



Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales

Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 Child Minding and Day Care (Inspection and Information for Local Authorities) (Wales) Regulations 2010 The Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010

Inspection Report

Brookfield Day Nursery

Garthmyl
Montgomery
SY15 6RS

Type of Inspection – Baseline
Date(s) of inspection – 16 January 2015
Date of publication – 9 February 2015

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Summary

About the service

Brookfield Day Nursery is nestled in the Montgomeryshire countryside. It is an idyllic rural setting which affords exceptional outside play facilities. It is registered to provide care and pre-school activities for up to 49 children aged between 3 months and 8 years of age. The Registered Person is Mary Langford Archer. The persons in charge are Honi Trow and Catherine Adele Jones.

What type of inspection was carried out?

This was a scheduled unannounced baseline inspection that looked at the four themes of quality of life, quality of staffing, quality of leadership and management and quality of environment. The visit was undertaken on the 16 January 2015.

The following methodologies were also used:

- Analysis of the Statement of Purpose.
- Observation of care practices. Direct observation of the children using the service, including interaction between staff and children.
- Examination of the policies and procedures.
- Sample of children's records.

Observation of 2 children using the Short Observational Framework for Inspection (SOFI) tool. The SOFI tool enables inspectors to observe and record life from a service user's/child's perspective; how they spend their time, activities, interactions with others and the type of support received.

What does the service do well?

Good use is made of the outdoor provision, it is clear that play outside forms an integral part of this service.

Communication is positive and encouraging and children are listened to.

The setting operates in an organised and well managed manner.

What has improved since the last inspection?

Quality of care report had been completed.

What needs to be done to improve the service?

We found no areas of non-compliance with the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010.

Quality of life

Overall, we (CSSIW) found that the nursery placed the needs of the children at the centre of the service. We found that the staff were both respectful and genuinely warm in their care of the children. Children benefitted from sufficient space, equipment and resources across all age ranges. Staff were deployed to support children's play and learning. Feeding and nappy changing takes place in accordance with the child's individual needs and not as part of the nursery routine.

Children are positively engaged with activities that are suited to their age and stage of development. This is because we saw children participating in stimulating activities. We observed children in the toddler room participating in free play. We noted that staff allowed children to take the lead in their play and that children were respected when they wanted to change activity. Those who were particularly enjoying the activity were supported to remain there for an extended period.

Meal times were a relaxed social occasion with the staff seated with the children who ate in small groups in their designated dining areas. Staff were seen to fully engage with the children, encouraging the older ones to feed themselves and feeding the younger ones in an unrushed manner. The nursery employs a cook who supplies nutritious healthy meals.

Parents are able to exercise choice and control over how their child is physically cared for because they are encouraged to express their views to the managers and staff. From information supplied, observation at the inspection, and feedback from parents, the nursery works in partnership with parents and keeps them informed about all aspects of their child's care.

The younger children have a 'Home/Nursery diary', which is completed regularly by staff and shared with parents; keeping them informed about all aspects of their child's care; this includes information on activities/meals/nappy/ and sleep. The Nursery has an open door policy and each child has a key worker. It was confirmed that parents had ample opportunities to discuss their child's needs with them if they wished to do so. Children's needs, such as likes, dislikes, comforters and routines were recorded on their individual registration forms. This information was observed, during the inspection, as being used to support care and as such parents can be confident that their children receive care from staff who understand individual needs and preferences. The staff demonstrated that they know the children well.

Quality of staffing

We found that the children are being cared for by a team of competent and enthusiastic staff who strive to provide a safe learning environment for the children in their care. The turnover of staff is low.

Children have their individual needs recognised and catered for because staff had obtained relevant information prior to the start of the placement and their development was regularly monitored. In discussion with staff, they were able to demonstrate how well they knew the children and their families.

We found the care giving to be relaxed and unhurried because there were sufficient staff caring for the children and they were all involved and engaged with the children at all times. They sat at the children's level, chatting to them in a nurturing and relaxed manner. The atmosphere was pleasant and welcoming and the staff led by example as they encouraged politeness, respect and consideration amongst the children.

Children's self esteem is promoted because a positive approach to managing behaviour is used, involving praise and encouragement. Children's behaviour was managed in a positive manner. We saw staff praising the children as they completed a task or helped to tidy up. We found the children to be confident and at ease with the staff.

From looking through staff files it was evident that in the main all the required information is held. Parents can be confident that the children are supported by staff who are skilled through appropriate training and support. It was evident from reviewing staff files that regular staff supervision meetings are held. A training matrix is kept in the office and all staff receive regular appropriate training.

Quality of leadership and management

We found that the setting operates in an organised and well managed manner and that there are effective administrative and management systems in place.

Parents have all the information they need to make an informed choice about using the service because they confirmed this in the pre inspection questionnaires and also in the setting's quality of care review. We found that the statement of purpose was clear and informative and that additional information was available at the setting including the policy file, reports, certificates and general child care information. All policies and procedures had been reviewed.

We found that parents can be confident that the provision is well run and planned because the setting's record keeping and regulatory records were maintained to a high standard. Records were clear, kept up to date and stored securely. A sample of the following records were viewed at this visit :-

- Registers
- Child registration forms and contracts
- Activity planning.

The setting had valid public liability insurance and the certificate was displayed on the premises.

Parents can be confident their children are safe because the provision is well run, with due care and attention to minimum standards and regulations because the registered person updates documents regularly; monitors the provision of care and keeps CSSIW notified of changes and significant events.

Parents can be assured that any safeguarding issues raised are dealt with appropriately because we found that the setting had a policy in place and that all staff had undertaken relevant training.

Quality of environment

Children find the nursery uplifting this is because the nursery is well equipped and the equipment is in good condition. Activities and toys are easily accessible and children were observed to have free access to them. There was a pleasant atmosphere within the nursery, it is brightly decorated and welcoming to parents and is child friendly. There are displays boards in each room and children's art work is displayed on the boards.

We did not observe the children accessing the outdoor play area during our visit but we were informed that it is used daily. There is immediate access to dedicated play spaces for each of the groups. The resources outside are of a high standard and it is reported that the children love being out there.

Parents can be reassured that their children are kept safe because the premises are secure. We found that there was a system in place for managing access to the premises as the main door was kept locked and identification was requested from visitors. A record of visitors was maintained by the setting. We saw that staff demonstrated a good awareness of safety issues at the end of the session.

We found that the premises are safe and well maintained because risk assessments had been undertaken and were regularly reviewed. Fire drills were practised and we saw evidence of fire and electrical equipment testing. Parents did not raise any health and safety concerns in the pre inspection questionnaires.

How we inspect and report on services We conduct two types of inspection; baseline and focussed. Both consider the experience of people using services.

- **Baseline inspections** assess whether the registration of a service is justified and whether the conditions of registration are appropriate. For most services, we carry out these inspections every three years. Exceptions are registered child minders, out of school care, sessional care, crèches and open access provision, which are every four years.

At these inspections we check whether the service has a clear, effective Statement of Purpose and whether the service delivers on the commitments set out in its Statement of Purpose. In assessing whether registration is justified inspectors check that the service can demonstrate a history of compliance with regulations.

- **Focussed inspections** consider the experience of people using services and we will look at compliance with regulations when poor outcomes for people using services are identified. We carry out these inspections in between baseline inspections. Focussed inspections will always consider the quality of life of people using services and may look at other areas.

Baseline and focussed inspections may be scheduled or carried out in response to concerns.

Inspectors use a variety of methods to gather information during inspections. These may include;

- Talking with people who use services and their representatives
- Talking to staff and the manager
- Looking at documentation
- Observation of staff interactions with people and of the environment
- Comments made within questionnaires returned from people who use services, staff and health and social care professionals

We inspect and report our findings under 'Quality Themes'. Those relevant to each type of service are referred to within our inspection reports.

Further information about what we do can be found in our leaflet 'Improving Care and Social Services in Wales'. You can download this from our website, [Improving Care and Social Services in Wales](#) or ask us to send you a copy by telephoning your local CSSIW regional office.