



Inspection Report

Abigail`s Day Nursery

**Avenue House
1 King Edward Avenue
Caerphilly
CF83 1HE**



Date Inspection Completed

11/08/2021

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About Abigail`s Day Nursery

Type of care provided	Children`s Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Abigail Jones
Registered places	65
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	15 January 2021
Is this a Flying Start service?	
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	This service 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, or intend to use the service.

Summary

This is a focused inspection carried out during the Covid -19 pandemic. We have therefore focused on the priority areas for this service and not the full quality framework.

Children are happy and settled at the service. They benefit from a good range of interesting and age appropriate activities that promote their play and learning. They are forming positive relationships with staff who care for them and developing friendships with their peers. Children cope well with the routines of the service and enjoy being independent and doing things for themselves.

Staff understand their responsibilities to support children's welfare and have a good knowledge of the services' procedures in relation to children's well-being. They provide responsive care and support children effectively.

The environment is suitable and meets the needs of children who attend the service. Internal spaces are bright, decorated to a good standard and provide children with sufficient space to play and learn in comfort.

People who run the service are regularly available to provide support. There are quality assurance processes in place to monitor and review the quality of care provided. Parents are highly appreciative of the service and value the support and care given by the staff team.

Well-being

Children very much enjoy their time at the service. They are able to make choices independent of staff and enjoy choosing their play activities and following their interests. Because there is an emphasis on child-led play, children are able to influence what they do most of the day. When there are adult led activities, children show enthusiasm and enjoyment in participating with other children and with staff. For example, we saw children happily join in a group singing activity. At meal times, they are confident to speak up and ask for more food and to refuse snacks they do not want. We heard children ask for more fruit and we saw that children were comfortable enough to say or show when they were full and had finished eating.

Most children are familiar and comfortable with the routines of the service. They are confident with handwashing and mealtime routines and enjoy the sociable element of eating together with other children. A few younger children were briefly unsettled, but with support and prompt care were quickly reassured. Children across all age ranges form positive attachments with staff, and babies enjoy cuddles and seek out support when they need it. Friendship groups are developing and children show an ability to share toys and consider the needs of others. We observed children sharing a garage toy, building blocks and crayons.

Children have good opportunities to play and learn with access to activities appropriate for their age and stage of development. Very young children enjoy exploring their environment, playing with small toys and observing others. Older children engage happily in pretend play, whilst others enjoy playing in small groups. They show pride in making and designing things and enjoy displaying what they have accomplished. Some children prefer quieter activities and others more active play. We saw children sitting in a reading corner quietly looking through books, others drawing and some in the home corner playing with kitchen items.

Children have regular opportunities to learn new skills and do things for themselves. Babies are encouraged to seek out toys and pick up objects. At meal times, they are encouraged to feed themselves and use their water breakers independently. They explore their environment with confidence developing their balance and co-ordination as they do so. Older children have good opportunities to develop their self-help skills during handwashing routines, and free play.

Care and Development

This is a focused inspection carried out during the Covid -19 pandemic. We have not considered this theme in full.

Staff are aware of their responsibilities to keep children safe and to provide appropriate care to children who are unwell. They understand their roles and responsibilities in relation to children's health and follow the services' policy and procedures in relation to unwell children. They are aware of action needed if a child has a high temperature and the records they are required to complete. However, these records do not fully reflect all actions staff undertake. Staff recognise the importance of children remaining hydrated and encourage them to drink regularly throughout the day. There are clear infection control procedures in place in relation to the current pandemic and staff implement safe practice in relation to hand washing and mealtime routines. In response to the pandemic, the frequency of cleaning has increased and staff have specific roles and responsibilities in this area.

Staff support children effectively and are responsive to the needs of children in their care. They use praise to promote children's self-esteem and confidence and supervise children well so that they receive the care they need. They are enthusiastic and listen to what children have to say, ensuring that they ask children what they would like to do. For example, we heard staff ask children what songs they would like to sing and ensured that they were actively involved in this activity. They plan for an interesting range of play opportunities and provide responsive and nurturing care to children that fosters a relaxed atmosphere.

Environment

This is a focused inspection carried out during the Covid -19 pandemic. We have not considered this theme in full.

The environment is suitable for children. There is a secure entry system and a CCTV system in operation. The nursery offers sufficient space for children to play and learn in comfort. Rooms are located over three floors and are light, bright and of a good standard. Rooms are cheerful with colourful wall displays and toys and resources are easily accessible to children. Furniture is of an appropriate standard and there are sufficient supplies of toys and resources. There are outdoor play spaces with recent improvements made, including outside toilet facilities and an all – weather outdoor shelter.

Leadership and Management

This is a focused inspection carried out during the Covid -19 pandemic. We have not considered this theme in full.

People who run the service do so to a good standard. The responsible person is actively involved at the nursery and maintains regular contact with the person in charge who runs the service on a day-to-day basis. They keep parents and staff informed of changes to the service. There is a statement of purpose providing parents with information about what the service has to offer. Parents can therefore make an informed decision about its suitability for their child. There is a clear medication policy explaining procedures to follow on administering of medication, together with a sickness observation record for staff to complete. We noted that the formatting of the services sickness observation record for children did not give adequate space for staff to record all actions taken. Leaders quickly revised this form and it now provides staff with sufficient space to infill what action they take.

There is a system in place to review and monitor the quality of the service. As part of this process, parents, children and staff views are considered and an annual review of quality of care report produced. There is good communication with parents. The introduction of a new family app allows staff to update parents about their child's routine regularly throughout the day. CIW phone discussions with five parents confirmed this. Parents told us that they receive regular information about their child's routine. They were highly complimentary and positive about the service, the professionalism of the staff/leaders and the wide range of play opportunities provided.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1. Staff to record all actions taken when a child is unwell.

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Achieved

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Not Achieved

None	
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Areas where priority action is required

None	
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Areas where improvement is required

None	
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Date Published 21/09/2021