



Inspection Report

Buttons Nursery

**Buttons Nursery
6 Church Lane
Brecon
LD3 7AS**



Date Inspection Completed

20/07/2023

About Buttons Nursery

Type of care provided	Children's Day Care Full Day Care
Registered Person	Lisa Hine
Registered places	42
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	18 September 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.

Welsh Government © Crown copyright 2023.

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.

<u>Well-being</u>	Good
<u>Care and Development</u>	Adequate
<u>Environment</u>	Good
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Adequate

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

Summary

Children are confident, happy and enjoy their time at this nursery. They have very good opportunities to make choices and decisions about what they want to do. Children develop a strong sense of belonging and make positive relationships and friendships. They learn and develop well from the activities and resources provided for them.

Overall, staff implement policies and procedures to keep children safe and healthy. They are kind and caring towards children and interact in ways that help children feel happy and secure. Staff are good role models for children and support them well in their play and learning.

People who run the nursery ensure the premises are safe, secure, and well maintained. The environment and resources meet the needs of the children and provide interesting and attractive play spaces. There is an attached outdoor area that enables children to play outside regularly.

The registered person, who also runs the nursery on a day-to-day basis, has a strong vision for the nursery. She and staff work together effectively. One or two elements of the regulations and the National Minimum Standards have not always been maintained. However, the registered person acts swiftly on recommendations.

Well-being

Good

Children have a strong voice at this nursery. Children of all ages can move around freely and explore their environment. Older children have plenty of time when they can choose to play inside or outside. Children are confident communicators. Older children engage well with their friends and readily approach staff for help or to chat. Babies seek out staff to play with them or for comfort. Children know they will be listened to and responded to.

Children are safe, happy, settled and relaxed at the setting. We saw new children settle quickly and cope well when separating from parents. They form very good bonds with the staff, one or two of whom have been at the nursery for several years and know them well. Children know and follow the routines of the nursery helping them to develop a sense of belonging, confidence and self-esteem. For example, after washing their hands for lunch children knew they needed to wait together before moving to the dining area.

Children behave very well; they play cooperatively, such as when on the climbing frame, or alongside each other as is appropriate for their ages and stages of development. They learn to take turns, share, and help to tidy up which develops respect for others and their environment. There is a friendly and calm atmosphere in the nursery and children develop friendships well as they get older. Any minor disagreements are easily resolved as children listen when staff suggest solutions.

Children thoroughly enjoy their play. They have extended periods of time to choose what they want to do, and play is not interrupted unnecessarily. They are learning to concentrate and persevere with their chosen play for appropriate periods of time. For example, babies built towers with soft play pieces. Older children, of a variety of ages, spent more than 20 minutes exploring resources in the sand tray together. Children also join in enthusiastically with adult led and planned activities such as dancing, story time and craft activities. Babies play happily with resources provided for them and join in with adult supported activities such as exploring playdough.

Children learn and develop very well in all areas from the activities and resources provided for them. They have opportunities to develop their Welsh, although this is mainly during group times. Children have good opportunities to develop their independence and self-help skills. For example, as they make choices in their play, manage their own personal care needs, eat independently, or help with jobs such as giving out plates at snack time.

Care and Development

Adequate

Staff mostly implement good policies and procedures to keep children safe and healthy. Staff we spoke with demonstrate an appropriate understanding of their responsibility to protect children. However, they were not all entirely clear about internal reporting procedures and the system for recording injuries children may have when they arrive at nursery was not robust. The safeguarding policy was not clear enough to support staff knowledge and understanding. Since the inspection visit, the registered person has confirmed she has instigated a recording system for existing injuries and held a staff meeting to go through procedures. She has started to amend the safeguarding policy.

Staff follow good hygiene procedures in relation to nappy changing and food preparation and serving. They consistently complete records relating to accidents, incidents and the administration of medication although parents were not asked to complete permission forms each time the same medication is administered. There was no format in place to provide a more detailed care plan should one be needed. Since the inspection visit, the registered person has confirmed she has put in place new systems to help with recording and monitoring these aspects of nursery life. There are enough staff with paediatric first aid training. The nursery promotes a healthy lifestyle. Staff are aware of and manage allergies and individual food preferences. There is a nursery cook who produces homecooked, healthy meals and snacks and children spend plenty of time outside in the fresh air. Staff keep accurate registers of their own and children's attendance.

Staff interactions with children are consistently good. They are calm, kind, caring and positive. They deal with minor incidents in line with a good behaviour management policy using positive language and distraction. For example, talking about taking turns and praising good sharing. Staff speak respectfully to each other and children and are good role models for children.

Staff support children well to learn and develop through the things they provide for them and their interactions. They ensure children have lengthy periods of time to become involved in their play and support them rather than lead their play. For example, they count blocks as babies stack them, name colours to help develop language or join in with dancing to songs children have chosen. We did not hear any Welsh spoken during general play activities. Staff plan activities for children around themes. These are largely craft activities. Staff sometimes provide more open-ended opportunities linked to the theme within the environment for children to explore independently. For example, a sensory tray linked to the seaside theme. Staff record and track children's progress and development. They give some targeted support to individual children. However, they have not updated their knowledge or policies in relation to the Additional Learning Needs code for Wales 2021 and as a result are not effectively accessing available support for children who may have additional learning needs. The registered person has identified this as an area for development in her most recent quality of care review.

Environment

Good

The registered person ensures staff care for children in a secure environment. There are suitable systems to make sure children cannot leave the premises unsupervised and unauthorised people cannot enter. They record visitors to the nursery. The nursery is safe, clean and well maintained. Effective measures are in place to control risks and there is a system for carrying out daily safety checks. All essential building safety checks are carried out as needed. The registered person ensures they carry out and record regular fire evacuation practices.

Playrooms are welcoming, bright and friendly. The nursery is large and there is an abundance of space for children of all ages to move about freely and to play and learn. The layout of rooms provides very good indoor play space across several separated areas that meets the needs of children very well. Resources are accessible at the children's level, enabling them to independently access a wide range of interesting and age-appropriate toys and equipment. Children's toilets are accessible directly from the play space for older children which supports their independence in personal care. There are suitable nappy changing facilities for all children that need them. A large, dedicated sleep room close to the baby room provides a safe and quiet place for children to sleep undisturbed whilst still giving staff easy access to check on them.

Outdoor space is accessible from the pre-school room and staff ensure older children have free flow access to it for large parts of the day. Although not a large space, it is well resourced, and equipment offers further opportunities for children to learn and develop. Babies use the outdoor area regularly. They also benefit from a lovely sensory area as part of their indoor play provision which includes a large ball pit and soft play equipment to support their physical development.

The registered person provides an excellent range of stimulating resources that allow children variety and choice. Furniture, toys and equipment are of good quality and appropriate for the children in the setting. Some resources promote culture and diversity. The registered person told us she is beginning to consider developing a selection of more natural and open-ended resources. Toys and equipment are clean and well-maintained.

Leadership and Management

Adequate

The registered person runs the nursery on a day-to-day basis with support from a senior member of staff. She has a good vision for the setting and promotes a positive ethos. She works well with staff and has a good range of policies to support the safe and efficient running of the nursery. However, some of these do not reflect current guidance or legislation which can affect some aspects of nursery practice. Overall, day-to-day paperwork is organised and effective. The registered person keeps Care Inspectorate Wales informed of relevant changes or events at the nursery such as staff changes.

The registered person carries out a review of the quality of care annually. She takes account of the views of parents, children and staff. The review report reflects on what children can choose to do and are able to do and identifies some areas for improvement although these are not always specific. Overall, the registered person and staff are reflective and consistently looking for ways to develop. The registered person is committed to providing a quality service and is receptive to feedback regarding improvements.

The staff recruitment procedures at the nursery are not robust and the registered person has not followed safe recruitment procedures. For example, although Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are routinely carried out before new staff start work, other mandatory checks are not. Since the inspection visit, the registered person has provided evidence that she has put the required checks and documentation in place for existing staff. We have, therefore, not on this occasion issued a priority action notice. However, whilst no further immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement and we expect the provider to take action when employing new staff. Suitable supervision and appraisal systems are in place for staff and the registered person ensures staff undertake, and keep up to date with, mandatory training such as paediatric first aid and safeguarding. All staff we spoke to told us they enjoy working at the nursery and feel well supported. New staff reported having a suitable induction which helped them settle into their new role. The registered person deploys staff well to ensure staff to child ratios are always maintained.

The registered person and staff develop good relationships with parents. They collect relevant information about children before they start at the nursery to support keeping them safe and healthy. They keep parents informed about their child's day at nursery. For example, through verbal feedback and a comprehensive daily information sheet.

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

28	The registered person must ensure they carry out all mandatory suitability checks and have all relevant documentation in place before new members of staff start work.	New
----	--	-----

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 18 - Quality assurance	Ensure all policies, procedures and paperwork are regularly reviewed and, where necessary, revised to ensure they reflect current guidance and regulations and fully support effective practice.
Standard 7 - Opportunities for play and learning	Develop children's opportunities to use Welsh in general play and everyday situations.
Standard 7 - Opportunities for play and learning	Consider developing planning to include additional activities in the environment to further support children's thinking and learning relating to themes.

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.

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 04/10/2023