider must take immediate action to address this issue.

Leaders manage staff suitably. They carry out some checks to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. Staff files sampled during the inspection did not contain all the required information. Some files we sampled did not contain regulatory information such as references and health declarations. While no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action. During the inspection we also saw that no staff had received formal supervision or appraisal since 2019. This is also an area for improvement, and while no immediate action is required, we expect the provider to take action. Staff told us that they felt very supported by the RI and that nothing was ever too much trouble for them. Newer members of staff told us they had been supported well by the RI and the staff team during the completion of their childcare qualification.

The RI implements a process of self-evaluation and improvement. They produce a quality-of-care report which is appropriate and identifies areas of strength as well as areas requiring development.

Leaders work hard to develop partnerships with parents. Parents we spoke to during the inspection told us how happy they were with the care their children receive. They told us the setting was a part of the community and like a family for their children. Parents told us they receive end of year reports on their children's time at the setting and how staff keep them up to date with how their day has been at collection time.



### 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
25	The Responsible Individual must ensure that unnecessary risks to the health and safety of children are identified and as far as possible eliminated.	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
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29	The Responsible Individual must ensure that staff receive regular supervisions and appraisals.	New
28	The Responsible Individual must ensure that all required suitability checks on staff employed have been carried out prior to their appointment at the service. The Responsible Individual must also ensure that staff are fit and healthy to work directly with children by means of a health declaration.	New

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)
Standard 7 - Opportunities for play and learning	Develop children's independence skills at meal times.
Standard 22 - Environment	Ensure the temperature of the building is monitored and recorded daily.
Standard 7 - Opportunities for play and learning	Ensure there is a system in place to observe and monitor children's development and planning for the next steps in their learning. Ensure that activity planning is formally recorded.
Standard 12 - Food and drink	Liase with Cardiff Council's Environmental Health department with regards to food preparation, storage and food hygiene rating processes.

Where we think it helpful, we may make best practice recommendations. These are to encourage settings that are doing well to become even better at helping children thrive.

Best Practice
Recommendation(s)
Ensure the use of temporary display boards so that examples of children's work and photographs of them in their play can be seen
Ensure there is process in place to record existing injuries when parents make staff aware of accidents or injuries sustained away from the setting.
Establish a system to evaluate accidents and incidents that happen at the setting to identify

any patterns.

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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