



## **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**

#### **Brambles Day Nursery**

Rogers Lane  
Summerhill  
Wrexham  
LL11 4SG

**Type of Inspection – Focused**  
**Date(s) of inspection – 14/01/2014**  
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## Summary

### About the service

Brambles Day Nursery was registered with the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales in April 2002, having previously been registered with Wrexham County Council in 1995. The nursery is registered to provide full day care for up to 36 children. It is located in Summerhill on the outskirts of the bustling town of Wrexham.

The service operates all year from 7am until 6pm and the owner Wendy Evans is the registered person for the setting. There is a manager, who together with the owner oversees the running of the nursery.

The nursery has been given a Silver award as part of the Designed to Smile scheme that helps children to learn about how to take care of their teeth. The nursery offers early education and has funded places for children in the term after their third birthday. The nursery has been awarded the highest level, grade 5, from environmental health and is part of the Healthy and Sustainable pre school scheme. The nursery has been awarded a 'Good Practice' and a 'Best Practice' certificate for healthy meals

The language of the service is predominately English although some of the staff and children are bi-lingual.

### What type of inspection was carried out?

This scheduled inspection was unannounced and focused on the quality of life and experiences of the children attending Brambles Day Nursery.

This report is based upon the following;

- A knowledge and history of the setting
- Written information from the owner/registered person
- Talking to many of the children
- Direct observation of the activities and experiences of the children on the afternoon of the inspection.
- Talking to the owner, manager and staff members present

### What does the service do well?

- The pre-school has a door directly leading from the room outside enabling greater access to the outdoor learning experiences in a range of different outdoor environments including a sensory garden and a woodland area to extend the learning and development of the children and increase their knowledge of the world around them
- There is a very consistent staff team with a key worker system and many have worked in the nursery for several years. This ensures continuity of care for the children
- Leadership and management of the nursery are exceptional. Managers are reported to be very supportive and they listen to ideas and suggestions
- The children grow their own fruit, vegetables and herbs that are used in the nursery kitchen and to make jam, chutney and lavender bags. When the children bake they

feel very special by wearing chef hats and aprons.

- The nursery fundraises for many charitable causes with the children
- Staff members have enthusiasm and a sense of outstanding pride in the nursery
- A sensory room with special lights and music provides an excellent range of individual activities and relaxation for all the children including puppets and heuristic play boxes
- There are two rabbits for the children to take care of and take for walks on a lead.

### **What has improved since the last inspection?**

- The nursery has improved several external features such as wider paths and resurfacing of areas including the car park and fitted new gates with hedgehogs to make the nursery more welcoming.
- The nursery has been one of the first settings to be involved in the early years infection control audit, a self-assessment of hygiene practices to ensure that any cross infection is kept to a minimum.
- New equipment has been purchased to provide greater learning experiences for the children.
- The re-decoration of several parts of the nursery including the baby room making this into a lovely homely area for the smallest children.

### **What needs to be done to improve the service?**

There were no issues of significant or urgent non compliance made at the inspection.  
The following good practice recommendations were made;

For the staff to sit with the children whilst they are eating.

For staff and children to wash their hands with soap and water where possible rather than using anti bacterial gel.

## Quality of life

Overall we (CSSIW) found that children and their families are highly valued and are at the heart of this nursery.

All children benefit from a very high standard of care by an enthusiastic, knowledgeable, consistent staff team, several of whom have been working in the nursery for many years. Children experience warmth and attachment and because the nursery operates a key worker system children have a unique sense of belonging to a 'family' and often come back into the nursery when they have left to tell staff about what they have been doing.

Parents are kept involved with the learning of their children because they are given daily verbal and written information. They are also kept informed of what is happening in the nursery that day by means of an information board outside the main entrance and by photographs of the children and their activities displayed on a computer in the hall. The setting has 'digging days' where staff and parents come together in partnership to develop and maintain the garden.

The children learn enthusiastically through their play with an excellent range of resources particularly outdoors where good opportunities are provided for different types of experiences in the large garden, woodland and sensory areas. All the children are confident in the setting and comfortable to ask for help because the nursery staff treat them all as individuals with the greatest respect. They chatted happily and excitedly whilst outside and their enthusiasm even encouraged us to join in 'What time is it Mr Wolf?'. Staff took opportunities to point out and talk to the children about things they could see in the garden and all the children were observed to experience wellbeing and contentment as they played.

Children benefit from a healthy diet and have nutritious and varied meals that often contain fruit, vegetables and herbs that the children have grown themselves in the garden. On the afternoon of the inspection the pre-school children were making leek and potato soup for the rest of the nursery. All agreed the soup was delicious and the making included the development of many skills such as language and numeracy, chopping, stirring and blending.

Warm, loving, secure relationships were apparent during the inspection which meant that all the children were relaxed and had fun whilst learning in the nursery. All staff know the children in their care well and as a result understand and can meet their needs and preferences. All the staff including students on placement were very professional throughout, patient and kind in their handling of the children that made them feel safe and cared for. Children effectively built friendships in the setting because the staff were good role models for them showing respect and thought for others.

Children were encouraged to look after themselves by helpful, sensitive staff and were observed to be busy with plenty of laughter heard and all were clearly enjoying spending time in the nursery. All children benefit from a stress free, calm, warm and loving environment in Brambles and the staff were observed to give affection, plenty of cuddles, praise and lots of smiles that resulted in confident, happy children.

## Quality of staffing

This inspection focussed on the Quality of Life. CSSIW did not consider it necessary to look at the Quality of staffing on this occasion. However this theme will be considered during future inspections.

## **Quality of leadership and management**

This inspection focussed on the Quality of Life. CSSIW did not consider it necessary to look at the Quality of leadership and management on this occasion. However this theme will be considered during future inspections.

## Quality of environment

This inspection focussed on the Quality of Life. CSSIW did not consider it necessary to look at the Quality of environment on this occasion. However this theme will be considered during future inspections.

**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.