



Inspection Report

Fanw Mock

Caerphilly

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

07/02/2024

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	10
Language of the service	Both
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	22 November 2017
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service promote Welsh language and culture?	The service provides an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language. It anticipates, identifies and meets the Welsh language and cultural needs of people who use, or may use, the service.

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

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

Summary

Children are very happy and enjoy attending the setting. They feel very safe and secure in the care of the child minder. Children have excellent opportunities for play and learning and develop their independence through a range of high-quality experiences.

The child minder has excellent knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. She is patient, kind and caring. The child minder supports children's learning and development through a wide range of planned activities led by children's interests and developmental needs. She keeps effective records of children's progress.

The environment is secure, clean, welcoming and very well maintained. An extensive range of toys and equipment promote children's play extremely well. The child minder ensures the environment is safe and secure and it promotes the health and well-being of children.

The child minder runs an excellent service. She is highly motivated, committed and implements policies and procedures that reflect the excellent level of care provided. She uses self-evaluation very effectively to identify and make improvements. Parents are kept well informed and updated on their child's experiences and development.

Well-being

Excellent

Children have excellent choices and opportunities to make decisions about how they spend their time at the child minder's. They are confident to communicate their thoughts and ideas, as they know the child minder will listen, show interest, and take them on board. For example, children confidently told the child minder what they would like to do when they get back from school.

Children are very happy at the setting and feel valued. Children benefit from a strong family ethos at the child minder's house. The child minder's husband often sits with her and the children to enjoy lunch together, making it a sociable event. Children enjoy being in the company of their friends of varying ages, and form friendships that help them to feel content. Children have developed strong bonds of affection with the child minder which gives them a sense of belonging. They receive lots of encouragement and praise from the child minder which gives them the confidence to play, learn and explore.

Children form friendships in line with their age and stage of development. They play happily alongside each other or together. Children welcomed us warmly and were excited to chat and show their toys. Children told us they enjoy attending the child minder's house because *"she is so nice"* and *"my favourite thing to do here is craft, colouring and building with blocks."* Children learn to respect each other and the resources, through learning to share and use equipment appropriately. They naturally show consideration for each other's needs and stages of development. For example, when talking to children in Welsh about their experiences at the child minder's house, one child told us *"They can't speak much Welsh yet, they're only four. They'll learn more as they get older."*

Children thoroughly enjoy their play and learning. They benefit from an excellent variety of age-appropriate play and learning resources. They choose from a variety of exciting and enjoyable activities. We saw children delight in their extended learning about Chinese New Year. Older children enjoyed their discussion with the child minder about the story they had been reading about the history of the animals associated with Chinese New Year. They also enjoyed making Chinese hats, which were to be worn for their Chinese food tasting in the coming week. Children are motivated to follow their own interests and sustain their play for periods suitable to their age and stage of development.

Children develop a wide range of skills as they play. They have many opportunities to become independent. We saw young children encouraged to dress themselves ready for afternoon nursery school, with the child minder offering encouragement where needed. Older children access the upstairs bathroom independently to wash their hands on return from the school run and before snack time.

Care and Development

Excellent

The child minder has an excellent understanding of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe and healthy. She has extensive policies and care practice measures in place to effectively promote the welfare of all children in her care. Her safeguarding training is up to date, and she has established robust procedures to safeguard children. Accident, incident and medication records are completed in detail and shared with parents to ensure children's health needs are being clearly monitored. Effective hygiene practices are in place with handwashing and sanitising carried out regularly. Nappy changing practice is exemplary however this is not formalised through a nappy changing policy. The child minder provides daily opportunities for children to have access to fresh air through a variety of activities including outdoor play sessions after school.

The child minder adopts a calm, positive approach to managing children's behaviour and is enthusiastic and kind in her interactions. She uses her experience and training to implement her behaviour management policy to a very high standard. She frequently offers praise and encouragement and is a superb role model to the children. The children eat their lunch at the table with the family and are encouraged to talk about their activities. The child minder shows interest and pleasure in all the children do and the children are eager to share their learning and work with her. For example, while the older children were engaged in a craft activity, we saw the child minder take great interest in the action figures a younger child was playing with.

The child minder has a highly effective method of planning in place. She tracks children's progress and plans activities to support their development. Children independently choose craft materials and activities from a catalogue for their themes and topics. They benefit from regular craft and seed planting activities and the older children are encouraged to develop their curiosity with science experiments. The child minder regularly takes photographs during visits and outings. These show children enjoying an exceptionally broad range of activities covering all areas of learning. The child minder promotes the Welsh language. We heard her frequently use words and phrases to extend children's Welsh vocabulary.

Environment**Excellent**

The environment is safe, secure, welcoming and excellently maintained. The entrance is secure as the child minder ensures the front door is locked and only authorised persons enter. She completes registers of children attending and visitors to the setting, with times recorded. The risk assessments in place are highly effective and comprehensive. Safety certificates are up to date including gas boiler service, electrical testing and fire safety checks. The child minder carries out fire drills regularly and records any areas to improve on. She supervises children extremely well. There is sufficient space and suitable facilities to meet the needs of all children who attend. The inside play areas are welcoming and provide excellent opportunities to extend children's play and learning.

The child minder ensures that children have access to extensive indoor play space that is suitable for their needs. Resources are stored in a way that allows children to choose toys independently. There is additional storage for a wide variety of additional resources the children can access independently, with some support from the child minder. Children's artwork is displayed, which celebrates their achievements, giving them a sense of pride and belonging. The child minder has plans in place for further development of the outside area over the coming months. The child minder has an agreement in place with the local Welsh medium primary school whereby the children can access their adventure play area for outdoor play after school daily.

Children have access to resources that reflect a multi-cultural and multi-generational, all-inclusive society. Resources are provided to promote all areas of children's development with an excellent range of resources including dolls, puzzles, action figures and multi-cultural resources including both English and Welsh books. They celebrate festivals of different cultures such as Diwrnod Santes Dwynwen, Chinese New Year, Remembrance Day and St. David's Day. This gives children excellent opportunities to learn about their own cultures and those of others. The child minder takes children to daily groups in the local community such as a music group, toddler's soft play and visits to the local library. This gives children a sense of the world around them. Resources and equipment are very well maintained and of very good quality. All furniture is at a level suitable for most children that attend. Children have access to clean and organised toileting facilities and age-appropriate furniture.

Leadership and Management

Excellent

The child minder leads an excellent service. She has a clear vision to continually develop her already outstanding service so that children are happy, engaged and independent, within a welcoming and caring environment. She is extremely organised, and policies, procedures and record keeping are of a very high standard. She has a very clear understanding of her responsibilities and how the national minimum standards and the regulations support her to keep children safe and promote their learning. There is a thorough statement of purpose in place which provides an accurate picture of how the service operates. Disclosure and Barring Service checks have been completed for all those people over the age of 16 years living in her house.

The child minder consults with parents, children and professionals for their feedback into her annual quality of care review of her service. These consultations are meaningful and lead to improvements to her service, such as changing the way she communicates with parents, based on their feedback. She regularly reviews her policies to keep up to date with new legislation. She actively reviews her service so that it is safe for children and is consistently striving to improve.

The child minder effectively promotes current best practice relevant to the children in her care. She is committed to continually developing her professional development and has attended a wide range of training to help improve her working knowledge and practices. This has a positive impact, for example, improving her confidence in supporting child led learning.

The child minder has built excellent relationships with parents and professionals and makes worthwhile partnerships within the local community that improve the quality of provision and outcomes for children. The child minder keeps parents and carers very well informed about what their children are learning and how well they are progressing through updates at drop off and collection times. Parents we spoke with during the inspection told us they were extremely happy with the service provided. One parent told us that, as a family, they would not be able to have the family life they have if it wasn't for the child minder and the support she shows them.

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
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N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this inspection	N/A
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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 10 - Healthcare	Ensure there is a nappy changing policy in place.

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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