



## Inspection Report

**Clwb Carco y Castell**

**Ysgol y Castell  
Crescent Road  
Caerphilly  
CF83 1WH**

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

**This report is also available in Welsh**



### **Date Inspection Completed**

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## About Clwb Carco y Castell

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Menter Iaith Sir Caerffili
Registered places	50
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	23 April 2018
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	The service provides an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language. It anticipates, identifies and meets the Welsh language needs of people /children who use the service.

## **Summary**

The setting actively supports children to make decisions about their activities, play and learning. Children settle easily into a child centred environment and are at ease and content. They have opportunities to develop a good range of independence skills by taking part in a variety of interesting and stimulating play experiences. Children form close bonds with staff and other children, making them feel safe and secure.

Staff are professional, well qualified and take their responsibilities seriously. They have a good understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. They plan for a wide variety of activities based upon children's interests. There are good systems in place to plan and monitor children's progress.

The service is based within a primary school and is welcoming and well organised. Staff follow procedures to ensure the environment is safe and suitable, completing risk assessments and daily checks. A good variety of indoor and outdoor toys, resources and experiences promote children's all round development.

The leadership and management of the service is effective. All the required information, policies and procedures are in place. Staff receive good supervision which provides opportunities for reflection and to improve their practice. Partnership working with the school, the local authority and parents is strong.

## Well-being

Children make decisions about how they spend their time and from experience know staff listen and support their choices. They take part in 'mind map' sessions to decide upon the planning for the activities based upon themes which interest them. Children's suggestions to match the topic of farm animals include playing 'piggy in the middle', drawing and colouring animals and taking part in a 'cosmic yoga' session where they imitate animal movements. They are familiar with daily routines and this provides a sense of certainty to their days. Children understand they are not expected to join in with any of the group activities and can choose to play elsewhere. Some children decided to move inside to play when others were playing in the outdoor area. Children feel confident and develop good self-esteem, showing satisfaction with the wide range of good play and learning resources available to them.

Children are happy, safe and valued. They are beginning to develop friendships in line with their age and stage of development. All children attend the school where the service is located and value the opportunity to strengthen their friendships and meet children from different classes. Children have clear bonds of affection with staff who understand their needs and provide consistent care. They are confident they can approach staff for reassurance as needed. One new child who was upset received close attention from a member of staff who stayed with the child to provide comfort and support.

Children are learning how to manage their behaviour and are developing an understanding of the feelings of others. One child who took a toy from another child was asked to apologise and to acknowledge the upset this action caused. The child received support to understand her actions, which in turn, allowed the play to continue.

Children have very good opportunities for imaginative play and enjoy sharing a range of role-play activities. A number of children enjoyed playing with their dolls and 'putting the baby to bed'. Children have regular exercise and fresh air and highly value the time they spend outdoors, engaged in active play. Messy play activities with sand, paint and water provide children with opportunities to be creative and have fun. Some children sing spontaneously, showing satisfaction within the setting.

Most children are developing independence skills appropriate to their age and ability. They wash their hands as needed and understand the routine of tidying when activities change. They wait for a pre-set timer on a computer screen and enjoy the challenge of putting all equipment away in good time. They enjoy the sense of achievement from completing these tasks.

## Care and Development

Staff follow effective systems to keep children safe and healthy. Rigorous safeguarding procedures are in place and promote the welfare of children. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities and are clear about the processes to follow to deal with any concerns. All staff receive regular safeguarding training and keep up to date with relevant information. Staff keep a record of children's existing injuries and these are regularly reviewed and signed by parents. Staff follow the regular fire drill practices arranged by the school and ensure children know how to leave the building safely. They do not organise their own fire drills. Staff record all accidents and incidents and these are signed by parents and staff. The person in charge carries out limited monitoring of these records which can provide useful information to assess if any change is needed. Staff keep good records and information relating to children's specific allergies or medical conditions. This information is clear and accessible and parents ensure the service receives all updates or changes. Medication forms record all doses and have full information before they are administered. All staff keep up to date with paediatric first aid training and are confident to deal with minor injuries.

Staff are attentive to children's needs and interact in a helpful and gentle manner with the children. They are considerate of children's individual needs and have realistic expectations of them. They are consistent in their approach and mindful of the age and stage of development of children when managing behaviour issues. Staff use soft tones to distract children who are frustrated or upset and praise children for their efforts. Staff act as positive role models and manage all interactions appropriately. Staff are careful with the feelings of children and treat them as individuals, encouraging and supporting them. They provide clear boundaries and remind them to be careful and think of the feelings of others. One child who monopolised the dolls pram was given a gentle reminder of the need to share and was happy to cooperate. Staff sit with children during snack time and activities and engage them in conversations. This develops trust and relationships and promotes children's self-confidence.

Keyworkers work with individual children and refer to 'family' groups. They are responsible for ensuring all children's information is up to date and they carry out observations to monitor their progress and development. Staff promote open discussion and value children's ideas about changing activities and resources. All information is recorded in individual books and contains examples of their work and their achievements.

## Environment

People who run the service have systems and procedures in place to ensure the environment is safe and secure. The setting is located within Ysgol Gynradd y Castell in Caerphilly and has use of temporary accommodation whilst their separate facilities are renovated and improved. Currently the wraparound and breakfast club has the use of one large room and an outdoor play area. The children share toilet facilities with the school. The after school club has the use of the school hall and outdoor yard. The environment is welcoming, accessible and well maintained. Staff complete daily safety checks to identify and eliminate any risks to children's safety. People who run the service take a register of children attending and record times of children's arrivals and departures. They ensure staff ratios are maintained at all times. There are risk assessments in place for all areas which include fire safety, Covid 19 and all children's activities. These are reviewed and updated at regular intervals by the person in charge and staff carry out daily checks. People who run the service keep records of all visitors to the setting. In addition, access to the setting is via the main school entrance and all visitors are monitored and signed in electronically. The school is responsible for all maintenance and ensures the servicing of utilities is up to date.

People who run the service ensure the environment is clean, safe and well-maintained. It is welcoming and provides light and bright areas for children to explore. There is a wide range of good quality resources and a rich environment for play and learning. Children are able to access toys easily, which supports their independence. There are sufficient furniture, toys and resources available for the size of the group of children. Resources are appropriate for the stage of development of the children and promote curiosity and discovery. The environment within the large base room is well-planned and children move around easily. There is a small office space behind a screen which provides the person in charge with oversight of the activities.

People who run the service ensure children use the outdoor space regularly. This area provides children with a good range of opportunities for active play and extends their learning and development. The layout of this area allows children to explore freely and offers suitable age appropriate challenges. Children look forward to playing in the mud kitchen, planting and digging, playing with chalkboards and role-play in the outdoor kitchen. All resources are in good condition, well maintained and conform to the relevant safety standards. This area is covered with a large canopy which encourages children to play outside when the weather is wet.

## Leadership and Management

People who run the service are motivated and experienced and have the skills to manage the service effectively. The statement of purpose provides an accurate picture of how the service runs and includes all the required information. This is updated when any changes occur. The responsible individual who has overall charge of the setting keeps in close contact and provides support to the person in charge and her team on a regular basis.

People who run the service work hard to promote safe practices. They set clear aims to meet children's needs and follow the written policies and procedures to guide their actions. The responsible individual is in the process of reviewing these documents, as some need updating. People who run the service actively support staff to provide a quality care provision to children and their families. The staff team are enthusiastic and ambitious and enjoy their work. The individuals within the team complement each other and work together well. Appropriate checks to ensure staff are suitable to work with children are carried out before they take up their post. There are enough qualified and experienced staff to make sure children are well cared for at all times.

The people who run the service ensure all staff have the skills and knowledge to provide a high quality, safe service to children. They provide regular training opportunities and one to one supervision to practitioners. This ensures all staff have opportunities to reflect on their practice and to extend their professional learning. All staff are encouraged to raise any concerns and share information within staff meetings, which promotes the sharing of good practice.

People who run the service are keen to continually improve the quality of the service and there is an action plan outlining work planned. This forms part of the annual quality of care report. They are receptive to receiving feedback and act upon issues which are brought to their attention without delay. There is a complaints procedure in place although no complaints have been received. Partnerships with parents are good and parents told us they are happy with the quality of the service and are confident to discuss any issues with staff. The school provides good support to the service and staff work in partnership with individuals as needed.

The service provides the Active Offer of the Welsh language and all staff are fluent Welsh speakers.



## **Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards**

R1. To extend the monitoring of accidents and incidents to identify possible actions for improvement

R2. To carry out fire drills separately from those carried out by the school

R3. To review all policies and procedures to include the date of completion.