



Inspection Report

Kate's Day Nursery

**115 Mold Road
Mynydd Isa
Mold
CH7 6TG**



Date Inspection Completed

12/04/2022

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About Kate's Day Nursery

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered places	37
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	No. 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 people /children who use, or intend to use their service.

Summary

This was a focused inspection undertaken to follow up priority action notices. We have therefore focused on the priority areas for this setting and not the full quality framework.

Children are happy and settled at the setting. They have close relationships with each other and staff, which helps them to feel safe and valued. Children can make choices about how they spend their time, are curious learners and confidently explore the environment. Their independence skills are developing as they take part in a variety of experiences.

Staff are professional, knowledgeable, and appropriately qualified. They enjoy their work and are a good team. They are kind, caring and interact well with children across the age range. They plan interesting activities, which allow children to follow their interests.

The premises are secure and safe. There are suitable risk assessments in place. The environment is welcoming and well organised for the different age groups. All health and safety concerns highlighted at the previous inspection, were put right immediately.

People, who run the setting do so effectively and are recovering well, following on from the impact of a pandemic. All staff are subject to a robust recruitment, a timely induction, regular supervision and an annual appraisal process.

Well-being

Children of all ages are confident to make decisions and choices in their own way, which in turn influences how they spend their time. Children feel comfortable and secure. They know they will have help or support if they ask for it or indicate what they want using body language and signing. They are encouraged to voice their preferences, which makes them feel comfortable and secure. For example, the children were pleased they had been listened to when staff introduced cupcake cases into their sand tray when they were talking about making cakes with the sand.

Children feel confident and develop good self-esteem. They take part in activities, dance independently to show others what they can do, chat amongst themselves and laugh. They are happy with the range of play and learning resources available to them and confident to follow their own interests. All children are valued and feel a sense of belonging. They are all included in circle time as children and staff are using Makaton signs during welcome songs.

Children interact positively with each other for their ages and stages of development. They learn to share space and resources and are kind and thoughtful towards their friends. They were keen to sit quietly with their friends in the reading den, sharing books and telling each other stories of their own. A wide variety of resources are available which ensures they can follow through their own ideas and not have to wait for a turn or share items such as scissors, pens and utensils for sand play. They only have to ask for additional resources such as polystyrene eggs to paint, consequently their behaviour is very good.

Children enjoy their play and concentrate on activities for an appropriate amount of time according to their age and stage of development. They are encouraged to explore numbers, for example, pre-school children count the spots on dominoes and respond enthusiastically when asked to add them together. Toddlers enjoy talking about size, shape and capacity when playing in the sand and investigating how magnets work. They practise their mark making skills, are creative and play imaginatively with a variety of dressing up outfits. Children particularly enjoy creating their own ideas with loose parts and junk materials where they confidently use scissors and glue to tape materials together.

Children have suitable opportunities to be independent. Many children in the pre-school access the toilet facilities and wash their hands independently. They can all access resources with ease from baskets and storage units and understand the routine of tidying when activities change. Some children use scissors independently and pour their own drinks. Most children are encouraged to eat independently with staff offering support where needed to the babies. Many older children are self-assured and ask questions, and confidently engage with adults, including visitors.

Care and Development

Generally, staff understand how to keep children safe and healthy and more consistently follow policies and procedures in place to ensure this happens. A staff matrix forwarded to Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) confirmed staff have all undergone suitability checks and are appropriately qualified and up to date with mandatory training. Staff understand the importance of practising regular fire drills and complete an evaluation of the procedure at least monthly. Smoke alarms undergo regular testing to ensure they are in working order. Nearly all staff have now completed First Aid and Safeguarding training as restrictions previously in place for face-to-face training have been removed. Nearly all staff ensure children frequently wash their hands and are themselves careful to sanitise their hands often. Food and snacks provided are healthy and nutritious.

Staff interactions with children are kind and caring. They are consistent in their approach and mindful of children's age and stage of development when managing behaviour. Staff supervised and supported a child to climb onto a windowsill. This was because the child wanted to watch the birds and cars passing by. As this was an activity, the child clearly enjoyed; the benefits of this activity outweighed the risks. Additional training is available for those working closely with children with additional needs, and communication using Makaton sign language is positively affecting the well-being of children. Staff provide comfort for children who are unsettled, and children readily approach staff for attention and affection when needed. Staff act as positive role models to children and clearly enjoy their work.

Staff support children's learning and development effectively using a variety of approaches. They provide consistent care and promote children's learning by tracking their progress and planning activities to meet specific outcomes. Some staff are aware of 'In the moment planning' as it is being discussed in readiness for the introduction of the new curriculum in Wales. Staff are suitably qualified and experienced to adapt as required. They spoke of how their team were exploring ways to implement the new curriculum. The use of Welsh as a second language is very good. Children confidently sing songs and respond to simple questions asked in Welsh. Many children know the Welsh names for colours, shapes and numbers up to ten. Staff use correct pronunciation and are confident in the use of Welsh as a second language.

Staff promote children's independence really well. At lunchtime, children use china plates and real knives and forks to feed themselves. Whilst in the baby room staff promote independence by encouraging movement, crawling and standing when appropriate to do so. Babies can stand up with the support of large wooden reels placed conveniently to allow them to join in with activities on table tops, and use wooden slides and large foam shapes to promote physical play to develop their crawling and climbing.

Environment

The environment is safe and secure. Those who run the setting are now fully aware of their responsibilities to identify and minimise risks. They have implemented further risk assessments for each room in addition to those available for the entire premises. Children are supervised well at meal times; however, the recommended use of five point harnesses instead of three point harnesses supplied with the highchairs in use was raised with staff in the baby room. Those who run the setting take prompt action to address issues when raised and have good intentions to be more proactive in the future. The staff room is tidy and organised. An electrical appliance considered unsafe was removed soon after the previous inspection visit. Fire drill records are now available; the most recent drills completed on 4th March 2022 were recorded and had been evaluated.

Landscaping work was being carried out in some areas of the outdoor play space. The areas currently being used by children were tidy and provided a suitable provision. Further work is scheduled to take place when convenient during nursery hours and outside of its hours of operation.

Overall, the environment provides a welcoming, child friendly space. Resources are of good quality and large quantities of craft resources, loose parts and utensils for sand and water play for example, have been recycled or purchased. Many resources and storage units are made from natural materials. The setting has suitable sized furniture and resources to support children's independence. Rooms are decorated with soft colour paints, hessian backings on display boards and natural and soft material drapes over sleep coracles for example. Sensory areas have been created with bubble lamps, cushions and baskets of natural, textured and smooth items of interest to provide a rich environment for curious young babies.

Leadership and Management

People who run the setting are experienced and strive to provide good quality care. They are driven to achieve this in many ways but faced difficult times during the recent pandemic. The registered person and persons in charge/managers provide good support to the staff team and delegate tasks effectively to appeal to individual strengths. The use and promotion of Makaton and a change in the way in which staff plan activities is impacting on the children positively in the toddler and pre-school rooms. Staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe and happy and are more confident to raise any concerns during staff meetings. Post pandemic staff are more enthusiastic and keen to be involved. Their ideas about the new garden areas have been listened to.

People who run the setting now offer regular supervision meetings and staff meetings. Annual appraisals are conducted for all staff. New staff have been received full inductions and the required suitability checks for additional support staff were immediately completed after our previous visit. All staff have caught up with their training needs following the restrictions put in place for face-to-face training during the pandemic.

People who run the setting continue to successfully monitor the quality of care at this setting. Staff spoken to were very supportive of their management team and enjoyed working at the setting. Partnerships with parents are good and staff look forward to being able to invite parents and carers back into their rooms to see the changes made.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1 Staff across the nursery be consistent in promoting hand washing before snacks and meals

R2 to ensure children are secure and safe, people running the setting should consider replacing three point harnesses with five point harnesses in high chairs

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
9	The registered person has not provided day care in line with the regulations. Children and staff were at risk of harm as an electrical item which was considered by the registered person to be unsafe was being used. Ensure hazards are removed and people are safe when at the nursery. The staff room was cluttered and posed a fire risk. Ensure all areas of the nursery are free from hazards. Insufficient precautions were in place to minimise risks to children and staff in the event of a fire. Ensure fire drills and smoke alarm tests are completed regularly so as people are aware of the procedures to follow, and smoke alarms systems are in working order. A newly appointed staff member did not have a disclosure and barring service (DBS) certificate and a staff file to evidence their suitability to work with children, and CIW were not informed of staff changes at the	Achieved

	<p>nursery. Ensure satisfactory information is received to evidence the suitability of new staff, and ensure CIW are told of anyone starting or leaving employment at the nursery. Not all new staff had an induction and an opportunity to discuss their roles and responsibilities in supervision and appraisal meetings. Ensure all new staff are inducted satisfactorily, and they have opportunities to familiarise themselves with how the nursery operates. There should be systems are in place to routinely offer advice, support and guidance to staff and to review their training needs.</p>	
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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 inspection	N/A

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