



Inspection Report

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Ammanford



Date Inspection Completed

05/07/2022

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	6
Language of the service	Welsh and English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	7 December 2016
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	Yes. 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>	Good
<u>Care and Development</u>	Good
<u>Environment</u>	Good
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Good

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

Summary

Children are happy and settled in the child minder's care. Children have a strong voice and their interactions are good. Children enjoy themselves and engage in the activities on offer. They are developing good independence skills.

The child minder follows good procedures to keep children safe. The child minder has positive and close bonds with the children. The child minder provides interesting and engaging activities and resources to keep children entertained and happy.

The child minder ensures the environment is safe and secure. The property is spacious and well-maintained indoors and outdoors, with good quality resources to develop independence and learning through play. The outdoor area provides spacious and good opportunities for children.

The child minder is organised and runs the child minding setting well. She is compliant with regulations and meets national minimum standards. Partnerships with parents are good.

Well-being

Good

Children are happy and settled in the child minder's care. They come to the child minder for cuddles and have a loving close bond with her. Children feel a sense of belonging at the child minder's home and feel at ease with the childminder and her volunteer assistant.

Children approach the child minder for support which is acted upon promptly. For example, when children are sorting coloured pom poms, they ask for more, which was respected and acted upon.

Children have a strong voice and feel secure in the child minder's care. They confidently tell the child minder what colour paints they want. Children choose to play with the toy cars and sand play outdoors. Children feel their preferences are listened to. During the afternoon, children went to choose a book for the child minder to read to them which the child minder happily agreed to.

Children's interactions are good. They play alongside each other with ease and with care. Children naturally share resources such as books, sand play tools and painting resources. They develop good confidence and self-esteem as they are praised for their achievements such as tidying toys and eating well. Children listen well to instructions by the child minder. For example, when children were reminded to slow down and be careful when pushing the musical push along toys, they responded appropriately. Children show care and sensitivity towards each other by putting their arms around each other, sharing and being kind.

Children enjoy the activities on offer. They enjoyed mixing paint and blowing the paints to make splats and making marks with the straws on the paper. Children are engaged in activities which interest them. They listened intently to the story about feelings and loved sorting the pom poms into different colours. They laughed excitedly when they threw the pom poms in the air. Children took delight in throwing and receiving a ball and laughed when the ball ran away.

Children are developing their independence skills by learning to use a fork during lunchtime to eat their pasta. They show independence by using the toilet and washing hands. They know their routines well and know when they need to wash their hands. Children develop good fine motor skills as they thread laces and use paint brushes through artwork by painting their hands, painting pictures and mark making.

Care and Development

Good

The child minder follows appropriate procedures to keep children safe. Her understanding of child protection and safeguarding is good. She responds well when asked about potential child protection scenarios. The child minder keeps transmission of infection minimal, by ensuring she washes her hands before preparing food and encourages children to wash their hands before eating and after playing outdoors. She sanitises surfaces before and after children eat their foods and ensures children's hands are washed before eating. The child minder has a suitable nappy changing policy which has been updated during the course of inspection. She washes her hands thoroughly after nappy changing and sanitises the changing mat after each child. The child minder provides good balanced nutritious food for children. She encourages children to drink water at all times. The child minder and child-minding volunteer both have current paediatric first aid certificates. The child minder holds a current food hygiene and safeguarding training certificate. Accidents and incidents, as well as medication records are recorded with dates, information and signatures. However, pre-existing injuries which have happened prior to the children's arrival at the child-minding setting are currently not recorded. The child minder has implemented a policy during the course of inspection to address this and therefore these records will be looked at during the next inspection of the setting.

The child minder has positive, nurturing and caring bonds with the children. When children come to her for cuddles, she responds positively giving children cuddles when needed and ensures they are well-cared for. The child minder celebrates the children's achievements by clapping and cheering. She acts as a good role model and encourages children to be polite and courteous at all times.

The child minder provides interesting and engaging activities and resources to keep children entertained and happy. She engages in their play and learning needs by discussing colours and shapes bilingually. The child minder plans daily activities to develop a range of skills. She promotes Welsh language development very well by reading stories to children and discussing their feelings and asks questions to gain their understanding of the content. The child minder records children's progress by keeping a diary of activities, developmental progress, targets and achievements using online software. She provides good opportunities for children to develop an understanding of cultures and diversity by celebrating Chinese New Year, St Patricks Day and St Davids day.

Environment

Good

The child minder ensures the environment is safe, secure and well maintained. She carries out regular fire drills and regularly updates the maintenance checks. Daily risk assessments are completed and signed, and risk assessments for outings and car journeys have been updated during the course of inspection. The child minder organises cleaning and hygiene practices, including regular cleaning and checking of resources and toys.

The property is spacious and well-maintained indoors and outdoors with good quality resources to develop independence and learning through play. The indoor environment is warm and welcoming with a spacious area for children to play and move around freely. Play resources are at a low level and accessible for the children's ages and stages of development. Children have access to the ground floor and conservatory play and learning areas. These are comfortable with a range of puzzles, toys and suitable arrangements for children to relax and sleep. There is an accessible bathroom downstairs, with a potty, training step, liquid soap and paper towels available.

The outdoor space provides spacious and good opportunities for children. There are areas for children to play undercover outdoors, where there is a slide, balls and netball net, small playhouse, tricycles, scooters, sand, water and messy play opportunities. Indoor play resources are extensive and promote children's creativity, imagination and cultural awareness. The child minder monitors these well regularly checking and replacing broken or worn play equipment.

Leadership and Management

Good

The child minder is organised and runs the child minding setting well. The statement of purpose clearly reflects how the service operates and provides parents with all the information they need. The child minder keeps updated records including children's contracts, permissions and individual needs. She has a current public liability insurance and car documents are current and valid. Adult to child ratios are met at all times and she records dates and times children are cared for by those working at the setting. Policies and procedures are in place and reviewed regularly. She has updated and provided Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) with updated copies of the child protection and safeguarding policy and other policies during the course of this inspection.

The child minder completes an annual review of the setting. She reviews her current practice and training, seeking views of parents and children through questionnaires and creates goals for the future running of the setting.

Recruitment checks are complete for the child-minding volunteer assistant. The child minder ensures all current Disclosure and Barring Service certificates (DBS) are in place for all household members and the child-minding assistant. The child-minding assistant is a volunteer who assists the child minder when needed. The child minder engages well with CIW through online notifications and the annual Service Assessment of Service Statement (SASS) is complete.

Partnerships with parents are good. Parents told us that the care is excellent.

"My child loves attending here and I'm always beyond happy with the activities that they are encouraged to be involved with" another parent commented that she can't praise the setting enough and added that they feel that everything the child minder and her volunteer assistant do is always heartfelt. The child minder shares children's daily needs with parents as well as their developmental progress and targets which are easily accessible for them via online software.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1. Ensure pre-existing injuries are recorded and signed by parents upon their arrival at the child minding setting.

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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