



Inspection Report

Mini Me Private Day Nursery

**Ground Floor Fair Oak House
Bishop Street
Newport
NP19 7EJ**



Date Inspection Completed

08/10/2021

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About Mini Me Private Day Nursery

Type of care provided	Childrens Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Mini Me Private Day Nursery Ltd
Registered places	66
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	17 July 2017
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	This is a service that does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh Language. It does not anticipate, identify or meet the Welsh language needs of children who use, or intend to use the service.

Summary

This is an inspection undertaken during the Covid 19 pandemic; therefore, we have focused on the priority areas for this setting and not the full quality framework.

Children are happy and have fun at the setting. They enjoy playing with their friends and form close relationships with staff. Children have lots of choice and are becoming independent. They feel safe and have opportunities to develop different skills.

Staff keep children safe and healthy. They are friendly, work well together and provide warm, nurturing care. Staff are experienced and plan suitable activities that interest children. Staff know the children well and work in close partnership with parents to plan for children's individual needs. There are useful systems in place for monitoring children's progress.

People who run the setting provide a suitable environment for children's play and learning indoors and out. The environment is safe, spacious and generally well maintained. An appropriate range of toys, resources and equipment promote children's learning and development.

People who run the setting have a good understanding of the National Minimum Standards and Regulations. They offer staff support in their roles and are committed to improving practices for children's benefit. Parents we spoke to were very complimentary of the care their children receive.

Well-being

Children are encouraged to speak and express themselves. They make choices and decisions; this makes them feel valued and enhances their self-esteem. Children have many opportunities to direct their own play and are involved in activity planning. We saw a lovely singing session where children took turns to choose their favourite songs to sing. They all joined in enthusiastically with the words and actions. Children decide where they want to sit to have their lunch and staff respect their choices.

Children settle well. Those who we saw to be a little apprehensive about separating from their parents have lots of cuddles and reassurance from staff. Children are beginning to form friendships, in line with their age and stage of development. They play happily together or alongside each other. We saw children enjoy some quiet time alone, leafing through books in the book corner, and groups of children using their imaginations whilst playing with action figures. Children are familiar with the setting routines, which makes them feel safe and secure. They line up calmly to wash their hands before lunch, and enjoy a sociable lunchtime chatting happily with their friends and staff.

Children enjoy their play and concentrate on activities for an appropriate amount of time. They share toys and play well together. We saw children sharing coloured stampers to create colourful pictures. One child let out a gleeful cheer as he recognised the colour green. Children are kind and thoughtful towards their friends. When one child became upset, another child gently rubbed their back to comfort them.

Children are developing well. Activities provided promote their all-around learning. We saw children and a staff member playing tag outdoors in the fresh air, smiling and laughing as they dodged their friends. Children learn self-help skills, which helps prepare them for attending school. They wash their hands independently, and tidy away their plates and cutlery after lunch. However, there were missed opportunities to develop children's independence further at lunchtime, as a staff member poured children their drinks.

Care and Development

Staff have good knowledge of how to keep children safe and well. They successfully implement policies and procedures to help keep everyone safe during the Covid 19 pandemic. This includes increased hand washing, more frequent cleaning and only allowing essential visitors into the building. There are clear systems in place to manage children's food allergies and individual dietary requirements. Staff know how to raise safeguarding concerns to keep children safe. They speak confidently about these procedures and know that leaders will respond to any concerns raised. Most staff have current training in child protection, with new staff due to complete training in the near future. Regular fire drill practices ensure that staff and children are aware of how to evacuate the premises safely. A system to check on sleeping babies is in place, we observed this in operation during the inspection. Since the last inspection, the setting have employed a cook who prepares a variety of healthy meals and children have squash or water to drink. Welsh Government food and nutrition best practice guidance recommends only water or milk for children to drink. We discussed this with the responsible individual during feedback and she told us, they are actively trying to promote a water or milk only policy.

Staff care for children in a kind and patient way. They have a sound understanding of child development, and its impact on children's behaviour. There is a suitable positive behaviour management policy in place. Although, the policy is not up to date as the designated staff member to take the lead on behaviour management no longer works at the setting. Staff implement the policy well, using lots of positive language and praise, which enhances children's well-being. They offer simple, clear explanations and encourage children to wait for their turn during group activities. Staff act as good role models at all times, interacting considerately with each other and the children.

Staff know children well. They plan an appropriate range of activities that appeal to children's interests. Staff evaluate activities daily and include children's opinions in their evaluations. There are systems in place to monitor and record children's progress and development. Staff carry out regular observations of children's play and use these to plan children's next steps in learning. We heard staff and children using lots of incidental Welsh language throughout the setting.

Environment

The environment is safe and secure and provides ample space for children to play and learn. There are satisfactory risk assessments in place for all areas of the setting. Risk assessments and daily cleaning rotas clearly displayed on staff information boards in all base rooms act as a visual reminder for staff to complete. Routine maintenance checks for the building and appliances are undertaken. Registers for children and staff caring for them are complete. Staff ensure only authorised entry to the setting and keep a log of any visitors.

The environment is clean and generally well maintained. We noted a ceiling tile in one of the base rooms in need of repair and two missing toilet seats in the children's bathroom. The person in charge told us that these are on order. The setting entrance is welcoming with a lovely display of multicultural greetings, and the communal corridor attractively decorated with hand painted illustrations. Staff display children's photographs around the setting, which gives children a strong sense of belonging. Attractive bilingual displays of children's work celebrates their achievements and promotes the Welsh language. A separate ball pit/soft play room and wet/messy play room provide further opportunities to promote children's physical and sensory development. Some resource boxes have labels, which helps support children's independence, as they know where to access toys. The outdoor play area is safe and secure and offers a sufficient range of play opportunities, including wooden playhouse, wooden climbing equipment/slide, ride on toys and a mud kitchen. However, there were very few accessories such as pots, plates, bowls, utensils and mud to enhance children's play in the mud kitchen. We saw limited welsh and multicultural resources to promote children's cultural awareness and equal opportunities.

Regular cleaning of toys and equipment is undertaken, which is especially important during the current pandemic. The setting has suitable furniture and resources to support children's independence. For example, storage units at child height, child sized table, chairs, and individual coat pegs for their belongings. There are a suitable number of children's toilets and nappy changing facilities available. A recently installed separate hand washbasin for use after nappy changes helps prevent cross contamination. The children's bathroom is equipped with easily accessible liquid soap and a hand dryer.

Leadership and Management

Required policies and procedures are in place and most contain relevant information. The missing/lost child policy did not include details about referring incidents to the local safeguarding board. There is a clear statement of purpose providing parents with an accurate picture about how the setting runs. The person in charge is new to the role, but is experienced, motivated and has a clear vision. Most recommendations from the previous inspection have been actioned, with the pandemic and temporary closure of the setting hampering progress in some areas, particularly general maintenance jobs.

People who run the setting carry out relevant checks to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children. Staff receive regular individual supervision meetings providing them with time to reflect on their strengths and discuss any training needs. Most staff have up to date mandatory training such as First aid. There are enough qualified and experienced staff to make sure children are well cared for, at all times.

People who run the setting plan appropriately for improvement. There are systems in place to monitor the quality of care provided. A quality of care report is completed. The report identifies strengths and areas for improvement. There is a complaints policy in place. However, the policy does not contain regulatory information on how a complaint handled by an outside agency, will be dealt with, or information on how older children can raise a complaint.

Staff share information daily with parents. Parents of younger children receive a written record of their child's day and parents of older children receive verbal feedback at the end of their child's session. Parents we spoke to said that they were extremely happy with the setting, stating how supportive the setting have been in addressing their children's individual needs.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1. Develop children's independence further, allowing them to pour their own drinks at lunchtime.

R2. Continue to promote only water or milk to drink, in line with Welsh Government's food and nutrition for childcare settings, best practice guidance.

R3. Repair ceiling tile and replace toilet seats.

R4. Provide resources to promote children's cultural awareness and equal opportunities, and resources to enhance children's play in the mud kitchen.

R5. Update the behaviour management, missing/lost child and complaints policies.

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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