



Inspection Report

Suzanne Gott

North Cornelly



Date Inspection Completed

20/07/2023

About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	6
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	13 October 2017
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.

Welsh Government © Crown copyright 2023.

You may use and re-use the information featured in this publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government License. You can view the Open Government License, on the National Archives website or you can write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk
You must reproduce our material accurately and not use it in a misleading context.

<u>Well-being</u>	Good
<u>Care and Development</u>	Good
<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 clearly quite at home with a child minder who is caring and nurturing. They feel very secure, happy, and comfortable at this setting. They play freely, have fun, and express themselves well. Children choose toys and activities from the selection available. They have a very good relationship with the child minder.

The child minder provides a nurturing and caring atmosphere and meets children's needs successfully. She offers a range of free play opportunities and some planned activities for children to access independently or with support.

The child minder ensures the environment is safe, clean, and well maintained. The premises are homely, welcoming and organised. The child minder provides an adequate range of resources, which provide opportunities to develop children's learning and physical skills.

The service is generally managed well. The child minder has an adequate range of policies and procedures in place. Communication with parents is effective.

Well-being

Good

Children are clearly quite at home with a child minder who is caring and nurturing. They feel comfortable to express themselves through verbal and non-verbal communication. Children have opportunities to make choices and decisions. For example, they play freely and make choices about playing inside or outside.

Children engage and chatter away to the child minder, receiving nurturing and appropriate responses which makes them feel safe, happy, and valued. They are very settled and relaxed, coping well with separation as they are quickly comforted when upset. Children display positive emotional bonds of attachment with the child minder and seek out cuddles and reassurance. They know the routines well. For example, at mealtimes and nappy changing time. Children are active and express enthusiasm and enjoyment. They have fun with the child minder. We heard them laugh when the child minder was expressive and humorous as she read to them.

Interactions between children and the child minder are consistently good. Children cooperate well and are actively engaged and interested in their play and the routines of the day. Children are treated with respect and their views are taken into account. For example, children are asked what fruit they would like at snack time and if they are ready for a drink.

Children confidently choose activities that interest them. They enjoy their play and learning, with the freedom to safely explore their environment. They have some opportunities to initiate their own play and to influence their activities. For example, a child requests to go in the swing during outside play and very much enjoys this activity. They freely choose toys from the resources available. They can choose to relax and have quiet times.

Children are encouraged and supported in developing skills of independence. For example, at snack time children are encouraged to cut up their fruit themselves and are praised for their efforts. They make decisions about what they would like to eat at mealtimes and access their drinks when thirsty. They confidently access toys and resources from low-level storage.

Care and Development

Good

The child minder has a range of purposeful policies, which promote the children's safety and well-being. Her safeguarding training is up to date, and she has procedures in place to safeguard children, appropriately and confidently answering child protection scenarios. However, the safeguarding policy does not include up to date contact numbers. The child minder promotes children's health successfully. She holds current first aid and food hygiene certificates. There are systems in place to record accident, incident and medication administration. Effective hygiene practices are in place, with regular cleaning routines followed. However, the location for nappy changing was not suitable. The child minder was quick to provide an alternative solution and has implemented a more appropriate location for nappy changing. The childminder ensures that children play outside often, benefitting from fresh air and prides herself on providing nutritious home cooked meals each day.

The child minder has an appropriate behaviour management policy in place. She follows the policy and uses the positive management strategies consistently, praising children for their achievements and encouraging turn taking and sharing. She positively models the language associated with good manners and acts as a good role model at all times.

The child minder provides a nurturing and caring atmosphere and gives responsive care. She is aware of the children's individual development. She knows the children very well and has a good understanding of each child's individual needs and routine. The child minder strives to understand and communicate with the children in her care. Her interactions with the children are positive demonstrating warmth and kindness. She delights in the fact that one child is very nearly walking independently and praises his wobbly attempts. She supports children in their free play, using incidental opportunities to extend discussion and learning opportunities. For example, during block play she introduced colours and counting to the play. One parent who uses the service told us they were very impressed with the occasional trips the child minder organises, saying they will often have an educational focus. For example, prior to the trip, the children are given a list of things to look out for.

Environment

Adequate

The child minder ensures that the indoor environment is safe, clean and well maintained. She keeps a record of the visitors to the premises. She practises fire drills at appropriate intervals varying the times and groupings of children. The child minder supervises children well and makes appropriate checks on sleeping children. She completes risk assessments for the environment. However, children are able to access the kitchen when the child minder is cooking. The child minder has swiftly addressed this matter by bringing back safety gates which were previously in use.

The child minder's premises are welcoming, homely and organised. The children benefit from a spacious lounge area which offers plenty of floor space to play. Within the lounge is accessible storage containing age-appropriate toys and resources. The outside area has recently undergone some improvement which benefits the children and is very well maintained. A covered area enables children to access outside play in most weathers. Careful consideration has been given to ensuring that the area is safe for younger children. For example, padding has been secured to areas where children could bump themselves. Leading on from the secure sheltered area is a garden which provides resources and opportunities for play for older children who access the provision. For example, a trampoline and a large playhouse which has a selection of inviting and thoughtful play resources. Beyond the garden boundary is a well-equipped park. The park is easy for children to access, and the child minder supervises older children who play in the park whilst also supporting their independence in doing so. The outside area is a real strength of this setting.

Indoors, the child minder ensures the children have access to an adequate range of toys and play equipment that suit their individual needs. Toys and resources are stored appropriately, and the layout and design of the environment promotes children's independence. For instance, children can access play toys and resources themselves or ask the child minder to pull out what they want. The child minder ensures the play environment is homely and nurturing, providing some interesting activities and play equipment. Older children using the service after school have additional age-appropriate resources.

Leadership and Management

Adequate

The childminder runs her service well. She is organised and keeps all the required records. She has up to date car documents and certificates, such as insurance, in place. The child minder has a statement of purpose in place. Some elements of this require review and updating, however. She has a beneficial range of basic policies in place. Her training is up to date, and she has some understanding of current best practice relevant to the children in her care.

The child minder reviews and reflects upon her service and produces a basic quality of care report. She prioritises improvements which will impact positively on the children in her care, the sheltered outside area for example. The child minder responds positively to information and advice given to improve her service and has engaged well with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) during the course of this inspection.

The child minder promotes positive partnerships with parents. As part of the inspection process, we gained the views of some parents and they confirmed they were very happy with the care given and felt that communication with the child minder was good. The child minder keeps parents up to date regularly through verbal communication during drop off or pick up and using private messages. One parent told us that they were very well informed and sent regular pictures and messages while another commented that, *“Always very happy with the childminding services provided, I couldn’t ask for a better child minder for my child.”*

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
-----	--	-----

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 1 - Information	Ensure that the statement of purpose remains up to date at all times and CIW (Care Inspectorate Wales) are notified of any changes in a timely manner.
Standard 20 - Child protection	Review Safeguarding policy and ensure that the correct contact numbers are included.
Standard 24 - Safety	Ensure that children are unable to access the kitchen area when the childminder is cooking.

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.

Was this report helpful?

We want to hear your views and experiences of reading our inspection reports. This will help us understand whether our reports provide clear and valuable information to you.

To share your views on our reports please visit the following link to complete a short survey:

- [Inspection report survey](#)

If you wish to provide general feedback about a service, please visit our [Feedback surveys page](#).

Date Published 18/09/2023