



Inspection Report

Cylch Meithrin Dechrau'n Deg Blaenllynfi

**Blaenllynfi Building
Grosvenor Terrace
Caerau
Maesteg
CF34 0RW**



Date Inspection Completed

25/11/2021

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About Cylch Meithrin Dechrau'n Deg Blaenllynfi

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Sessional Day Care
Registered Provider	Action for Children
Registered places	19
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	28 June 2016
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	<i>This is a service that is working towards providing an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language and intends to become a bilingual service or demonstrates a significant effort to promoting the use of the Welsh language and culture.</i>

<u>Well-being</u>	Good
<u>Care and Development</u>	Adequate
<u>Environment</u>	Good
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Adequate

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

Summary

Children are settled, happy and safe at the setting. They confidently voice their needs. Children have good relationships with each other and care staff. They enjoy their play and learning environment, and are developing their skills.

Care staff meet the needs of children reasonably. They provide nurturing and caring strategies to ensure children are happy and respect their feelings. Interactions between care staff and children are consistently good. They provide varied learning experiences for children.

The environment is suitable, safe and well-maintained. Resources are well organised and accessible to children. They have a small range of Welsh language resources. Care staff effectively celebrate children's achievements within the learning environment.

People who run this setting manage a relatively organised service. They ensure staff attend training and development. People who run this setting organise care staff and follow their policies and procedures adequately in order to meet the needs of children. Partnerships with parents are good.

Children are happy, relaxed and form positive attachments with care staff. Children confidently approach staff for support and comfort. During the session, children happily have quiet chats and sing familiar songs. Children have opportunities to make decisions for themselves. For example, they choose where they sit at snack time and they independently select play resources during free-play sessions as well as state which paint colour they want to use.

Children have a good sense of belonging. Upon arrival, children confidently select their picture for self-registration and place their picture on a Christmas tree. They know their routines well; forming lines by the door to access the foyer before outdoor play as well as in preparation to wash hands. Children understand that they need to wash their hands at appropriate times. They form close bonds with care staff and happily sit close to them during activities.

Interactions between children are good. Children show respect and care towards others. For example, one child assisted a younger child during the painting/stamping activity, ensuring the child didn't wonder with paint on their hands. During outdoor play, children played happily together, they said: "*Hold my hand.*"

Children enjoy their play, and they are focused on the activities offered. Many children chose to play in the sensory tent whilst others were engrossed in a stamping activity where they stamped numbers. Children excitedly took part in singing sessions and chose to sing 'Incy Wincy Spider.'

Children are developing well and have some opportunities to become independent. They develop a range of skills and show good fine motor skills. During snack time, some children asked for more fruit, which was acted upon by care staff. Some children can use the toilet on their own and others who need support are confident to ask care staff for help.

Care and Development

Adequate

Care staff understand their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe and healthy. Nearly all care staff implement appropriate cleaning and hygiene practices. Staff make sure all children wash their hands as they arrive at the setting and before eating, however staff provide a shared basin of water for children to wash their hands. Care staff ensure they use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to prepare foods for children and during nappy changing. Care staff follow daily checks and weekly cleaning routines. They do not always sanitise surfaces before snack times. Care staff wear gloves and aprons to change children and to see to their personal needs. They mostly follow their policies to decrease the risk of cross contamination, however we did observe care staff transferring children back to the main base room still dressed in PPE used to change children. Discussions with care staff demonstrate that they understand the need for good safeguarding practices. Records of incident and accidents contain staff and parents' signatures.

Care staff understand the behaviour policy and implement behaviour management strategies when needed. They intervene appropriately and calmly when there is a situation where children want the same resources, *"Do you think we could have sharing hands please?"* Care staff manage interactions positively. They praise children for naming colours correctly, telling them *"Da iawn ti! Clever girl you are."* Care staff demonstrated warmth towards children. They provided a warm welcome to children as they arrived, which made the children immediately feel at ease. Care staff are attentive at all times and comforted children when they fell whilst playing outdoors. Staff listen to children's views by responding to requests to sing particular songs. Care staff provide children with choice during snack time, however do not actively promote their independence as everything is handed out and distributed by the staff. Following free play activities, care staff do not actively encourage children to tidy resources.

Care staff know the children well, and respond to them in a sensitive way. They know that some children do not like washing their hands upon arrival and respected this by providing 'magic soap' (antibacterial hand gel) as an alternative. Staff meet individual needs and assess children's abilities regularly, through planning, observations and by identifying the next steps of children's learning. Care staff complete personal profiles for all children. Care staff encourage children to identify numbers, colours and shapes in Welsh, promote children's Welsh language development through incidental Welsh, and praise them in Welsh during activity time. During a painting activity, care staff encouraged some children to wear an apron and wash their hands following the activity. However, during the afternoon session, care staff did not actively promote this. Care staff manage to engage children's interest well whilst taking part in various activities. For example, staff encouraged children to name and form 2d shapes during the tuff spot tray activity, *"Who can make a circle, or what about a triangle?"*

Environment**Good**

People who run this setting ensure the environment is safe, secure and well-maintained. For example they keep the entrance securely locked, and keep records of visitors. People who run the setting conduct robust risk assessments and implement daily checks and cleaning routines. Maintenance and fire checks are up to date. During the inspection visit, we did not see evidence of fire drills, however following the visit, we were forwarded records showing fire drills are practised satisfactorily.

The indoor play area is welcoming, light and relatively spacious. There are colourful displays of children's achievements, to celebrate their crafts and painting work. Care staff respect the privacy and dignity of children, and toileting facilities are available outside the designated play environment, where children are able to develop their independence, whilst being supervised by care staff. There is a designated quiet area available for children who need to rest.

Some resources are labelled and accessible for children with a choice of toys and resources enhancing their play and learning. People who run this setting provide resources for children's creativity, language, mathematical development and imaginative play. The outdoor area is secured by metal fencing and provides a good learning space for children, including ride on toys and a sheltered seating area. During the inspection visit, children accessed a range of resources outdoors including a plastic caterpillar play tunnel, wheel barrows, ride on toys, hula hoops as well as the mud kitchen. There was no cover placed on the bowls of the mud kitchen, which contained soil and water. We discussed the safety surrounding this. Care staff informed us that the outdoor area will be further developed in the New Year. People who run the setting provide tables and chairs for children and care staff sit together and socialise during snack times.

Leadership and Management

Adequate

People running this setting have made adaptations to their service to ensure compliance with Covid-19 regulations and protective measures guidance. They have recently reviewed all policies and procedures. The statement of purpose was updated during the inspection and is in line with regulation, however is missing arrangements on dealing with an emergency to be fully in line with national minimum standards. Ratios of staff to children are correct in order to meet the needs of children. They organise care staff effectively to ensure they know their roles and responsibilities. There are attendance records of children and care staff present on each day. We viewed staff files and found one file was missing a job description. Children's records were mostly in place, however not all emergency medical permission forms had been signed by parents. People who run this setting have a good understanding of their responsibilities to protect children.

People running the setting regularly review the quality of care in the service and the report informs service users of positive changes made. They seek feedback from parents, children and staff, and include their views in future planning and targets for the service.

People who run the setting follow good recruitment processes and ensure suitability checks including Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are in place for all staff. However, they did not ensure that CIW held the most recent information on staffing and leaders. This was rectified during the course of the inspection. Leaders ensure that safety procedures and details of staff members are on display in the foyer. However, this needed updating and did not reflect current practice at the setting. People running the setting ensure all staff have timely inductions, supervisions and appraisals, highlighting areas for professional development. Care staff are well-qualified and nearly all have updated mandatory training, such as first aid and child protection. New staff members are awaiting to attend training, as there is a delay due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Care staff told us they feel fully supported and have good opportunities for professional development.

Partnerships with parents are good. Parents informed us that their children's needs are fully met and their children thrive during their time at the service. Parents feel well-informed about changes to policies and procedures and feel that care staff are very approachable and accommodating about children's personal needs. Feedback from parents included, *"He's so happy to go. It's pleasing for me. He runs straight in and gets a high five"* as well as, *"very supportive and lovely bunch of ladies."*

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1: The statement of purpose is updated to include arrangements in an emergency

R2: All staff files include job descriptions

R3: Leaders ensure all parents sign the emergency medical treatment permission forms

R4: Documentation displayed in the foyer in relation to staffing and procedures is updated to reflect current practice

R5: Hygiene practices are improved

R6: Care staff promote the use of an apron for children's messy activities

R7: Care staff further promote independence during snack time

R8: Care staff ensure toys are tidied in a timely manner, ensuring risks are minimal

R9: A cover is used for the basins in the mud kitchen outdoors

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	
31	During the inspection visit, we found the named person in charge for the service no longer worked at the setting. There was a person in charge present at the setting, however was not a named service person on the service record. There was also a new staff member present. The provider had failed to notify Care Inspectorate Wales of this change,	Achieved
38	During the inspection visit, we asked to view fire drill records. The person in charge informed us that she had not carried out any fire drills since September and there were no records available to view for the period between September 2021 and November 2021. Following the inspection visit, we were sent records of fire drills. Fire drills had been carried out in March 2021, June 2021 and November 2021.	Achieved
15	Whilst planning for the inspection visit, the most recent statement of purpose for the service did not reflect the service offered, The service persons were not correct along with the opening hours and the following information was also missing: name, address and contact number, arrangements for dealing with an emergency and arrangements to review the SOP and inform CIW of changes.	Achieved

Ratings	What the ratings mean
Excellent	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.
Good	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.
Adequate	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.
Poor	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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