

Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales

**Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010
Child Minding and Day Care (Inspection and Information for Local Authorities)
(Wales) Regulations 2010
The Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010**

Report Child Minding and Day Care

Castleton Playgroup
Marshfield Road
Marshfield
Newport
CF3 2UW

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Date of Visit: 21 November 2011**What does the service do well?**

Castleton Playgroup is registered to care for 26 children from 2½ to 5 years and offers two separate sessions each day.

Staff work with parents and outside agencies to the children's benefit.

Castleton Playgroup provides an environment which promotes individual learning. Castleton Playgroup is a registered provider of Early Years Education with the local authority and works in line with the Foundation Phase.

Castleton Playgroup has the Wales PPA Quality Assured Mark.

Parents are encouraged to become actively involved in the setting.

The group held a fund raising event for Children in Need & children have a party at end of every half term.

What needs to be done to improve the service?

There were no good practice recommendations.

Quality of life

Castleton Playgroup runs from purpose built premises in the grounds of Marshfield School and has close links with the school. Children in their pre-school year attend four sessions a week. There was an enclosed garden behind the premises which the children accessed through the fire door.

The children had a free play session, where they could play both inside and outside as they chose. They put their coats on before they went outside and there was a box of gloves and hats available for those who had not taken their own. Staff took turns to supervise outdoor play, ensuring that staff / child ratios were adhered to. On the day of inspection, activities were limited to push and ride toys and the play house as the weather was heavy showers.

At the time of the inspection, they had just started their Christmas activities, and the children could take part in the craftwork. The inspector attracted a group of children around her at the play dough table, where they were happy to chat away and interact with the visitor and their friends.

During the session, the children were put into key worker groups for a set activity, which was rotated through the week. The children sat in groups for a snack of milk or fruit squash and pieces of fruit that had been brought in by the children throughout the week. The children came together as a group for circle time, story and singing before their parents collected them.

As the playgroup followed the Foundation Phase programme, children's development was recorded using Baseline Assessments and Teaching Talking profiles. There were individual learning plans and observations in place.

Parents were kept informed of playgroup activities through newsletters e mailed every half term and the windows by the entrance were used to display notices. There was also a notice board in the foyer.

Parents had completed questionnaires in June/July 2011 and staff spoke to the children regularly and were aware of their favourite activities. A report needs to be written as a summary of the review of service made from the views of parents and children. The supervisor agreed to complete this by 31/12/2011

Inspection methods:

This inspection focused on the experience of people using the service and their quality of life. The method was chosen because the service has a good track record. This enabled the inspector to spend their time speaking to people and observing their care and their relationships with staff. Where concerns were indicated there was more detailed examination of records.

The focus of the inspection was on people using the service, not compliance with standards. This will be checked at future inspections.