



Inspection Report

Chwarae Da After School Club

**Ysgol Cefnlllys
Cefnlllys Lane
Llandrindod Wells
LD1 5WA**



Date Inspection Completed

07/09/2021

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About Chwarae Da After School Club

Type of care provided	Childrens Day Care Out of School Care
Registered Provider	Powys County Council Child Care and Play Services
Registered places	16
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	29 March 2018
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 people /children who use, or intend to use their service.'

Summary

Children are happy and comfortable at the setting. They have positive bonds of affection with care staff and form strong friendships with their peers. Children make choices and are encouraged to express themselves. They are active and curious learners and engage in play-based activities.

The setting's policies and procedures are in place to safeguard and promote children's well-being. Play staff provide a nurturing and caring environment. They understand and meet the individual needs and abilities of all children, treating all children with dignity and respect.

Children are cared for in a safe, clean and secure environment. Unnecessary risks to children have been identified and as far as possible eliminated. There is a balance between the need to promote children's safety and protect them from harm, and the need to support children to take risks. Children have access to furniture, equipment, toys and materials that are appropriate and suitable for their needs. Resources are of a suitable design and condition and well maintained.

The people who run the setting have a clear statement of purpose, which describes the vision for the setting well. They set high expectations and actively support and challenge everyone to do their best. The people who run the setting follow safe and thorough recruitment processes to ensure there are sufficient qualified and experienced care staff for the range of children cared for.

Well-being

Children make confident decisions about where they want to play and choose resources independently or with suitable support from care staff. They communicate their needs effectively. We heard children asking to go to the toilet, to play with scooters and asking for help to open their food packet. Children are content and settle quickly on arrival as care staff welcome them. They have close emotional bonds with familiar adults that help them feel secure and relaxed. Nearly all children are happy to play alongside each other in line with their stage of development and individual needs.

Children behave well in line with their age and stage of development. They are beginning to develop important social skills such as taking turns and sharing with their friends. For example, a few children took turns and played alongside each other on the scooters. They show respect for resources and a few children are beginning to help tidy up between activities when asked, *“Shall we tidy up before we go outside?”*

The majority of children show interest in the activities on offer. They concentrate for an appropriate amount of time when they are interested in the activity. For example, children enjoyed completing a craft activity with boxes. Children enjoy playing in the mud kitchen making treats for staff and other children.

Many children are progressing in the development of their personal and social skills. For example, a majority of children retrieve their lunchboxes independently and put on their coats before going outside. Children laughed frequently throughout the inspection as they enjoyed their play. Snack time was a sociable event and the children chose to eat outside. They were happy to chat with the staff.

Care and Development

Care staff know the children and their individual needs well. We saw children being encouraged to freely choose what to play with and options given which the care knew they enjoyed. Care staff ensure that they monitor and supervise children appropriately.

Care staff have sound arrangements and training in place for safeguarding children. The safeguarding policy clearly sets out the procedure to follow when care staff identify a safeguarding concern.

Care staff ensure that children eat their healthy snacks and follow suitable hygiene procedures and practices, such as ensuring that children wash their hands before they eat. They ensure that children drink sufficient water throughout the session. Care staff wipe down the surfaces with antibacterial wipes before snack time. They follow the behaviour management policy consistently, setting realistic and clear boundaries for children. Care staff are skilled at promoting good behaviour and co-operation. They give children lots of praise and encouragement. *"That's really nice playing. Well done."* Care staff offer gentle reminders to encourage children to share and take turns, and as a result children's behaviour is good. Recent changes have been made to handovers at the end of each session to make sure all important information is shared with the parents.

Although care staff follow the schedule of the day, they also recognise opportunities for children to learn by following their own interests. For example, allowing plenty of time for a child who thoroughly enjoyed playing alone to do so in their favourite part of the grounds. We heard both Welsh and English words used during the visit.

Environment

The people who run the setting ensure that children are cared for in a secure and clean indoor and outdoor environment. There is a bell and locked gate system for managing access to the premises and a record of visitors. Visitors cannot gain access to any part of the setting unless admitted by care staff. The premises is well maintained and there are displays of children's work in some areas of the premises. The people who run the setting complete the required safety checks for the building. They complete effective risk assessments and carry out daily safety checks of the environment appropriately.

The people who run the setting ensure the premises and any outside play areas are welcoming, friendly and provide a good environment for play and learning. There is ample space and facilities available to meet the needs of children. The outdoor space offers good facilities and interesting challenges such as bikes and trikes; mud kitchen and a vast range of play equipment. The design of the environment ensures that all children access all areas with ease.

Care staff provide children with a worthwhile range of clean, age appropriate resources that are well-maintained and stored where children can reach them easily. Furniture is age-appropriate, promotes independence and ensures that children are comfortable and safe when playing. However, resources to promote cultural awareness and diversity are limited. Care staff practise effective hygiene procedures consistently, for example, they wipe down tables before the children have food. Care staff position themselves effectively throughout the setting and monitor the children's safety well.

Leadership and Management

The people who run the setting have a clear vision to support children who access the service. They ensure that there is a range of suitable policies to support the organisation of the setting and review these on a regular basis. We viewed a sample of care staff files and they were in line with regulatory requirements, however, they could be better organised. People who run the setting carry out regular supervision and annual appraisals. Care staff confirm that they have opportunities to discuss and reflect on the quality of their work. There are clear procedures to manage accidents, administer medication and first aid and care staff keep and maintain appropriate records. We saw care staff dealing with an accident appropriately and in line with their policy. They have relevant first aid and food hygiene qualifications and have attended infection control, health, and safety training. A range of risk assessments, including daily checks and fire safety contribute to maintaining a safe service.

The people who run the setting make appropriate use of care staff and resources to support children's wellbeing, individual needs, and play and learning appropriately. They make sure that the setting meets the required numbers of suitably qualified care staff. The people who run the setting work effectively with care staff to provide a caring environment for children. There is a strong commitment to teamwork and care staff spoken to state that they feel valued. Care staff are keen to take advantage of opportunities for continued professional development. Some of the care staff know the children as they also work with them at the local primary school during term time. Leaders are currently completing the Quality of Care Review.

The people who run the setting provide suitable support and guidance for parents and carers through regular daily feedback to ensure that care staff keep parents and carers well informed about their child's progress, this has been tweaked recently to ensure handovers are thorough. The people who run the service work with parents to identify the individual needs and preferences of their children and work with the parents to improve their children's well-being and learning. There are contracts in place between the setting and the parents, which includes permission to administer emergency medical treatment.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1 Invest in resources that promote diversity and a cultural awareness

R2 to complete the Quality Care Review

R3 to structure the staff files to make it easier to decipher the information

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Achieved

Regulation 31. New members of staff. Staff left. No notifications. RI says that she has informed us but has no evidence to prove. All e-mails received during inspection she come through correctly - not an issue.

Staff files not complete

Security - lock on the gate but it was not locked at all during the day.

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Not Achieved

None

Areas where priority action is required

None

Areas where improvement is required

None

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