



## Inspection Report

**Laura Withey**

**Porth**



**Date Inspection Completed**

28/11/2023

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## About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	8
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	17 October 2023
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service promote Welsh language and culture?	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.

## **Summary**

This was a focused inspection, and, on this occasion, we have only considered well-being and care and development.

Children are happy and comfortable at this setting. They play freely, are contented, and confidently communicate their needs. Children choose toys and activities which interest them from the good selection available. They have positive and affectionate bonds of attachment with the child minder.

The child minder does not always follow policies and implement safe practice when carrying out school runs. We, Care Inspectorate Wales, have issued one Priority Action Notice in relation to safeguarding children, as a result of this. The child minder must take immediate action to address this issue.

## Well-being

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

Children are happy and comfortable at this setting. They feel confident to express themselves through verbal and non-verbal communication. They have good opportunities to make choices and decisions.

Children engage positively with the child minder, responding well to her nurturing and appropriate responses. They are very settled and relaxed, coping well with separation from their parents/carers. Children display positive emotional bonds of attachment with the child minder and seek out cuddles and reassurance. Children express enthusiasm and enjoyment. They have fun with the child minder. For example, children engaged well and laughed when playing with a Christmas train set. Children's views are taken into account as the child minder asks them before acting. For example, a child gives permission to the child minder to wipe their runny nose.

Children have good opportunities to initiate their own play and confidently choose activities that interest them. They independently pick toys from the selection available. They enjoy their play and learning, with freedom to safely explore their indoor environment.

## Care and Development

As this was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full.

The child minder interacts positively with the children and provides encouragement and praise. The child minder understands children's individual needs and promotes their learning and development adequately. She is kind and patient towards the children in her care.

The child minder confidently answers safeguarding scenarios in relation to the children in her care but is less clear on the procedure to follow should an allegation be raised against herself. The child minder knows that if such a matter should arise, she would need to refer to her safeguarding policy.

During the inspection we accompanied the child minder on a school run. The child minder carried out the school run safely and in accordance with her policy. However, the child minder does not always carry out the school run safely and does not always follow the steps outlined in her policy. This is placing children's health and wellbeing at risk, and we have therefore issued a Priority Action Notice. The provider must take immediate action to address this issue. The child minder has committed to improve her practice in this area to ensure children's safety.







### Summary of Non-Compliance

Status	What each means
<b>New</b>	This non-compliance was identified at this inspection.
<b>Reviewed</b>	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.
<b>Not Achieved</b>	Compliance was tested at this inspection and was not achieved.
<b>Achieved</b>	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
20	The registered person must ensure proper provision for the welfare and care of children. They must ensure children are appropriately cared for on the school pick up / drop off.	New

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
38	The child minder must complete regular fire drills to ensure all children are aware of the procedure to be followed in the event of a fire.	Not Achieved
25	The child minder must ensure that children in her care are protected from avoidable risks to their health and safety.	Not Achieved

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 7 - Opportunities for play and learning	Ensure children have opportunities to play and learn outdoors.
Standard 24 - Safety	Ensure that gas safety checks are regularly carried out by an approved technician.
Standard 20 - Child protection	Ensure that knowledge and understanding of safeguarding policy and procedure is consistent.

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)
Regularly review policies to ensure they accurately reflect actual practice.
Encourage children to sit at a table during snack times and meal times.
Provide children with opportunities for quiet times.

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