

## **Childcare Factsheet**

### **Important – Changes to Inspection of childcare from April 2016**

#### **The new Inspection Framework**

From April 2016 we will inspect using a new framework that will place a greater focus on child development and well-being outcomes. When inspectors visit you, they will consider four themes:

- Well-being
- Care and development
- Leadership and management
- Environment

For further information about the framework and what we will consider under each theme please see our website – [www.cssiw.org.uk](http://www.cssiw.org.uk)

#### **What is different?**

Inspectors will spend more time at your service:

- speaking to children, parents and staff;
- observing children and staff interaction with children;
- looking at child records and other information to check they are regularly kept up to date such as: child protection policies, statement of purpose, first aid, fire risk assessments and DBS certificates;
- considering evidence about children's development and well-being; and
- discussing feedback with you.

#### **We are also changing the frequency of our inspections.**

From April 2016 we will inspect:

- full day care services at least once in every two years; and
- other childcare services - child minders, sessional day care, open access play, crèches and out of school care - at least once in every three years.

All our inspections will remain unannounced, although for child minders and open access play, we will now normally telephone the service the week before we intend to inspect, to check the child minder's availability and the operating times.

This is in order to avoid missed visits.

If the inspector has taken reasonable steps to make contact with the service but has not been able to speak to anyone, then an inspection will go ahead without prior discussion.

However, all services are reminded of their responsibility to inform us of any changes in their days and/or hours of operating. **We will continue to inspect any service at any time, especially where concerns have been expressed about a service.**

### **Introduction of ratings**

It is our plan to introduce ratings in the future, beginning with full day care and sessional day care services in 2018, and other services from 2019. We will be awarding a rating against each of the four inspection themes. There are four ratings: **Excellent, Good, Adequate** and **Poor**.

We want to ensure that you have time to prepare for our introduction of ratings. At your first inspection (after April 2016) inspectors will talk to you about the quality of your service and advise you of the rating they would consider for each of the four themes:

- This initial rating of your service will be informal.
- This means inspectors will not record the rating in the inspection report.
- However, the inspection report will be clear about the quality of the care we found and how this contributes to the well-being outcomes for children you look after or care for.
- Future inspections will record ratings in the inspection report for your service.

### **Child minders – Publication of your inspection reports**

From autumn 2016, we plan to introduce voluntary publication of inspection reports for child minders. This will help parents when they are choosing services. The publication will be limited to child minders who have asked to have their reports published. We will keep you informed about our plans on this.

**For contact details visit our website [www.cssiw.org.uk](http://www.cssiw.org.uk)**

## **Information you will be required to send to us annually**

The law<sup>1</sup> requires you to complete a self assessment and an annual review of the quality of care at your service and send it to us. This information tells us about your service and the system you have for monitoring, reviewing and improving the quality of care given to children and is used to inform our inspection of your service.

Each year we will require you to send us information about:

- Your service within a Self Assessment of Service Statement (SASS); and
- The review of the quality of care at your service.

We will contact you in the near future about sending this information to us.

## **Further Information**

Please see our website [www.cssiw.org.uk](http://www.cssiw.org.uk)

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<sup>1</sup> Regulation 16 and 17 of the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010.