



Inspection Report

Penderyn Sports and Social Association Playscheme

**Penderyn Community Centre
Pontpren
Penderyn
Aberdare
CF44 9UX**



Date Inspection Completed

09/08/2023

About Penderyn Sports and Social Association Playscheme

Type of care provided	Childrens Day Care Open Access Play Provision
Registered Provider	Committee of Penderyn Sports and Social Association
Registered places	30
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	31 May 2018
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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<u>Well-being</u>	Good
<u>Care and Development</u>	Adequate
<u>Environment</u>	Adequate
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Poor

For further information on ratings, please see the end of this report

Summary

Children enjoy their time at Penderyn Sports and Social Association Playscheme because they have a good voice. They almost always make choices about what they do and how they spend their time at the setting whilst engaging in play-based activities. Children know staff will listen to them.

All staff successfully promote children’s wellbeing, ensuring they prioritise the health and the overall safety of children. Staff are qualified, experienced, and knowledgeable, and young adult volunteers to help supervise the children. However not all volunteers are confident in reporting any safeguarding issues. Staff build positive bonds of affection with children through their nurturing and caring attitudes.

Staff care for children in an environment which is spacious, secure, and clean. The play area provides an ample space for children to play and learn. There is space and facilities to meet the needs of children, and staff effectively identify any unnecessary risks to children and eliminate them as much as possible, including the outside areas.

People who run the setting do not comply with some the regulations and the national minimum standards. This is a new management team under the committee; and they are keen to improve the leadership and management areas of the service. However, the areas for improvement identified at the last inspection, remain in place. These can be found at the end of this report, along with recommendations.

Well-being

Good

Children are confident to move around areas of the hall, and freely choose which activity they want to take part in. They have a selection of arts and crafts on the tables such as colouring and Hammer Beads, and on the floor with cars and construction toys. Children play on their own quietly, or in groups with their friends. A choice of healthy snack foods is available to the children, with a wide selection of fruit and berries and toast, which they can have with, or without butter. During lunchtime, children were offered a choice of DVD to watch, whilst they ate their packed lunches.

Children told us that they could talk to their friends and the staff if they were worried about something. Some children came from other villages, and new friendships are being formed, whilst others have been attending the playscheme for many years and they are used to the staff and familiar with routines. We saw them keeping a seat for their friend to sit next to them and chat whilst they ate.

Children told us they enjoyed the Hammer Beads, as they got to take their creations home once staff had ironed them. They enjoy using play dough to make pizza, frogs, and creatures. Children were laughing at a video whilst sitting on bean bags, with one child impersonating the dancing on screen. Children happily chat to staff, volunteers, and other children in a relaxed and comfortable manner. We heard children asking staff for help when they needed packets opened during lunchtime.

Children confidently do many tasks independently. For example, we saw children accessing the toilets, washing hands, and helping themselves to leftover fruit. However, the serving hatch was too high for all the children to serve themselves, and we heard children asking staff for drinks. We heard some children speaking in Welsh, and staff spoke to them in the language of their choice. Children are not able to freely use the outside play space. They are not able to leave the building if they so wished, as is the definition of 'open access.'

Care and Development

Adequate

Staff keep children safe and healthy; they have first aid and are competent in child protection. Although staff are competent, volunteers do not all know what to do if a child protection issue occurs. When speaking with a volunteer about a child protection scenario,

they were not fully clear on appropriate procedures to follow. Although they were clear about who the designated person was and the importance of prompt reporting of concerns.

The two staff members are qualified in childcare and play-work. They both have a current food hygiene certificate, and the playscheme has a food hygiene rating of 5. Packed lunches are brought in by the children, and although parents are advised to put an ice block into their boxes, we saw them stored on the table, in the sun. These were moved immediately to under the table. Most of the packed lunches were not all healthy foods for children. Staff ask children to wash their hands before eating; however not after eating fruit or packed lunches, when hands are sticky. Staff have appropriate forms to administer medication and the one seen was satisfactory. They have parental permissions in place for emergency medical treatment, first aid, and plasters. One staff member is EpiPen trained, and one is trained in allergens. Staff conduct regular fire drills with the children during school holidays.

Staff are enthusiastic and they consistently interact with children in a kind, positive way, and act as good role models. Staff know the children well and effectively promote the development of their play. Staff use positive behaviour management techniques. They create a positive atmosphere, and they treat children with kindness, boosting their self-esteem. They manage disputes well. We saw one child become upset when another child was tidying up, and accidentally tipped their Hammer Beads back into the container. Staff explained it was an accident and offered to help them do it again after lunch. Volunteers were able to tell us how they would deal with children's unwanted behaviour, in line with the policy.

Staff kept the door to the outdoor play area shut throughout our visit, so at times the hall became noisy. Staff kept the front door locked to restrict people entering. However, this was also to stop children from leaving, and this is not part of the 'open access' description, which states children are free to come and go whenever they wish.

Environment

Adequate

People who run the setting provide a suitable indoor and outdoor environment, which includes an area of woodland to provide rich and natural learning experiences for children. They have written risk assessments for the club environment as well as for the woodland

area; these are regularly reviewed. The areas that we saw looked clean and hazard free. There is a visitors' book for entry to the club, however, this was not found for us to sign, prior to entering. The outside area is relatively safe, with designated boundaries for areas of play. However, the steps leading up to the woodland required some form of handrail or rope to hold onto. This would be crucial in wet or icy weather. We were told that a handrail is due to be fitted, and children wear highly visible vests when using this area. Trading Standards also attended whilst we were present, with no issues identified.

People who run the setting provide varied and plentiful resources to suit a range of interests and needs, and they plan the environment to provide a range of play and recreation opportunities to children of different ages. Staff provided care within a sports and social club, which consisted of an entrance hall, main playroom, a sports hall when not in use by the social club (not seen on the day of our visit), a kitchen area (no access for children) and male and female toilets. Outside there is an area for children to play football or other games, and the woodland area is at the top of the steps.

There are different areas set up within the halls including a games area with educational video games, craft areas, and a home corner. Staff ensure children can freely explore the indoor environment available to them. However, storage of games and toys was outside the hall. This means that children are unable to see or chose from what is available to them. Plans are in place for an extension, and if approved will allow more storage space. Recycling is encouraged, and different colour bins are available for food and other waste.

Staff provide various resources to children, which allow them to have a choice. Examples of resources included Lego, boxes of trucks, art and craft items, and boxes of books and games. The resources and equipment seen appear clean and in good repair, staff were seen removing a broken piece of car, and checking the box for any other broken bits. Children sit at large tables and chairs to do tabletop activities and to eat snack/lunch. Bean bags were available for relaxing and watching TV.

Leadership and Management

Poor

People who run the setting have a written statement of purpose, which is shared with parents. However, the numbers and ages of the children that can attend is incorrect.

The people who run the setting do not allow children to leave the premises, and therefore this does not meet the conditions of registration as an 'open access' playscheme, which has the ethos of allowing children to come and go as they please. We discussed the need

for the people who run the setting to re-consider their registration, and to change the service to an 'Out of school' if they wish to restrict children from arriving and leaving.

The people who run the setting provided us with copies of policies, such as complaints, behaviour and safeguarding, and these were reviewed and updated after our visit. People who run the setting are registered with Commissioner's Office (ICO), and we saw proof of valid public liability insurance.

People who run the setting have a system in place for ongoing review of the quality of care which includes a quality action plan and staff training. Parents are given questionnaires and the report mentions the evaluation of parents' views, which are positive about the setting. However, this does not include the evaluation of children's views, which the report states are sought at the scheme.

People who run the setting have a few completed staff files in place to evidence that robust recruitment checks are undertaken prior to staff and volunteers commencing work. Staff do not have the opportunity to discuss any issues on a regular one to one basis in supervisions or appraisals, however, there is a new management team in place. As these were identified at the last inspection, and whilst no immediate action is required, these are an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action.

People who run the setting communicate with parents verbally at the club and give them information about the service via forms and policies. We saw staff asking new parents questions about their child/grandchild, and we spoke to one parent who was very happy with all aspects of the service. The committee and staff are only able to run on a few days on some weeks over the summer holidays. On these days, the parents are asked to pay a nominal fee.

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

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
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N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this inspection	N/A
28	Staff files were not fully compliant with the regulations and national minimum standards.	Not Achieved
29	No supervisions or appraisals had been conducted and recorded on staff.	Not Achieved
29(4) Section of Measure	Conditions of registration; 5 (e) where the registration is subject to any conditions, details of the conditions; The service was registered for 30 children.	Achieved
15	The statement of purpose requires the following: to reflect the staff and committee members, include facilities and routines available, and registered up to the age of 12 years..	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)
Standard 23 - Equipment	Ensure there are toys/resources that promote children's cultural awareness and equal opportunities.
Standard 18 - Quality assurance	Seek and take on board the views of children, in the annual quality of care review.
Standard 24 - Safety	A visitor's book is to be kept accessible for keeping records of people present whilst the setting is operating.

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)
Promote independence by moving the drinks and snacks to an area which is accessible for children.

Ensure children's hands are washed/wiped after eating.

Volunteers should be confident in reporting any safeguarding issues raised at the setting.

Encourage parents to provide healthy packed lunches, in line with Government guidelines on healthy eating.

Ensure children are freely able to arrive and leave, as is the definition for open access.
Alternatively consider changing the category of care.

Ratings	What the ratings mean
Excellent	These are services which are committed to ongoing improvement with many strengths, including significant examples of sector leading practice and innovation. These services deliver high quality care and support and are able to demonstrate that they make a strong contribution to improving children’s well-being.
Good	These are services with strengths and no important areas requiring significant improvement. They consistently exceed basic requirements, delivering positive outcomes for children and actively promote their well-being.
Adequate	These are services where strengths outweigh areas for improvement. They are safe and meet basic requirements but improvements are required to promote well-being and improve outcomes for children.
Poor	These are services where important areas for improvement outweigh strengths and there are significant examples of non-compliance that impact negatively on children’s well-being. Where services are poor we will take enforcement action and issue a non-compliance notice.

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Date Published 25/09/2023