



Inspection Report

Big Darlings Explorers

**St. Peters Church
Llandevaud
Newport
NP18 2AA**



Date Inspection Completed

18/10/2022

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About Big Darlings Explorers

Type of care provided	Childrens Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Little Darlings Nursery Wales Ltd
Registered places	19
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	18 August 2022
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	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 considering compliance with the priority action notice issued at the inspection carried out on 18 August 2022. We have not considered all themes in full.

Children enjoy their time at the setting and have good opportunities to make independent choices. They are very settled and have lots of fun playing with their friends. They are happy and relaxed in their relationships with staff who they are very fond of. Children are encouraged to share their ideas with staff who show interest in their views and opinions. They are independent and confident in their own abilities.

The premises is clean, welcoming, and organised so that children can access resources with ease. The indoor play area is large and open plan, allowing children to freely access a good range of activities independently, including outdoor play. There are suitable systems in place to ensure a safe, clean and secure environment. Children freely choose what they want to play with.

Care Inspectorate Wales, (CIW) recognise that improvements have been made since the inspection on 18 August 2022. The Responsible Individual has achieved compliance to ensure that children are supervised with sufficient appropriate qualified staff at all times. There are a suitable range of policies and procedures to support the running of the service which have been reviewed and updated. We identified an area for development in relation to recording the times of attendance on registers for children and staff on the school pickups. The staff work well as a team and feel very supported by the leaders of the setting. Parents are very happy with the service they receive.

Well-being

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

Children are confident communicators and can share their wants and needs. They are free to choose what they play with, and the most toys and activities are appropriate for their age and stage of development. Children are listened to, and their views and opinions are valued. Children are given opportunities to select some new resources purchased and suggest the trips they go on during the summer holiday period. For example, the new outdoor swing and lego table have been purchased in consultation with children. Children are given choice at mealtimes. For example, a child who did not like beans was offered an alternative at snack time.

Children feel safe, happy, and valued at the setting. They are very familiar with the routines of the out of school club and put their bags and coats in a designated area of the hall on arrival. Children come into the setting in a calm manner and are confident to go straight to play with the activities of their choice. They have obvious good relationships with the staff and are fond of them. For example, children were animated, chatting about who likes broccoli and smile broadly as a member of staff playfully demonstrated how it can make their muscles strong.

Children benefit from the friendships they make at the club and their behaviour is very good. They happily share resources and play imaginative or board games together. Older children interact very well with the younger children. For example, a small group of older children chatted to a younger child whilst playing with the magnets. They are proud to explain that they are a buddy to younger children in school. Children take pride from the praise and encouragement they receive. For example, they smile when staff compliment them on their lovely manners.

Children enjoy a good choice of play-based activities. For example, a fantastic selection of lego suitable for all age ranges is a particular favourite of the children. A small group of children spend a long time building an amazing lego village. They really enjoy the Friday afternoon movie session where they relax on large cushions and watch a child friendly movie together at the end of their school week. Children are excited to go on the daily trips planned for the summer period which gives them opportunities to further develop their skills. Children's independence is promoted as all areas are freely accessible in the open plan setting.

Care and Development

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

Staff understand how to keep children safe and healthy in respect of the storage and preparation of food. Parents told us that they are happy with the menu choices available at the setting. Leaders have reflected on requests made by parents in the recent quality of care review and now provide parents with information on the daily food choices children have enjoyed. Children are encouraged to wash their hands at mealtimes. However, hand washing practices are not always monitored routinely by staff.

The setting has actioned the good practice recommendation made at the last inspection in relation to updating the menu with food allergen information which is made available for parents on the Family app. Records examined show that fire drills have continued to be undertaken at different times each month to help children understand what to do in an emergency.

Environment

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

People who run the setting ensure that the environment is safe and secure. Visitors sign into the service. Staff complete daily safety checklists to ensure that any issues that arise on a day-to-day basis are identified and addressed. For example, children had restricted access to the outdoor area during the visit as staff identified a potential safety issue with the swing. This was resolved at the end of the session in readiness for the children to use the following day.

Leadership and Management

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

Overall, leaders pay due attention to regulations and national minimum standards. The Responsible Individual has taken action and achieved compliance on the priority action notice issued at the last inspection. This relates to ensuring that children are supervised with sufficient, appropriately qualified staff at all times. However, we identified an area for improvement in relation recording the times of attendance on registers for children and staff on the school pickups. We expect the people who run the service to take action to address this.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1. Implement any outstanding recommendations made at the previous inspection.

R2. Staff should monitor the quality of children's hand washing practices.

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
27	Children are not always supervised with sufficient and appropriate staff. The provider must ensure that there are always two staff on duty and that adult to child ratios are maintained 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
30	The Responsible Individual must maintain a daily record of the names of the relevant children, their hours of attendance and the names of the persons who looked after them at all times including the school pickups.	New

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