



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 – Tuesday 13 October
Date of publication – 20 November 2015

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Summary

About the service

Brambles Day Nursery is registered with the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales and is celebrating its 20th anniversary next year. The nursery is registered to provide full day care for up to 36 children in a homely setting on the out skirts 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 and deputy, who together with the owner oversee the running of the nursery.

The nursery offers early education and has funded places for children in the term after their third birthday.

The language of the service is predominately English although some of the staff and children are bi-lingual and as a result a good level of Welsh is used in the nursery.

What type of inspection was carried out?

This scheduled inspection on 13 October was unannounced and focused on the quality of life and experiences of the children. Telephone contact was made on 19 October to provide feedback, regarding the inspection, to the registered person.

- A knowledge and history of the setting
- Talking to many of the children
- Direct observation of the activities and experiences of the children during the inspection
- Talking to the manager and staff members present
- Looking round the nursery premises.

What does the service do well?

- The setting provides a warm, welcoming environment that is bright and inviting for children, parents and visitors
- The setting feels homely and is well decorated and resourced
- The setting has very good communication with parents through regular newsletters and open events
- It welcomes new children to the setting and celebrates special events such as a child's birthday by announcing it on a board outside the entrance. This gives the children a great feeling of belonging and attachment
- The nursery has been awarded the highest level, grade 5, from environmental health and has completed the Healthy and Sustainable pre school scheme. The nursery has been awarded a 'Good Practice' and a 'Best Practice' certificate for healthy meals. Staff have attended the Tiny Tums course and receive regular refresher sessions.

What has improved since the last inspection?

- The dining room has benefitted from new flooring which has created a clean, fresh area that is fit for purpose
- A new conservatory has been built that gives the children more space and offers a lovely area that is bright and has multiple uses such as storage and craft areas which makes the dining room more spacious
- New fencing and a patio area have been erected on the toddler yard giving extra security and more independence for children playing and exploring the outdoors
- The toilet and sink downstairs has been renewed and are now lower and more suitable for the children to use by themselves. Plans are in place to do the same with the other toilets in the setting
- A woodland area is currently being developed and the staff regularly take groups of children to complete a variety of activities.

What needs to be done to improve the service?

There were no issues of significant or immediate non compliance at the inspection.

The following recommendations were discussed with the manager. As the registered person was not present during the inspection, telephone contact was made on 19 October to provide feedback regarding the inspection. The registered person confirmed that the recommendations had been addressed.

To fit the hinge guards which have been purchased to the doors so that children cannot trap their fingers.

An alternative method of ensuring the doors are safe was confirmed by the registered person as it was found that the guards did not fit. When the doors are open they will always be securely fastened back. The registered person also confirmed that the fire door in the dining room had been adjusted and was now closing slowly.

Ensure changing mats are checked regularly and whenever necessary purchase new ones to avoid cross contamination.

The registered person confirmed that two new mats had been ordered on the day of the inspection and that they arrived on the following day.

For the nursery to review the management of the pre-school children washing their hands before dinner. This is because it was noted that this took about 10 minutes whilst the children were waiting exceptionally patiently for their turn. To quicken the process the use of paper towels was recommended rather than the hand drier during this busy time.

It is recommended that there is an outline of the front and back of a person included on the accident forms. This will show exactly where the injury is.

Staff should wear disposable aprons in the dining room when they are serving food and the children are eating. The manager informed us that aprons were available in the kitchen and that she would make these accessible for all staff during every meal and snack time.

Quality of life

Overall we (CSSIW) found that Brambles Day Nursery provides a very good quality of life for the children in an environment that is friendly and homely. The children and their families are highly valued and are at the heart of this provision.

Parents are encouraged to discuss any issues or events of the day with a member of staff when dropping their child off or when picking them up. This allows parents the opportunity to speak up and be listened to. Parents are also given a daily report of what their child has done during the day including what they have eaten, thereby promoting good links between the nursery and home. Children were listened to and encouraged to discuss what they had enjoyed during circle time which gave them the opportunity to share opinions and express their views.

Children had opportunities to learn, be active and were positively stimulated and occupied through having access to a range of activities that were suited to their age and stage of development. The setting operates a system where children can choose which activity they would like to do and had access to resources and equipment needed which promoted independence and allowed them to do things for themselves. The younger children had a range of toys and resources available to them which were at a level that made them accessible, for example the babies had toys laid out on a blanket for them to choose. Independence was also encouraged through the children finding the mat with their name on for snack and dinner time. Children had a sense of achievement as their work was on display throughout the setting and through a presentation showing them taking part in activities that was playing on a computer in the reception. This also allowed parents and visitors to see what the children had been doing in the nursery.

The health of the children is promoted through the setting being part of Designed to Smile and through the setting offering healthy snacks, lunch and tea which are displayed on a menu in the entrance. The setting has completed the Healthy and Sustainable Pre-school and staff have taken part in Tiny Tums. These further develop the good health of the children. There are hand sanitisers that have to be used before entering the kitchen and the baby room. This promotes cleanliness and reduces the risk of cross contamination. The setting has direct access to outside areas off all the rooms giving the children the opportunity to go outside. The children were observed outside as part of their free choice activities as well as part of planned times such as before and after lunch. This gives them access to a variety of equipment that develops their physical skills, including trikes and slides for the older children and sit on rockers for the babies. Children were seen enjoying being outside, playing with the toys available and interacting well with the staff and other children. The woodland area is being developed and the children have regular opportunities to go there with a member of staff who has been working closely with the early education teacher to ensure the activities they complete are giving the children opportunity to develop new skills and understand the world around them.

Children attending this setting feel a sense of attachment and belonging as a key worker system allows the staff and children to get to know each other well. There was lots of praise and encouragement given to the children during the inspection. The children are recognised and valued through a notice board outside the entrance that displays any special events, such as birthdays and welcomes new children to the setting. The setting has two pet rabbits that the children help look after and take for walks on a lead, which helps the children develop a caring ethos. Children were happy and enjoyed attending

the nursery as they had good relationships with the staff in attractive, well equipped surroundings.

Quality of staffing

Although this inspection focused on the quality of life, parents can be assured that 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'. The key workers accompany the child on settling in sessions when moving rooms within the setting giving the children chance to familiarise themselves with their new room. The staff members are well qualified, their certificates of achievement are displayed and there is a programme of training which shows a great commitment to extending knowledge base and making improvements.

There are good communication systems in place that ensure parents are kept informed of their child's progress and stage of development.

This theme will be considered in more depth during future inspections.

Quality of leadership and management

Although this inspection focused on the quality of life, parents can be assured that the registered person and staff listen to children and their parents and implement suggestions to ensure positive benefits. As a result all the children are very confident and happy in the setting. Children feel highly valued as their ideas and interests are noted and taken into account

This theme will be considered in more depth during future inspections

Quality of environment

Although this inspection focused on the quality of life, parents can be assured that the nursery creates a warm, welcoming, learning environment for the children and their parents. All the rooms now have a door leading directly outside enabling greater access to learning experiences in a range of different outdoor environments. The children were observed playing together very happily in the nursery as an exceptionally well equipped service with easily accessible resources meant that they were able to choose freely. This theme will be considered in more depth 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.