



## Inspection Report

**Meithrinfa Garth Olwg**

**Gartholwg Community Campus  
Pentre r Eglwys  
Pontypridd  
CF38 1RQ**

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

**This report is also available in Welsh**



**Date Inspection Completed**

17/04/2024

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## About Meithrinfa Garth Olwg

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Mudiad Meithrin CYF
Registered places	60
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	4 April 2022
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes
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>Good</b>
<a href="#"><u>Care and Development</u></a>	<b>Good</b>
<a href="#"><u>Environment</u></a>	<b>Good</b>
<a href="#"><u>Leadership and Management</u></a>	<b>Good</b>

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

### **Summary**

Children are very happy, settled and make good progress at the nursery. They have great fun playing with their friends and have good choices and opportunities to develop a variety of skills. Children's independence is consistently encouraged throughout their time at the nursery.

Staff are professional, well qualified and enjoy their roles. They implement the setting's policies and procedures effectively. Staff are patient, kind and caring towards each other and the children. They support children's learning and development through a wide range of planned activities which are led by the children's interests and developmental needs. Staff keep good records of children's progress.

The environment is clean, welcoming, and well organised. The indoor play areas are spacious, and children have access to a large, well-equipped outdoor area. Children freely choose what they want to play with. The environment is safe and routine safety checks for the building are in place.

Leadership and management of the setting is good. The management team is strong and are passionate in providing a good service. There is a wide range of policies and procedures to support the running of the service which are reviewed regularly.

## Well-being

Good

Children have many choices and opportunities to make decisions about how they spend their time at the setting. Children of all ages express themselves confidently. They know staff listen to their needs and wants and show an interest in their play. Children's voices are strong at the setting. Their likes and dislikes are recorded and used to plan future activities which are of interest to them. For example, planning for each room is 'in the moment' and children's interests influence what is planned for and by the children.

Children are happy, settled, confident and enjoy attending the setting. Children cope well with separation from their parents/carers and have a good understanding of routines which gives them a sense of security and belonging. We heard children chat happily together about a book they were looking at, naming animals as they went through the pages. They smiled happily when they were praised by a member of staff for naming the animals correctly. They have developed strong bonds of affection with their caregivers. For example, we saw children seek out hugs from staff.

Children have developed positive, healthy relationships with their friends and staff in line with their age and stage of development. They play happily alongside each other and welcome visitors to the setting. They excitedly approached us to ask our names and what we were doing in their nursery. Children show respect for others, which is encouraged positively by staff. We heard children reminded to use their kind manners, with children saying "*diolch*" when served their lunch.

Children are motivated and engaged in their play and learning. We saw young children engaged in a block building activity. They benefit from a good variety of age-appropriate play and learning resources. Children are independent in making choices of things they wish to play with. We saw children eagerly choose activities from the selection on offer to them. We saw a small group of children engaged in a pasta sorting activity in the role play corner and another group of children printing a pink blossom tree using their fingers.

Children have good opportunities to develop their independence skills. We saw young children feed themselves, with support and encouragement when needed. Older children independently pour their own drinks from small jugs on each table at lunch time. Children learn to manage their own health and hygiene needs, for example we saw children washing and drying their hands after playing with the water tray, washing their dollies.

## Care and Development

Good

Staff implement procedures well to keep children safe and promote their development and well-being. They have a clear understanding of the safeguarding procedures and their responsibilities to keep children safe and report any concerns. Staff have easy access to children's information and have a good understanding of children's allergies, dietary requirements, and medical needs. They are confident in recording accidents and incidents and the administration of prescribed medication. However, they do not currently audit accidents and incidents to identify trends. There is currently no system for recording existing injuries. Healthy eating is prioritised, and menus evidence the provision of healthy meals and snacks provided. Children wash their hands independently before their food is served. They are encouraged to wipe their own faces and hands after eating. Staff ensure children have access to daily outdoor play experiences, offering them the benefits of physical exercise and fresh air.

Staff have a good understanding of children's needs. They treat children kindly, calmly and practise appropriate behaviour management strategies. Staff interact with children in a kind, patient, and caring way. They chat naturally with children to support their play and learning. Staff have a sound understanding of child development, and its impact on children's behaviour. We saw staff members gently and clearly reminding children to share and take turns when playing. They use lots of praise to encourage and reinforce positive behaviour. We heard a member of staff tell two children who were playing together "*chi'n rhannu, da iawn*" ("*You're sharing, well done*"). Staff act as good role models. They have good relationships and communicate well with each other. This ensures children are appropriately supervised and supported throughout the day. Staff monitor children's sleep well. They inform parents via an electronic app of the times their children have slept.

Staff have effective skills and knowledge to identify children's individual needs and plan appropriate play and learning opportunities. They regularly observe children to track their progress. This helps staff plan activities to support children's next steps in their learning and development. Systems are in place to monitor and identify any emerging needs children may present with, and staff work with outside agencies to plan how to best support children. A good variety of activities allow for children to follow their own interests, which motivates them to learn. Use of the Welsh language is strong throughout the nursery.

## Environment

Good

The premises are warm, safe and well maintained. The entrance is secure and locked doors ensure only authorised access is granted by members of staff. Staff, children and visitors sign in and out on entry and exit of the nursery, with times of arrival and departure recorded. Comprehensive risk assessments are in place for the premises and activities carried out. Staff keep children safe by completing daily safety checks. Routine safety checks and certificates for the building and appliances are in place. The setting is registered with the food safety department at the local authority. Staff practise regular fire drills with children so that they know what to do in an emergency. However, additional information is required to be added to the fire drill records.

The environment is welcoming and child friendly. It provides bright, spacious, and exciting areas for children to explore. Calming neutral décor and photographs displayed of children and their families create a cosy home from home atmosphere in each room. The main playrooms are organised well to promote all areas of children's development. A purposeful range of resources, including real life and multicultural items promote children's awareness of cultural diversity and the world around them. Wall displays include examples of children's artwork which celebrates their achievements, giving them a sense of pride and belonging. Resources in the outdoor area are of good quality and promote children's exploration. These include climbing apparatus, bikes, trikes and scooters and plenty of room for children to freely run around. Children gain an awareness of Wales and the world and cultures around them by celebrating a variety of festivals and celebrations including, Santes Dwynwen, Diwali, St David's Day and Christmas. We also saw photographs of the children enjoying their Chinese New Year celebrations where they tasted curry and sweet and sour sauces, noodles, rice and poppadom.

The setting has good quality furniture and resources to support children's independence. For example, child sized tables, chairs, low level toy storage units and coat pegs for children's belongings. There are a suitable number of children's toilets and nappy changing facilities available. These areas are clean and fresh, with liquid soap and paper towels easily accessible to children.

## Leadership and Management

Good

Leadership and management of the setting is strong. The person in charge (PIC) is relatively new to the role and has a clear vision for the future of the setting. She is well supported by the higher management team. There is a clear statement of purpose enabling parents to decide if the setting is right for their child. Detailed and regularly reviewed policies and procedures aid the running of the setting.

People who run the setting maintain an organised environment, documents are easily accessed and in good order. Staff files are thorough, and all relevant checks are carried out to ensure staff are suitable to work with children. All staff receive regular supervision and annual appraisals, which enable them to identify their strengths and areas for development. People running the setting have completed a quality of care review to help plan for improvement which considers the views of parents, children and staff.

There is a clear system in place to ensure that staff's Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are current. All staff have up to date mandatory training such as first aid and safeguarding and receive good opportunities for additional training. The staff team are enthusiastic, motivated, and told us that they enjoy their work. There are enough qualified and experienced staff to ensure children are well cared for. People who run the service have a good working relationship with the site management team. They report any issues, including building maintenance and environmental health concerns which are addressed immediately. During the inspection, we saw the maintenance team addressing an issue that had been recently reported to them by the nursery.

Staff work closely with professionals including the Flying Start advisory team and the advisory teacher for early education and the adjoining primary school. Good links have also been established within the local area. We saw examples of younger children recently visiting the local library. People who run the setting and staff have established good, positive relationships with parents. Parents told us that they receive regular feedback on their child's progress and that they are very happy with the care their children receive while at the nursery. One parent told us *"The nursery goes above and beyond for my child."* There are a range of worthwhile communication systems between the nursery and parents including regular daily verbal feedback, telephone calls and updates on their child's day, including photographs via an app that the nursery uses.



### 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
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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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

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 accidents and incidents are routinely audited to identify any patterns or trends.
Establish a system to record children's pre-existing injuries.
Ensure that fire drill records include a record of time taken to evacuate and number of children and staff present during the drills.

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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