



Inspection Report

Catherine Davies

Llanbrynmair

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

01/10/2021

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	4
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	16 January 2017
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.

Summary

This is an inspection undertaken during the Covid-19 pandemic, therefore we have focused on the priority areas for this setting and not the full quality framework.

Children are happy; they play confidently together and with the child minder. They express themselves well in accordance with their ages and stages of development.

The child minder provides varied activities, which ensure children are interested in their play and learning and they enjoy themselves. The child minder is kind, caring, knows the children well and is considerate of their needs and preferences.

The premises are clean, secure and provide suitable spaces and facilities for children to develop and learn. The child minder has responded to guidance published regarding the Covid-19 pandemic and taken appropriate action to minimise potential risk to children.

The child minder understands her role and responsibilities in managing her service and has good relationships with parents.

Well-being

Children have opportunities to make their own choices. For example, they choose what they want to do and with whom they want to play. All attempts at communication are valued. When a child asks for a specific ball to play with, the child minder responds straight away and the child is content. Children are perfectly happy and content. When we arrived they were sat around the table with the child minder's family eating lunch, relaxed and at ease in their company. The children confidently tell us they like playing with the Lego best and going for a walk around the farm.

Children have positive interactions with each other and the child minder. They share items of play without fuss and when asked, busily put toys away before going outside to play. Children are learning good manners and with a little prompting remember to say please when they ask to leave the table after lunch.

Children are happy and sing a song as they play. They show us the 'rescue helicopter' and tell us how the pilot is going to help someone who is hurt. Children are excited to go outdoors to play. They smile when praised for starting to pedal a bike on their own and enjoy catching and throwing a ball. Children enjoy their play. For example, they try their best to use the skipping rope and then pretend the ropes are snakes and make a hissing sound. They talk to the child minder about a family member seeing a fox in the garden the night before and their day out together last week at the local sheepdog trials.

Children are beginning to learn how to look after themselves and becoming independent. For example, they feed themselves at lunchtime, use the toilet on their own and wash and dry their hands afterwards. They use their imagination well as they play and tell us they had made a card for their father on Father's day. Children's language is developing as they have plenty of conversations with each other and the child minder throughout our visit.

Care and Development

The child minder understands her role in keeping children safe and healthy. There is an appropriate Covid 19 policy and she explained what she would do if she had concerns about a child. The child minder has downloaded the new Safeguarding Wales procedures for reference, if needed. Her first aid certificate is up to date so basic first aid can be administered if needed. Daily attendance registers are completed along with records for accidents, incidents and medication. These were seen to be recorded appropriately with parents signing to acknowledge being told about incidents occurring during the day. Parents provide their child with packed lunches with the child minder confirming she would provide bottled water to drink if needed. The daily routine includes spending time in the fresh air, giving children opportunities to keep fit and active outdoors. The child minder confirmed fire drills were practiced but these had not been recorded.

The child minder engages positively with the children and respects what they say. She praises them for doing something well and acknowledges their help when clearing away the toys. The child minder makes sure children have enough to do to keep them occupied resulting in positive interactions and happy children.

The child minder knows the children well and talks to them about their families and starting school in September. Records of the children's time with the child minder are recorded in individual diaries and these are shared daily with their parents. The child minder explained they were currently learning about animals and talked to the children about the dogs they had seen the week before. She explained it had taken time to settle the children after the Covid-19 lock down was lifted but they were all back to normal now. The child minder engages well with the children and makes sure they have what they need and are happy.

Environment

The child minder ensures the premises are safe, secure and we were asked to record our arrival and departure. We completed a doorstep risk assessment in relation to Covid-19 and the child minder had systems in place to ensure the safety of children, herself and family. The premises are clean, tidy and well maintained, which minimises the risk of cross infection. The child minder revised her written risk records and dated these at inspection, ensuring risk management is current.

The child minder provides children with space to move around in a welcoming and homely environment. She makes sure children feel a sense of belonging as they have low level pegs to hang their personal items and free access to play, either in the kitchen or the hall. The layout and design of the environment promotes children's independence and the facilities meet their needs. For example, children can stand on the step up stool in the bathroom to wash their hands on their own. Outdoors there is a selection of resources to encourage children to explore and learn through play.

The child minder ensures the environment and resources are clean and in suitable repair. She had a box of colourful, varied and interesting resources, which extend children's learning in the fresh air. For example, colours could be learned by asking children to throw different coloured bean bags onto matching plastic circles. There were ride on toys for developing physical skills and a little house for imaginary play. Consideration had been given to purchasing safe rubber flooring in part of the outdoor play area, made out of recycled tractor tyres.

Leadership and Management

The child minder works with due care and attention in order to meet minimum standards and regulation. Apart from being more specific about the areas used by children, the statement of purpose provides parents with the information they need to decide whether the service suits their child's needs. Policies and procedures are available in the Welsh language, meaning the child minder provides the Welsh Government's 'Active Offer'.

The child minder completed a quality care review and comments from parents noted they were satisfied with the service they and their children received. The child minder told us she purchased new toys and equipment during the year, as and when needed. She told us she would be looking at writing a more detailed fire risk assessment record in accordance with the new Welsh Government guidance recently sent to her. This demonstrates a positive planned improvement, which will benefit children's safety.

The child minder makes sure both her own and all household members have current Disclosure and Barring Service certificates. She continues to make sure her mandatory training is kept up to date and told us she enjoys caring for children. For example, she is currently looking at attending online safeguarding sessions and renewing her first aid certificate in the near future.

The child minder has established positive partnerships with parents. She makes sure she has the relevant information she needs from them about their child's needs and preferences before their child starts. She shares information with parents daily with parents. This was confirmed in the questionnaires we issued to them following the inspection visit. Parents further noted they felt they could discuss matters with the child minder if needed. The child minder takes children for walks within the community, which extends their understanding of the world around them.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1. To record fire drills undertaken with the children.

R2. To provide more information in the statement of purpose regarding the areas used by the children.