



Inspection Report

The Gingerbread House

**Maeshyfred
Cwmbach
CF44 0DL**



Date Inspection Completed

24/01/2024

Welsh Government © Crown copyright 2024.

*You may use and re-use the information featured in this publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government License. You can view the Open Government License, on the National Archives website or you can write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk
You must reproduce our material accurately and not use it in a misleading context.*

About The Gingerbread House

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Emily Hooper Gemma Jones
Registered places	40
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	2 May 2023
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.

Summary

This was a focused inspection, and, on this occasion, we did not consider all themes in full.

Children are happy and settled at the setting. They have opportunities to follow their interests. They know staff listen to their needs and wants. Children gain a sense of belonging at the setting by seeing their artwork and photographs displayed around the room.

Staff are professional and enjoy their work. They are kind and caring and interact well with children. They have a sound understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. Staff and leaders keep good records of safety checks and procedures.

Leadership and management of the service is sound. The management team support staff to carry out their jobs well.

Well-being

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

Children have a good range of opportunities available to them and can choose where and how they spend their time at the setting. They move around the setting freely choosing from the activities and resources available to them and can access both indoor and outdoor areas throughout the day. Children express themselves well and confidently communicate their needs. For example, a child requested a basket of toys which was provided by staff.

Children are settled and happy. Those who are new to the setting receive the support and care they need ensuring they settle quickly. Children know the staff well, so they feel relaxed in their care. They form positive friendships that help them feel happy. For example, a group of children enjoyed setting up the role play area, pretending to serve each other at the kitchen table whilst chatting.

Children cooperate well and enjoy sharing the play space and resources. They learn to have respect for each other and the items they play with. We saw children take turns whilst playing on the indoor climbing frame, waiting at the top and counting before sliding down after their friends.

Children show enjoyment as they play and choose activities. For example, children laugh and jump up and down whilst playing a game on the floor mats. Children have increased opportunities to follow their interests and extend their learning through their play. Opportunities for quiet time are available if children require. We saw a child sit on the cushions, quietly observing others whilst playing a keyboard.

Children have opportunities to develop their skills and be independent. Older children freely access the toilet and handwashing facilities themselves. Younger children are given support when needed. Children were encouraged by staff to sing 'this is the way we wash our hands' whilst washing their muddy hands after outdoor play.

Care and Development

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

Staff have a good understanding of their roles and responsibilities within the nursery. They follow procedures to ensure children's safety is paramount. Staff we spoke to were confident in their role in keeping children safe. Incidents are recorded appropriately. The kitchen area is clean, and children do not have access to this area. Staff ensure that unpermitted areas to children are closed off with baby gates or number locked doors. They also ensure that the electric cooker is switched off at the main power point on the wall which is out of reach to children. Staff carry out regular fire drills to ensure children and staff know the appropriate action to take should a real evacuation be necessary. They regularly update risk assessments for the nursery and equipment which are thorough. Staff check areas highlighted within the fire risk assessment are checked weekly including fire alarm testing, fire doors and fire escape routes checked. They have been trained in fire safety, fire extinguisher use and as fire marshals. This ensures staff know how to react to a fire situation within the setting to ensure children's and their own safety.

Staff work well together to support and promote children's social behaviour, taking into consideration their age and stage of development. For example, a member of staff in the baby room, recognised that a child was upset because they wanted their lunch. They are positive role models to the children in their care, treating them and each other with care, respect and kindness.

Staff are supportive, nurturing and engage positively with children to support their play and development. Next steps in children's learning are displayed around the childcare rooms to ensure all staff are aware of every child's development stage.

Leadership and Management

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

Leadership and management of the service is good. The Responsible Persons (RP) are supportive to their staff team. Staff told us they value the support they receive from the management team. Leaders take advice from outside agencies to make decisions regarding staffing and if needed, disciplinary procedures.

During the inspection while looking through paperwork, we noticed that two incidents had occurred at the nursery that Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) had not been made aware of. However, during the course of the inspection, leaders have notified us of these incidents. We will not be taking any action with regards to this.

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
------------	---------	--------

N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this inspection	N/A
-----	--	-----

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 7 - Opportunities for play and learning	Use the Curriculum for Wales 'Curriculum for funded non-maintained nursery settings' to inform activity planning.
Standard 10 - Healthcare	Ensure that all areas of the nursery and equipment are deep cleaned regularly.

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)
Provide children with access to a child-friendly complaints policy and a method to share their concerns.

Was this report helpful?

We want to hear your views and experiences of reading our inspection reports. This will help us understand whether our reports provide clear and valuable information to you.

To share your views on our reports please visit the following link to complete a short survey:

- [Inspection report survey](#)

If you wish to provide general feedback about a service, please visit our [Feedback surveys page](#).

Date Published 21/02/2024