



Inspection Report

Cool Kids Playgroup Rising 4s

**St Marys School
Lea Road
Wrexham
LL13 7NA**



Date Inspection Completed

06/09/2021

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About Cool Kids Playgroup Rising 4s

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Mary-Anna O'Connell
Registered places	52
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	Manual Insert 19 January 2021
Is this a Flying Start service?	Manual Insert No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	This is a service that does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language. It does not anticipate, identify or meet the Welsh language needs of people /children who use, or intend to use their service.

Summary

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

Children are confident and staff enable them to communicate in their preferred language. Children settle relatively well and enjoy being in the company of others. They learn to cooperate and understand the needs of others. Most children engage in an activity of their choice and have some opportunities to be independent.

Staff generally keep children safe and interactions are becoming more effective and consistent as staff are more involved in children's play. Staff plan some suitable activities and learning experiences for the children.

People who run the service have made some improvements to the environment and most areas are secure.

People who run the service do not manage staff effectively and have not addressed issues raised at previous inspections.

Well-being

Children are confident to communicate with other children, staff and us. Staff enable children to communicate in their preferred language and they generally listen and respond to them appropriately. For example, staff knew when children had not fully understood something so repeated it in the child's first language. Children have some opportunities to make decisions. They can access the resources available and are asked if they would like to play in certain areas or complete different tasks. For example, staff asked children in wrap around care what activities they would like to do the next day.

Children settle relatively well. We saw some younger children who had only recently started; receive the comfort and support they needed to help make them feel relaxed. Children enjoy being in each other's company and form positive friendships that help them feel happy. For example, a group of children were happily playing a game of table pool together.

Children are beginning to cooperate well and most are learning to understand the needs of others. They respect each other and share space and resources. Children enjoy playing and interacting together. For example, older and younger children happily played tag together outside.

Most children engage in an activity of their choice. For example, a group of children enjoyed playing a game with the toy robots. Some areas did not have as much choice of resources, making it difficult for children to follow their interests.

Children have some opportunities to be independent. They are encouraged to feed themselves and those who are able to, access the toilet facilities themselves. Some children could access resources they wanted to play with, although the chance for children to do more of this would help them further develop their independence.

Care and Development

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

Staff generally keep children safe. However, the organisation of when and how children are collected is a little disorganised. We saw parents entering the service and children seeing them before staff knew they were there to collect their child. This could result in staff not knowing when children leave.

Staff interactions with children are becoming more effective and consistent. Staff are more involved in children's play, with most getting on the same level as the children when playing alongside them. For example, staff sat on the floor with a group of children playing with the cars and blocks. There are more sociable times, including in wrap around care when staff have a snack with the children and in the after school club having an ice-lolly together outside as it was a very hot day.

Staff plan some suitable activities and learning experiences for the children. However, providing more focused tasks and opportunities for children to choose from a wider range of resources would help support their play and learning experiences.

Environment

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

People who run the service have decluttered some areas of the environment. Certain areas within the room used by the after school club have been reorganised so resources are more accessible. For example, the shelves where table top games are stored has been organised so children are able to see and get the games they want. However, some areas are not as inviting or accessible. For example, some items are stored in unlabelled boxes and are not accessible as other items are stored in front of them. Some areas are secure. However, the entrance and exits to the service are not always secure. This is a concern and could result in unauthorised persons entering and children being able to leave unaccompanied.

The considered plans to create a new environment will create a more inviting and child friendly space for children. However, due to these plans people who run the service have not been making many improvements to the current environment. This has led to some areas looking very tired. For example, carpets are worn and some areas are in need of redecoration.

Leadership and Management

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

People who run the service do not manage staff effectively and have not addressed issues raised at previous inspections. These continue to be an issue and places children's health, safety and well-being at risk. For example, there are periods of time when there is no supernumerary person in charge. This negatively affects children's well-being because during these times, they are not available to complete managerial tasks, resulting in there not always being enough staff to fulfil their caring responsibilities effectively. This area for improvement requires priority action.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1: To create a more inspiring environment that encourages and supports children's play, learning and curiosity.

R2: To ensure a range of appropriate and interesting resources that will support their play are made available, especially for older children, and store them so they can be accessed freely.

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Achieved

The Registered Persons had not ensured that all employees who look after relevant children receive appropriate supervision. The registered person must provide CIW with documents to evidence that staff are receiving regular supervision.	Regulation 29 (3) (a)
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Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Not Achieved

The registered persons had not ensured there was a supernumerary manager. The registered persons must provide evidence to CIW that the manager is supernumerary, at all times, and that this person is not included in the ratios.	Regulation 14 (1)
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Where providers fail to improve we will escalate the matter by issuing a priority action notice. Where providers fail to take priority action we may escalate the matter to an Improvement and Enforcement Panel.

Areas where priority action is required

None	
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Areas where improvement is required

The registered person is not compliant with regulation 25 (c) The registered person must ensure that unnecessary risks to the health or safety of relevant children are identified and so far as possible eliminated.	Regulation 25 (c)
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The area(s) identified above require improvement but we have not issued a priority action notice on this occasion. This is because there is no immediate or significant risk for people using the service. We expect the registered provider to take action to rectify this and we will follow this up at the next inspection.

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