

## XLWales Holiday Club



Oystermouth Primary School, Newton Road, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 4BE



01792324060



[www.xlwales.org.uk](http://www.xlwales.org.uk)

Date(s) of inspection visit(s):

15/04/2025

### Service Information:

Operated by: XLWales

Care Type: Children's Day Care

Registered places: 64

Main language(s): English

Flying Start service: No

Receive funding to provide early years part time education: No

Promotion of Welsh language and culture: The service provider is not meeting the Welsh language and culture needs of people and this requires improvement.

## Ratings:



### Well-being

Good



### Care & Development

Good



### Environment

Good



### Leadership & Management

Adequate

## Summary:

Children are happy, settled and enjoy their time at the setting. They have positive relationships with staff and form strong friendships with peers. Children have good opportunities to make choices and decisions about what they want to do. They are confident expressing themselves.

Staff engage well with children. Staff understand their roles and responsibilities for keeping children safe and healthy. Staff have positive and caring relationships with the children they care for. Staff are aware of children's individual needs, abilities and how best to support them.

The environment is safe, secure and welcoming. There is ample space for children to play. There are a variety of age-appropriate resources and activities on offer. Children have access to outdoor spaces which are used regularly.

Leaders are committed to providing a service children enjoy. There are a range of policies and procedures in place to support the running of the club. They ensure staff are supported appropriately, and most staff hold the relevant play work qualifications. Leaders engage well with CIW and have effective partnerships with the school and parents.

## Findings:



### Well-being

Good

Children are happy and enjoy their time at the setting. They make their own decisions about how they spend their free time at the club and are engaged in the focused activities. Children express themselves confidently and are listened to by staff. They have good opportunities to make choices. Children choose from a range of activities and are actively encouraged to become involved in making decisions. For example, during a construction challenge children asked for additional resources which staff provided them with.

Children are settled and form positive relationships with staff and their peers. They smile proudly when discussing their inventions and colourings with staff. Children are familiar with the routines. For example, washing their hands before mealtimes and lining up to go outside. Older children spoke confidently and told us (CIW) they enjoy playing at the setting and the resources on offer to them. For example, the construction toys.

Interactions between children and staff are positive and warm. Children call staff by their names and have strong friendships with their peers. They express enthusiasm and enjoyment when completing activities. For example, we saw children laugh and joke with peers and staff when playing a ball game outside. Most children sit nicely whilst eating their meals and listen to instructions well. For example, lining up before going outside and coming back in.

Children are interested in their play and learning. They follow their own interests and engage in activities of their choice during free time. For example, colouring, playing pool, using bikes, and playing snakes and ladders. Children take part in physical activities, using the outside playground.

Children have a good level of independence at the setting. They wash their hands independently and feed themselves. Adults support younger children to choose and open their snacks. Children choose what they wish to eat from their lunchbox and how much to eat. Children are encouraged to choose activities which interest them and to challenge themselves during creative challenges.



## Care & Development

Good

Staff work well to keep children safe. Most staff have appropriate paediatric first aid and safeguarding training. However, not all staff have the required level of safeguarding training. Staff understand the importance of safeguarding children and suitably answer child protection scenario questions. There are healthy hygiene practices in place, with handwashing prior to meals and after using the bathroom. Staff are aware of dietary, and allergy needs, and they ensure that medication is stored correctly. Staff complete daily registers and have clear information of which children and staff attend the setting. The age ratio of children to staff is well managed and maintained. Regular fire drills are completed so children know what to do in the event of an emergency.

Staff are calm, kind and caring and promote effective interactions. Staff consistently praise children, telling them their creations 'look great' and that they are proud of the children sharing. Staff know the children well and support their needs effectively. For example, monitoring groups games to ensure they are completed fairly and without disagreements. Staff manage children's behaviour by interacting at their level and engaging kindly with them. Staff engage well in children's play. For example, playing ball games with them. There is a mixture of child-led and structured challenging activities throughout the day. Staff promote children's self-esteem well. For example, praising children for counting and sharing. Overall, staff create a happy and calm environment.

Children are supported and reassured by staff. For example, we saw children being helped when they were unsure of how to build their fishing rods. We saw staff engaging with new children who confidently explored the setting. Staff provide children with opportunities to play with a range of activities and resources which are suitable for their ages and stages of development. For example, physical and creative activities. No Welsh was heard during the inspection.



## Environment

Good

Leaders ensure the environment is safe, secure and suitably maintained. Appropriate policies and procedures have been implemented. The main entrance gate has a secure lock and key code system. The outdoor area is surrounded by a high boundary fence. Visitors sign in upon arrival and departure. There are a range of basic risk assessments in place. The building has the required current safety checks, including fire and electrical tests.

The setting provides effective indoor and outdoor spaces for children to play. The hall is bright and spacious with room for the children to move freely. Children have areas available to store their belongings and access these independently. They have access to separate bathroom facilities. There is a separate storage room for the club's resources. Staff organise the play environment well. There are a variety of resources and activities on offer for the children. For example, providing arts and craft and construction areas. The outside play area is used frequently. It is large and secure with a variety of equipment and resources depending on the ages and stages of children, including balls, bikes, hoops, stilts, goalposts and snakes and ladders board. There is a sheltered outside area which the children use in poor weather conditions.

Leaders provide good quality, age-appropriate resources and equipment for children who attend the service. Inside the building, there is a selection of activities and resources including, arts and crafts, construction toys, pool table, air hockey table, all of which are well-maintained. Most resources are available for children to access independently, freely choosing where they play. Children have access to tables and chairs for arts and crafts activities and eat their meals on chairs while watching a film. Outside, the children have access to physical play through a range of resources.



## Leadership & Management

**Adequate**

Leadership and management of the setting is continuing to improve. They have acted upon the recommendations from the last inspection and comply with nearly all the national minimum standards and regulations. Leaders have a clear vision, promoting a positive ethos and engaging provision. Overall, they keep CIW up to date with changes at the setting, including staffing and significant events.

Leaders maintain accurate records. There are suitable procedures for recording accidents, incidents, and medical records with parental signatures sought. Children have complete contracts, with basic consent forms in place. There are a range of policies and procedures, which are regularly reviewed. Following our inspection visit, the safeguarding policy has been updated to include further detail. They have up to date public liability insurance and are registered with the ICO (Information Commissioners Office).

There are systems in place for the evaluation of the service. A suitable quality of care report has been provided alongside the Self-Assessment of Service Statement (SASS). The report provides information in relation to areas they have achieved, alongside targets for the future. They include parental and children's views, providing an insight into the club.

Leaders employ various staff members who have worked for them for several years, alongside newer members of staff. Staff files are mostly complete and include nearly all regulatory information. Following our inspection visit, leaders confirmed any outstanding documents are now included within staff files. They undertake the relevant pre-employment suitability checks. Staff informed us they feel well supported by leaders, each other and work well as a team. Staff receive formal annual appraisals, with regular team meetings taking place. Several staff have undertaken the play work qualification. However, not all staff hold a play work qualification. Although all staff have qualifications and experience related to working with children in other professions.

Leaders have strong links within the community, and the onsite school which is a real strength at the setting. They are members of an associated professional body, who provide support to the setting. Leaders promote positive partnerships with parents. They keep parents up to date, through verbal conversations at the start and end of the day. As part of the inspection process, we gained feedback from parents, including, *"My children really enjoyed the sessions and were happy to go in every day. They came away each afternoon looking happy and eager to tell me what they'd been up to."* And *"I feel absolutely confident that my children are safe and cared for by staff. I know they will have a fun day, get lots of exercise and meet new people"*

## Areas identified for improvement

Where we identify **Areas for Improvement** but we have not found outcomes for people to be at immediate or significant risk, we discuss these with the provider. We expect the provider to take action and we will follow this up at the next inspection.

Where we find outcomes for people **require significant improvement** and/or there is risk to people's well-being we identify areas for **Priority Action**. In these circumstances we issue a Priority Action Notice(s) to the Provider, and they must take immediate steps to make improvements. We will inspect again within six months to check improvements have been made and outcomes for people have improved.

## National Minimum Standards

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.

Standard	Recommendation(s)
Standard 20 - Child protection	Ensure all staff have the appropriate safeguarding training.
Standard 20 - Child protection	Develop safeguarding policy.
Standard 13 (Day Care) - Suitable Person	Ensure staff hold, or are working towards, appropriate qualifications in line with NMS.

## Best Practice

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.

Recommendation(s)
Develop the use of Welsh language.
Consider developing risk assessments to be more thorough.

**Welsh Government © Crown copyright 2025.**

*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.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gov.uk)*  
*You must reproduce our material accurately and not use it in a misleading context.*