



Inspection Report

Manfords Little Lambs

**1 - 2 Castle Road
Chirk
Wrexham
LL14 5BS**



Date Inspection Completed

08/01/2024

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About Manfords Little Lambs

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Vicki Mitchell Carla Little
Registered places	63
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	1 September 2023
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.

Summary

This was a focused inspection, and on this occasion, we did not consider the care and development, environment or leadership and management in full.

Children have sufficient opportunities to choose where and how they spend their time. They express themselves as they communicate their needs. Children are settled and happy. They know staff well and form positive friendships. Children cooperate well and learn to have respect for each other and the resources. They have opportunities to develop their skills and be independent.

Staff keep children safe and generally implement effective hygiene procedures. Positive changes have been made to the planning and tracking of children's development.

People who run the setting have made improvements to the environment to ensure it is safe and suitable for the children. Resources are being reviewed to introduce more natural materials and opportunities for children to be creative and curious learners.

People who run the setting have listened and responded well to advice from their previous inspection to ensure they are meeting regulations.

Well-being

Children have sufficient opportunities to choose where and how they spend their time. They move around their respective rooms freely choosing from the activities and resources available. Children express themselves as they ask staff for items they want or communicate their needs. For example, a child confidently asked a member of staff if they could carry on with their game after snack, which staff responded to and said they could.

Children are settled and happy. Those who are new to the setting receive the support and care they need so they settle quickly. Children know the staff well, so they feel relaxed in their care. They form positive friendships that help them feel happy. For example, A group of children enjoyed playing a game of role play being mums and dads, with one pretending to be the dog.

Children cooperate well and enjoy sharing the space and resources. They learn to have respect for each other and the items they play with. For example, children play return resources when they have finished. They understand the needs of others such as one child took a drinks bottle to another child to see if they wanted a drink.

Children show enjoyment as they play and choose an activity. For example, babies laughed as they pushed the buttons and shook the various musical instruments, enjoying the sounds they made. Children have increased opportunities to follow their interests and extend their learning through their play, including finding items such as dinosaurs to make footprints with the paint.

Children have opportunities to develop their skills and be independent. Older children can freely access the toilet and handwashing facilities themselves. Those children who are able can serve themselves and pour their own drinks at snack time. Children move around freely and can access the resources as they are stored appropriately.

Care and Development

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

Staff have read and signed to say they have understood the updated safeguarding policy. This helps to ensure they are aware of the correct procedures to follow should they have concerns about a child. Some appropriate hygiene procedures such as handwashing are implemented effectively. However, staff did not always wash or sanitise their hands between offering personal care such as nose wiping to different children, which would help prevent the spread of germs.

Staff are beginning to provide more appropriate activities and resources to support children's play and learning. They are introducing a new way of planning and tracking individual progress. This will help to ensure activities allow children to develop, follow their interests and support them to become curious learners. This is still in the early stages, but staff are enthusiastic to make these changes to support the children in their care.

Environment

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

People who run the setting have made some positive changes to the environment. New low-level fencing has been erected around the matted area outside. This will help prevent children from riding over the edge and potentially hurting themselves. Daily checks on the environment are now recorded and show hazards are identified and managed appropriately. For example, the garden area was not in use during the visit due to a fence panel falling.

Improvements to the baby room have now made it a safer and more inviting space for children. New carpet has been laid in the kitchen and a partition has been put up to stop children accessing the cupboards. Safety gates are now used appropriately so children can always be seen and supervised sufficiently well as they are not out of sight of staff.

The introduction of more freely available natural materials and creative opportunities have benefitted the children. For example, children were really enjoying the painting activity and enjoyed playing with the real pots and pans in the home corner.

Leadership and Management

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

People who run the setting have listened to advice given to them during the previous inspection. They have made positive changes to the care and development of children and the environment to ensure they are meeting regulations. The introduction of room leaders has had a positive impact on the setting and the care they offer. The new room leaders we spoke with were enthusiastic about their new roles and keen to attend training and make improvements to ensure children receive the best care possible.

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
25	The Responsible Individual must ensure all hazards are identified and managed effectively.	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
N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this inspection	N/A

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

Where we think it helpful, we may make best practice recommendations. These are to encourage settings that are doing well to become even better at helping children thrive.

Best Practice
Recommendation(s)
Introduce a more formal way of tracking children's progress and identifying next steps in their learning.
Introduce more free access to resources that inspire children and help them develop their curiosity, creativity and problem solving skills.
To ensure staff prevent the spread of germs when dealing with personal care such as nose wiping.

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