



## Inspection Report

**Sparkles Day Nursery**

**Sparkles Day Nursery  
Porth Plaza  
Pontypridd Road  
Porth  
CF39 9PG**



**Date Inspection Completed**

12/04/2022

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## About Sparkles Day Nursery

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Eleanor Hughes Hayley Alexander-Luff
Registered places	30
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	10 October 2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	The service 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.

<a href="#"><u>Well-being</u></a>	<b>Good</b>
<a href="#"><u>Care and Development</u></a>	<b>Adequate</b>
<a href="#"><u>Environment</u></a>	<b>Adequate</b>
<a href="#"><u>Leadership and Management</u></a>	<b>Good</b>

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

## **Summary**

The setting is child centred and children settle well and are happy. They have some opportunities to become independent and develop their skills through exploring the environment and activities available. Children form bonds with each other and are building trusting relationships with staff which helps them feel safe, with a sense of belonging.

Staff provide satisfactory levels of care and take their responsibilities seriously. All the required policies and procedures are in place. Practices relating to children's individual care and routines must be actioned as part of a planned strategy, risk assessed, and monitored appropriately.

The setting is located within a communal local authority building in the centre of Porth and is safe and secure. The setting has use of a ground floor facility with its own access. People who run the service ensure the environment is well-prepared. The outdoor space on the side of the building is valued by children and the people who run the service are considering improvements in this area.

The leadership and management of the service is effective. Staff receive regular supervision which provides opportunities for reflection and improvement of their practice. Training is updated regularly. Partnership working with parents is good and parents are complimentary of the setting.

Children choose their activities freely and understand they will receive help or support if they ask. They know what to expect during the sessions and the daily routines are familiar to them. For example, older children sit down in anticipation of meal times. This provides certainty to their day and helps children settle easily. Most children are confident to join in with activities and show satisfaction with the wide range of play and learning resources available to them.

Children are mostly happy, relaxed and feel valued. All children have their own coat hooks with their names and an individual compartment for personal belongings. Most children have clear bonds of affection with staff who understand their needs and provide consistent care. They are confident they can approach staff for reassurance as needed and they express their needs appropriately. 'All About Me' information relating to children's individual care needs is displayed on the walls. One child who was unsettled received close attention from a member of staff who stayed with the child to provide comfort and support as needed. Another child, who appeared unwell was collected by parents. Children are developing an understanding of the rules of behaviour and almost all children cooperate and learn together successfully.

Children have good opportunities for imaginative play and enjoy sharing a range of role-play activities such as making food and drinks in the home corner, using building and construction materials and engaging in craft work. A number of children received pleasure from the hedgehog making activity with playdough and pasta and showed them proudly. Messy play activities with paint, water and sand provide children with opportunities to be creative and have fun. Children value the opportunity for active play in the outside play area which is used in good weather.

Most children are developing independence skills appropriate to their age and ability. They wash their hands as needed and understand the routine of tidying when activities change. Children find their own belongings and help to clear away after eating. Nearly all children understand socially acceptable behaviour and show kindness and respect to others. Pre-school children are not able to use the toilet facilities independently as a gate prevents access to this area which leads directly off their main play room.

## Care and Development

**Adequate**

Staff have some effective systems in place to keep children safe and healthy. Safeguarding procedures are in place and promote the welfare of children. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities to be vigilant and are clear about the processes to follow to deal with any concerns. Staff receive regular safeguarding training and keep up to date with all relevant information. They keep a record of children's existing injuries and these are regularly reviewed by people who run the service as part of the safeguarding audit. Regular fire drill practices take place and staff ensure children know how to leave the building safely. Staff record accidents and incidents and they are evaluated by the person in charge. Almost all staff have attended paediatric first aid training and are confident to deal with minor injuries. Clear information relating to children's allergies is in place and accessible to all staff. Any changes are shared with parents and records are updated.

Staff interact in a kind and caring manner with the children. They use soft tones to distract children who are frustrated or upset and praise children for their efforts. Staff are polite and friendly to each other and treat each other with respect. They are positive role models to children. They are mostly consistent in their approach and mindful of the age and stage of development of children when managing behaviour issues. However, a discussion about an individual child's needs showed a lack of planning and no risk assessment. The people who run the service informed us they were unaware that the strategy used to manage the specific behaviour of one child was inappropriate. The person in charge agreed they would take professional advice and find alternative measures of working with the specific behaviour needs of individual children.

Staff support children's learning and development appropriately and facilitate a satisfactory variety of recreational and leisure activities. Staff carry out some partial observations of children's achievements. The persons in charge told us these are not done regularly and are not structured, due to Covid and staff absences. This results in limited information relating to planning the next steps in the developmental journeys of children and planning activities to meet specific outcomes. Staff do not make consistent records of children's views and preferences. This could be helpful to ensure the children have a role in determining the content of their play by following their own ideas and interests. Staff ensure parents are informed about their child's progress, achievements and developments. The Welsh language is used intermittently throughout the sessions by some staff.

## Environment

Adequate

People who run the service have systems and procedures in place to ensure the environment is safe and secure. The setting is located in a section of a local authority community building in the centre of Porth. It shares the use of part of the ground floor and has its own entrance which leads directly into the area used by babies. The facilities are accessible and well maintained. Staff complete daily safety checks to identify and eliminate risks to children's safety. There is a register of children attending which records exact times of children's arrivals and departures. People who run the service monitor signing in and out and ensure staff ratios are maintained at all times. There are risk assessments in place for all areas of the setting which include fire safety, Covid 19 and children's activities. These are reviewed and updated at regular intervals by the person in charge and staff carry out daily checks. People who run the service keep records of all visitors to the setting.

People who run the service ensure the environment is clean and safe. Staff undertake a thorough clean of the premises each day and carry out sanitising and cleaning duties as needed throughout the sessions. There is a good range of resources and a satisfactory indoor environment for play and learning. Children are able to access equipment easily, which supports their independence. The outdoor area is only used in fine weather and staff set up the area each time it is used. This is a compact space with a sturdy fence which ensures children cannot leave the area. Children playing in this area are not afforded any privacy, as the fencing is open for the public to view into the play area. There is a road leading from the car park which runs close and parallel to this play area and any fuel emissions from passing cars are at the level of playing children. The people who run the service told us they have not previously considered these issues.

The indoor environment is divided into 3 areas for children, a kitchen, staff room, baby sleep room and an office. The sleep room is used by some young children and people who run the service ensure children are monitored every ten minutes. Children sleep in cots and mobile children do not use this room. The majority of babies sleep in pushchairs which are rocked back and forth by staff in the toddler area.

## Leadership and Management

Good

People who run the service are experienced and mostly manage the service effectively in line with the regulations and National Minimum Standards. The statement of purpose was updated during the inspection and provides an accurate picture of how the service runs. The person in charge keeps Care Inspectorate Wales up to date with any changes and sends in regular notifications as required. At least one of the responsible individuals work at the setting each day and provides good support to the team. They are working towards the Healthy and Sustainable Pre-Schools award which involves achieving a coordinated programme of health and wellbeing outcomes.

People who run the service work hard to promote safe practices. The policies and procedures have been recently updated and all staff read them during allotted times. The staff team are enthusiastic, work together well and told us they enjoy their roles. The required checks to ensure all staff are suitable to work with children are in place before they take up their posts. There are enough qualified and experienced staff to ensure children are well cared for at all times. The people who run the service ensure all staff have the skills and knowledge to provide a safe service to children. They provide regular training opportunities and one to one supervision to practitioners. They operate an 'open door' system where staff are able to discuss any issues. People who run the service told us they are catching up with annual appraisal meetings which have been put on hold recently. Team meetings are not held regularly and the person in charge intends to start to arrange digital meetings. These are likely to be more easily accessed by staff and will ensure the sharing of good practice.

People who run the service carry out an annual quality of care review of the service. This review does not include the views of children or staff as required. Parents complete a questionnaire but their feedback is not included in the report. There is a complaints procedure in place and the setting has not received any complaints. Partnerships with parents are good and parents told us they are happy with the quality of the service and are confident to discuss any issues with staff.



## **Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards**

R1. Provide opportunities for children to use the toilet facilities independently

R2. Strengthen the process of observations of children's activities and interactions and ensure the next steps in their development are clearly outlined

R3. Improve the outdoor play area to provide protection to children from car exhaust fumes and to protect their privacy

R3. Ensure the annual Quality of Care report includes the views of children, staff and parents

R4. Ensure team meetings are held regularly.

### Summary of Non-Compliance

Status	What each means
<b>New</b>	This non-compliance was identified at this inspection.
<b>Reviewed</b>	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.
<b>Not Achieved</b>	Compliance was tested at this inspection and was not achieved.
<b>Achieved</b>	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
23	The provider has used restraint to keep a child sitting whilst eating. The provider states the child will not sit still and eat unless restrained. The provider has not risk assessed the action to restrain the child and there is no behaviour management plan in place to	New

	look at alternative actions. No professional expertise has been used to support the restraint action	
	Evidence that staff to child ratios are not always met.	Achieved

Ratings	What the ratings mean
<b>Excellent</b>	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.
<b>Good</b>	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.
<b>Adequate</b>	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.
<b>Poor</b>	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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