



Inspection Report

Noah`s Ark Nursery

**Noahs Ark
Tabernacle Lane
Narberth
SA67 7DE**



Date Inspection Completed

27/01/2023

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About Noah`s Ark Nursery

Type of care provided	Children`s Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Provider	Noah`s Ark Nursery (Pembrokeshire) Ltd
Registered places	67
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	28 June 2022
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	This service is working towards providing an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language and demonstrates a significant effort to promoting the use of the Welsh language and culture.

Summary

This was a focused inspection, and on this occasion, we only considered the well-being, environment, and leadership and management, in detail.

Children are happy and settled at this service. They interact well with others, and they have some improved opportunities to practise their independence skills.

The people who run the setting have made effective improvements to the safety of the environment. They ensure the building is secure and take appropriate action to reduce risks to children. Overall, the environment is suitable and there have been some improvements to the indoor play space and resources available for children aged two years old and over.

The people who run the setting have been proactive in making improvements since the last Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) inspection. They comply with regulations and are monitoring the setting to ensure continued compliance. They are focused on continual improvement.

Well-being

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

Children are relaxed and happy in the setting. They confidently make requests and make choices. Older children move between activities as they wish and ask for any resources they need.

Children interact well with staff and with each other. They take turns, share resources, and help each other tidy up.

Children are interested in their play. During our inspection visit, children of all ages were suitably engaged in appropriate activities. Older children talked to us about the sensory activity they were doing, and babies showed enjoyment during an action song activity.

Although we did not observe the lunchtime period during our inspection visit, the responsible individual told us about improvements that had been made to support children's independence during this period. She told us that children are now encouraged to scrape their plates, clear their dishes, and dispose of rubbish. However, during our visit, a child wanted to get their own apron for a messy activity but was unable to do so due to the apron being stored out of their reach and it being blocked by a stack of chairs.

Environment

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

The people who run the setting have made significant improvements to the safety of the environment. They have improved the security of the main door to the service to prevent unauthorised access. The door is kept locked at all times, and visitors must be admitted by a member of staff. They have purchased a new lockable cupboard for storing cleaning products and they keep all chemicals out of children's reach. The people who run the setting have reviewed the risk assessments for the service to make them easier to understand. They ensure that all staff are familiar with these risk assessments and can easily access them.

The people who run the setting have made improvements in the environment to support children's independence. They have improved the role-play area by purchasing more resources and by making this space available to children throughout the day. They have also installed a low-level shelf in the toilets so that children can easily access paper towels to dry their hands independently. During our visit, babies were not using the whole space available. Although they had free access to the sensory room and ball pool, they were not using it at this time. The 'messy play' area was not in use during the visit which the responsible individual told us is part of the space allocated to ensure that babies have sufficient play space, in accordance with national minimum standards. The responsible individual told us that this area is used for specific activities at other times.

Leadership and Management

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

The people who run the setting have made improvements to ensure compliance with regulations and improved outcomes for children.

The people who run the setting implement improved and suitable safeguarding procedures to promote children's welfare and ensure their safety. They have updated their own training across a range of safeguarding areas and have improved their understanding of their responsibilities to make prompt referrals to the local authority should there be concerns about children in relation to child protection. They ensure all staff have regular safeguarding training and understand their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding children. They keep appropriate records where there are concerns about a child and they have introduced records for pre-existing injuries and for occasions where unusual physical contact from staff may be necessary for children's safety. The people who run the setting have updated their safeguarding policy and implemented a new policy for 'managing allegations against staff.' Overall, the policies are suitable, but they are not clear regarding the procedure to follow should there be an allegation against the responsible individual.

Record keeping in relation to children and staff attendance is appropriate. We checked a sample of attendance records and found that there were full records which showed the start and finish times of all staff and children in the nursery. The people who run the setting have introduced a record of staff breaks and they have a system for monitoring which staff are working with specific groups of children. A few of the staff are in the process of completing the necessary training to improve the percentage of qualified staff who are working at the service.

The people who run the setting have made good progress towards the recommendations made at the last CIW inspection, as well as ensuring they are compliant with identified regulations. They have made improvements in the environment to support children's independence and they have improved access to drinking water for children. They have also improved communication with staff to ensure that all staff are familiar with, and are complying with, the setting's policies, procedures, and risk assessments. The people who run the setting are focused on improvement and completed a fundraising activity to help them to purchase new resources for the setting. They also collaborate with other settings to share good practice. They understand their responsibility to monitor the provision, and any changes, to ensure compliance with regulations and children's safety and well-being.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1 Ensure the layout of the environment, and the use of the space available, meets national minimum standards and achieves the best outcomes for children.

R2 Further update the safeguarding policy.

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 and staff do not identify hazards in the nursery or take sufficient action to reduce or eliminate all risks to children. Ensure that there is a robust system in place to identify hazards and reduce or eliminate risks to children.	Achieved
22	The responsible individual does not ensure that children are appropriately safeguarded. Ensure that there are robust systems in place to ensure that children are safeguarded at all times and prompt referrals are made to the local authority where necessary.	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
30	The responsible individual does not ensure that they keep an accurate record of the hours of children's and staff members' attendance. Ensure there is an accurate record of children's attendance and the staff who are caring for them at all times.	Achieved

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