



Inspection Report

Samantha Cook

Pontypridd



Date Inspection Completed

30/05/2022

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	10
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	First inspection since registration
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	The service provides an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language. It anticipates, identifies and meets the Welsh language needs of people /children who use the service.

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

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

Summary

Children are happy and independent. They develop good relationships with each other and make some choices in the activities that are set out for them. The children are beginning to co-operate, take turns and share while younger children are beginning to develop a sense of right and wrong.

The child minder is responsive to needs of the children. She has a kind and caring manner and is a good role model. The child minder promotes children's learning and development well. She provides interesting activities to support and enhance children's skills.

All areas used for minding are well resourced and supports children's play and learning. An appropriate range of stimulating toys and resources promote children's all-round development. The children enjoy regular opportunities for outdoor play and outings in the local community.

The child minder has made good progress establishing her service. She currently employs an assistant to assist with the running of the service. Some policies and record keeping require strengthening, but overall, she operates her setting effectively. She is experienced, and her commitment to make improvements benefit children and their families. Feedback from parents is positive.

Well-being**Adequate**

Children of all ages make choices. They have a selection of activities and opportunities for free play, and resources are easily accessible to them.

Children form friendships and play confidently alongside each other most of the time. They have formed affectionate relationships with the child minder. The children happily approach her for cuddles and reassurance. We saw children snuggle up to the child minder.

Children enjoy their play and are engrossed in most activities which are suitable for their age and stage of development. They have access to all resources indoors and enjoy group activities such as story time. The child minder showed us photographs of children enjoying a wide range of play activities and outings. Planned activities ensure children's experiences support their learning and development.

Children are encouraged to be kind towards each other. They learn to take turns and share during activities and free play. Children are reminded of the need to understand different ages and to consider the needs of others. For example, children receive support, praise and explanations when younger children interrupt play or take resources.

Children are encouraged to do as much as possible for themselves and learn a range of independence skills in line with their age and stage of development. One parent told us their child had developed well since attending the child minder.

Care and Development

Adequate

Overall, the child minder keeps children safe and healthy. She understands how to safeguard children and procedures to follow should she have concerns about a child. There is a Safeguarding policy in place, however it does not contain the 'Prevent duty'. She has completed safeguarding training and has all necessary contact details to hand. The child minder has up-to-date training in first aid, enabling her to deal with minor accidents confidently. She records all accidents and incidents; however pre-existing injuries are not recorded. The child minder provides meals and snacks for children, however meals provided during the inspection visit did not adhere to Welsh Government's 'Food and Nutrition for childcare settings' guidance. Younger children sit in highchairs during snack and mealtimes; however, harnesses were not always securely fastened during the inspection visit.

The child minder has a good understanding of the children's needs and has a suitable behaviour policy to support this. The child minder is a positive role model for children, always speaking kindly and respectfully to them. The child minder encourages the children to feed themselves and she helps the younger children where appropriate.

Activities are age appropriate, and the child minder provides opportunities for children to socialise and develop different skills through planned activities. The child minder is responsive to children's individual needs and provides opportunities for play, rest and sleep. The child minder is yet to introduce a system to formally track the progress and development of children who are not yet in full-time school. The child minder provides a bilingual service.

Environment**Adequate**

The child minder's home offers a safe and welcoming environment for the minded children. Child minding is provided from a self-contained two storey annexe, with an enclosed area for outdoor play. The setting is secure and well maintained and there is sufficient space indoors for free play and a range of activities. A register records the times that children arrive and leave the setting. Toilet facilities are easily accessible, however at the inspection visit the area was being used for storage which reduced accessibility for children. There is a small kitchen for preparing meals and snacks. The room used by children is separated from the kitchen by a gate and the child minder can always view the children when preparing food and drinks for them. Fridge temperatures are currently not recorded daily.

The child minder has a good selection of toys and equipment that are appropriate, fit for purpose and in good condition. There is a sufficient supply of small toys, learning resources, and age-appropriate books. There is comfortable furniture for relaxation and suitable seating and a table for table - top activities. Parents' preference is followed in relation to sleep routines.

The child minder attends a range of events and visits outdoor places with the children for example, play groups, soft play and the park, offering additional opportunities for children to develop their skills, confidence and curiosity.

Leadership and Management

Adequate

The management of the service is satisfactory, and the child minder has a good general understanding of her role. There is an up-to-date statement of purpose that reflects the service and meets the National Minimum Standards. There are a range of relevant policies and procedures in place which are shared with parents when their child starts. The child minder ensures she maintains the required training and is committed to self-development as a means of providing a quality service to families.

The child minder employs an assistant to help care for the children. There are Disclosure and Barring (DBS) Service checks for the assistant and all persons over the age of 16 living at the premises as required. The child minder ensures she collects all information needed to care for children safely before they start at the setting. All families have contracts with the child minder. There is a complaints policy in place.

Parents who use the service are very complimentary about the care provided to children. They value the home from home environment and appreciate the regular communication the child minder provides during the day. The child minder completes a daily diary for all children, and regularly shares photographs and videos of children enjoying activities whilst in her care.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

- R1. Refer to Welsh Government's 'Food and Nutrition for childcare settings' guidance when preparing meals and snacks for children
- R2. Ensure fridge temperatures are recorded daily
- R4. Update Safeguarding policy with the Prevent duty
- R5. Ensure 3-point harnesses are fastened when children are sat in highchairs
- R6. Ensure toilet facilities are clear so that children can access easily
- R7. Record any pre-existing injuries children present with and ask parents to sign

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
N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this inspection	N/A

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.

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