



Inspection Report

Christel Hooson-Vallestad

Cardiff



Date Inspection Completed

11/05/2023

About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	10
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	25 th October 2022
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	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.

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Summary

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

Children are very happy and feel safe in the child minder's care. They develop positive relationships with their friends and the child minder. Children are confident to express their ideas and opinions. They frequently make decisions about how they spend their time at the setting. Children are developing their independence skills.

The child minder has taken steps to review some of her policies, procedures and documentation to keep children healthy and safe. Risk assessments are robust, and she takes measures to manage any emerging risks that present themselves. She implements effective infection control practices and promotes good hygiene practices with the children.

The child minders home is safe and clean. She has taken steps to review and organise resources more effectively. Providing a suitable play environment to support and promote children's play experiences.

The child minder manages the setting appropriately. She is keen to improve her skills and the quality of the care she provides.

Well-being

Children have good opportunities to make choices and decisions about how they spend their time at the setting. They move freely around the child minder's home, choosing from the many toys available that are of interest to them. All children express themselves confidently, as they know their ideas and opinions are listened to. For example, at snack time children politely ask the child minder for more of their favourite fruit to eat and she responds positively to their requests. All children are very happy and have lots of fun at the setting. They enjoy being in the company of the child minder and their friends. For example, we heard children happily chatting together, discussing how curry and ice-cream are their favourite foods to eat. There were lots of excitement and giggles during the conversation. Children form warm and affectionate relationships with the child minder. For example, when a child eagerly climbed up the steps of the slide, they held out their hand, prompting for the child minder to help them to slide down. Showing great delight at the child minders prompt assistance. All children receive praise for their efforts and achievements, which makes them feel happy and valued. Children know the setting routines well, which make them feel secure, comfortable, and relaxed.

All children enjoy their play and benefit from a suitable selection of play and learning opportunities. They are interested and fully involved in their activities. Children told us they enjoy playing with the large dinosaurs, showing us where they were stored in the playroom. Children are developing their concentration skills. They engage with activities for an appropriate length of time in line with their age and stage of development. We saw children playing with a child size shopping trolley, full of pretend food. They carefully set up the shop in readiness for their play. All children are developing their independence skills, enabling them to do things for themselves. For example, children take off their shoes and coats when they arrive. Older children use the bathroom facilities, washing and drying their hands independently while younger children are supported to practise these skills. Children of all ages are encouraged to help tidy up after play. All children can make choices over the snacks they like to eat. However, children could have more opportunity to extend their independence skills at mealtimes, for example, by cutting up their own fruit and serving themselves with spoons.

Care and Development

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full. Since the last inspection, the child minder has reviewed some of her policies, procedures, and documentation which promote children's health and safety. For example, she now has a written procedure which identifies the safe practices to follow regarding food allergies and intolerances. The child minder follows suitable cleaning routines. She implements and promotes good hygiene practices with the children. For example, the child minder and the children wash their hands at appropriate times, such as after playing in the garden and before eating. She wipes tables before food is served. The child minder has reviewed her risk assessments identifying all potential hazards to children within the home and when on outings. She has taken measures to manage these risks, including any emerging risks that present themselves.

The child minder has a lovely manner with the children and delivers warm, nurturing care. She knows the children well and is considerate when meeting their individual needs. The child minder has a written procedure which outlines how the needs of children with additional learning needs will be met.

Environment

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full. The child minder makes sure the premises are safe and clean. She provides a welcoming and friendly environment for children. She has taken steps to review her home. For example, books and games are organised appropriately. Larger play items previously stored in the playroom have been reduced. Providing a suitable play environment to support and promote the play experiences of children of all ages.

Leadership and Management

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full. The child minder manages the setting appropriately. She is keen to improve her skills and the quality of the care she provides, responding positively to recommendations for improvement. The child minder has a suitable range of policies, procedures, and documentation to support the management of the setting. Some have been recently revised. They include dates to indicate when they have been reviewed and updated. We identified at the previous inspection that the child minder had not always notified Care Inspectorate Wales of relevant changes to her service within a timely manner. We did not review the matter at this focused inspection. This is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action.

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
25	The child minder failed to identify, assess and minimise risk to children at the setting. The child minder must ensure that all resources and the environment are free from avoidable hazards. Any identified risk has a robust risk assessment in place and is followed.	Achieved

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
31	The child minder has failed to inform CIW of changes in their service. The child minder must inform CIW of any changes to the service and within the appropriate timescales.	Reviewed

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 8 - Nurture and well-being	Children should be given opportunities to extend their independence skills at mealtimes.

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)
Policies and procedures should be reviewed and updated as necessary to ensure they reflect current practice and changes to legislation.

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Date Published 26/06/2023