



Inspection Report

Little Trees Celtic Springs

**1 Spooner Close
Celtic Springs Business Park
Newport
NP10 8FE**



Date Inspection Completed

08/08/2023

About Little Trees Celtic Springs

Type of care provided	Childrens Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Dean Close Little Trees Day Nurseries
Registered places	115
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	8 November 2022
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service promote Welsh language and culture?	This service does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language and does not demonstrate a significant effort to promoting the use of the Welsh language and culture.

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Summary

This was a focused inspection, and on this occasion, we did not consider all themes in detail.

Children are very happy and enjoy attending the setting. They feel safe in the care of staff and form positive relationships with them and other children. Children have many opportunities to make choices and decisions which helps promote their independence. They develop very well through a range of enjoyable learning and play experiences.

Staff keep children safe. They supervise children effectively and implement suitable procedures to ensure children are appropriately safeguarded.

The responsible individual has taken action to address the non-compliance identified at the previous inspection November 2022. They have strengthened procedures to ensure children are always safeguarded. At this inspection we identified an area for improvement relating to providing Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) with information required by regulations.

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

Children have many opportunities to make choices and decisions about their care and how they spend their time. They express themselves freely and confidently, because staff listen to their needs, moods and wants. For example, when a young child woke from their nap, a staff member gently cuddled them until they were fully awake and ready to be placed in a highchair for their snack. Older children were very confident to approach us, enthusiastically telling us their names and showing their toys.

Children are very content and relaxed. They settle quickly and easily, including those who are new to the setting. All children develop warm and positive relationships with staff who know them very well. Babies and toddlers play happily alongside their friends and are learning to join in with group activities, such as singing. Children are beginning to develop empathy and learn to be sensitive to others. For example, we saw one child pick up another child's soft toy from the floor and hand it back to them. Another young child saw this interaction and gently patted the child on their back by way of praising them for their kind act.

Children thoroughly enjoy and are engaged in their play. They benefit from a variety of play opportunities. Children are motivated to follow their own interests and sustain their play for periods suitable to their age and stage of development. For example, toddlers enjoyed sharing a book with a staff member, pointing at pictures, and turning the pages. Older children immerse themselves in imaginative play. We saw a group of children role playing 'hairdressers' as they used safe and real life items such as brushes and a cordless hairdryer to style each other's hair.

Children have good opportunities to become independent, enabling them to do things for themselves. We saw babies place their drinking cups back into a storage box at the end of snack time and children using small jugs to pour their own drinks at lunch time. Children confidently choose activities, which supports them to develop independent thinking skills and make their own decisions. All children are encouraged to tidy away after a play session has ended.

Care and Development**Good**

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

Staff have a good understanding of how to keep children safe. They supervise children well, positioning themselves to ensure they have a good oversight of the play spaces. All staff consistently implement procedures to ensure children are safeguarded when moving from one area of the setting to another. For example, staff perform headcounts when children leave their base room to go to the dining room or when going outdoors to play. They complete attendance registers promptly on children's arrival and departure, meaning they know exactly how many children are present at any one time. We examined a sample of registers which evidenced correct staff to child ratios are maintained.

Staff record all accidents and incidents well and share an electronic copy of the record with parents. We reviewed a sample of these records and saw the types of accidents/incidents which have occurred are typical for the children's age and stage of development. The manager monitors and audits records effectively to identify any emerging patterns which helps safeguard children. For example, a recent audit identified a cluster of incidents in one playroom. We saw that appropriate actions had been taken to address this.

Leadership and Management

Good

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

People who run the setting respond and take action following inspection. At the last inspection in November 2022, CIW issued a priority action notice in relation to safeguarding. Since then, people who run the setting have made improvements to ensure children are always safeguarded. Records evidence that the correct ratio of 'suitably qualified' staff is maintained. The provider is now compliant. People who run the setting follow their disciplinary policy when dealing with staff poor practice and investigate incidents or complaints in line with their complaints policy. Any learning arising from such investigations is shared more widely across the staff team.

People who run the setting inform Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) of changes to management. However, during the inspection we found that several new staff members had begun employment, CIW had not been notified of staff changes. While no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action.

We did not consider all recommendations made at the November 2022 inspection but noted the statement of purpose has been updated to reflect the introduction of the new Curriculum Wales.

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
20	The provider has failed to implement their safeguarding procedures. Ensure that safeguarding procedures are implemented at all times.	Achieved

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
31	Ensure CIW are informed of any staff changes.	New
6	The responsible individual's DBS certificate had expired. Ensure DBS certificate is up to date and remains current.	Achieved
27	The number of suitably qualified staff does not meet the required 80%. Ensure the correct ratio of qualified staff to children is maintained.	Achieved

Where we find the provider is not meeting the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Child Care but there is no immediate or significant risk for people using the service, we highlight these as Recommendations to Meet National Minimum Standards.

We expect the provider to take action to address these and we will follow these up at the next inspection.

National Minimum Standards	
Standard	Recommendation(s)
	No NMS Recommendations were identified at this inspection

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