



Inspection Report

Ian Henderson

Betws-y-Coed

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

01/06/2022

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	10
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	Manual Insert 24 April 2017
Is this a Flying Start service?	Manual Insert No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	No. This is a service that does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language. It does not anticipate, identify or meet the Welsh language needs of people /children who use, or intend to use their service.

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

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

Summary

Children are active and express enthusiasm and enjoyment. They have a sense of belonging and are familiar with routines. Children are happy and settled as they are warmly welcomed and cared for by the child minder and staff. They interact positively with their friends and with those caring for them. Children have plenty of opportunities to follow their interests and direct their own play well. They are developing their independence appropriately. The child minder and staff have a good understanding about their role and responsibilities in keeping children safe and healthy. They praise children for their efforts positively. The child minder gives children the opportunity to develop their play and learning effectively. The indoor environment is clean and suitable for the children's needs. The outdoor area is attractively organised with a variety of resources and equipment to develop children's physical and sensory skills. The child minder manages the setting appropriately, but some areas require further development. The setting operates through the medium of English with basic Welsh spoken.

Children have good opportunities to make choices and decisions about what they want to play with. Their likes, dislikes and needs are acknowledged as they have good bonds of affection with the child minder and staff.

Children are confident communicators and express themselves well. For instance, they excitedly told and showed us how they can make a paper aeroplane and had lots of fun making it fly. Some children enjoy speaking Welsh and create opportunities for themselves to practice their counting and naming colours. A child excitedly showed the child minder they had picked two cherries from the tree and a lively discussion followed about when the cherries would be ready to eat.

Children are settled and are familiar with the daily routines. They show us how they wash their hands before mealtimes and line up before entering the dining area. Younger children make non-verbal requests when they need a cuddle and feel valued as their needs are responded to in a timely manner.

Children interact positively with their friends and those caring for them. They are learning to share, co-operate and take turns. For example, during outdoor play a group of friends build an interesting obstacle using re-cycled pipes and guttering. They took turns to roll different sized balls down the pipes, experimenting with speed and motion. Children really enjoy the social occasion of mealtimes; they are well mannered and sit nicely at the table.

Children are fully engaged and interested in their activities. A child developed their imagination well as they played with a variety of re-cycled cardboard boxes, when asked they said they were making a pirate ship. Children enjoy completing a selection of wooden jigsaws and choosing their favourite book to be read to them. They are active and curious and have lots of fun exploring the outdoor area. For instance, they built a tower using wooden cogs and worked together to make an obstacle course with wooden pallets to practice their balancing skills. Children took notice of the natural world around them, for instance we heard children talking about the butterflies and different insects they could see.

Children are developing their independence appropriately. They use their cutlery well at mealtimes and prepare themselves suitably to go outdoors to play. Children are served their drinks and food which they could do more of themselves. They freely explore their play area making choices about what they want to play with. Children are learning to do most things for themselves with positive encouragement from the child minder and staff.

Care and Development

Good

The child minder and staff are consistently responsive to children, they listen and respect children's choices and requests. They interact positively demonstrating warmth and kindness. They are committed to providing good play and learning activities to create better outcomes for children.

The child minder and staff understand their role and responsibilities to keep children safe and healthy. They have an appropriate understanding of safeguarding procedures and implement the policies suitably. First aid and safeguarding training is current and suitable for the ages of children cared for.

The child minder and staff promote most healthy practices well. They provide healthy meals, milk and water is available for drinks, but fruit juices are also available which is not in line with current guidance for healthy hydration. After our visit the child minder said he will address this matter. They conduct fire drills to make sure children know what to do if they have to leave the premises in the event of an emergency but there is not much information recorded in the outcome to aid improvements going forward. They complete accident and incident records via an app but not all parents are acknowledging they have been informed. There is no clear system of how the child minder reviews accidents, incidents and existing injuries. The child minder and staff encourage plenty of outdoor play in the fresh air to develop children's physical skills well.

The child minder encourages children to wash their hands, and this helps to develop their personal hygiene practice effectively. Nappy changing procedures are in line with current infection control guidance.

The child minder and staff have a warm and friendly approach to care giving. They praise children with positive language and take delight in their achievements. Parents commented their children enjoy coming to the setting, are happy and settled.

The child minder tracks children's progress appropriately but does not draw on these for the next steps of the child's progression. They encourage children to take notice of the natural world around them and as a result lively discussions are heard. The child minder organises a good variety of activities and outings to raise children's awareness of their local community by visiting the local library for story time sessions and nature walks.

The child minder and staff raise children's awareness about some wider cultures and Welsh heritage, but this area of learning is at its early stage of development. The child minder extends children's thinking through asking them lots of questions to help them problem solve, for example, they supported a child to work out how to place the tyre between two wooden pallets to stop it from moving. The child minder is sensitive to the needs of individual children and meets their requirements well. Parents told us they are kept

informed on a daily basis about their child's progress and are happy with the way their child is progressing.

Environment**Good**

Since our visit significant improvements have been made to the outdoor play area to make sure children do not leave these areas unnoticed. The child minder has also updated the risk assessment to reflect these positive changes.

The child minder makes sure the indoor environment is welcoming, clean and safe. Good cleaning routines are implemented. The child minder completes risk assessments identifying the potential hazards to children and what measures are in place to manage these risks. However, a fire safety risk assessment has not been completed. The child minder makes sure information is available to parents on how to deal with emergencies. The child minder and staff supervise children appropriately most of the time. For instance, during our visit a child left one of the play areas to go to the next unnoticed. When we made them aware of this, the child minder took action straight away.

They provide a good range of toys and resources for the ages cared for and children have access to appropriately sized furniture. There are some areas where children can have quiet time and rest, but this is currently being developed. The child minder makes sure indoor storage of toys and resources are suitable and accessible to children. There is a designated area for children to store their personal items which creates a sense of belonging. There are some resources which raise children's awareness of the world around them and about re-cycling.

Many improvements have been made to the outdoor play area for example, the garden is attractively organised with a variety of climbing apparatus, swings, slide and ample re-cycled materials to aid children's physical skills and curiosity.

The child minder encourages children to learn about the natural world and has organised areas of the garden for planting and feeding birds. For instance, re-cycled tyres have been used as planters and children have planted garlic, raspberries, beetroot and lettuce. There is a good selection of natural resources, throwing and catching equipment to develop children's sensory and co-ordination skills.

The child minder has worked hard to develop an inviting outdoor play area giving children more opportunities to play in the fresh air in all weathers.

Leadership and Management**Adequate**

The child minder is enthusiastic and committed to making improvements. They have worked hard to build a strong team of staff and is striving to build positive partnerships with parents / carers and the local community. However, some areas need further development.

The child minder has written a statement of purpose which provides parents with the information about what the setting offers. Policies and procedures are in place, and these are implemented appropriately and reviewed regularly. However, the safeguarding policy does not include reference to the Wales Safeguarding Procedures. The child minder has a good understanding of their responsibility to promote the Welsh language and basic Welsh is spoken.

The report reviewing the quality of care is informative and reflective, highlighting improvements made and the people running the setting's vision for the future. The report includes the comments gathered from all those using the setting to ensure better outcomes are achieved for children.

The child minder makes sure the disclosure and barring checks for himself and for staff is up to date. The child minder and staff do not always record children's and their own attendance correctly. The relevant training for staff is current. However, the child minder has not ensured all of the required information has been collated in the staff and children's files. Supervision and appraisal for staff is not conducted. While no immediate action is required, these are areas for improvement, and we expect the child minder to take action. Staff spoken to said they felt supported in their role and enjoy working at the setting.

We spoke to parents, they said they were 'very happy' with the setting as their child is settled. A parent said, they like the diversity of the setting as their child experiences opportunities to play and learn in the forest and also experiences nice opportunities to join in with community led toddler groups. As a result of such engagement children improve their social skills.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1: Follow the Welsh Government food and nutrition guidance for childcare providers on healthy hydration.

R2: Follow the Welsh Government fire safety guidance for child minding premises to complete a fire safety risk assessment.

R3: Review accidents, incidents and existing injuries to children consistently as part of the settings wider safeguarding practice.

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
28	The registered person has not ensured all the required information has been collated in the staff employment files. Ensure that all relevant information and documentation is available in regard	New

	to staff suitability.	
29	The registered person has not ensured staff receive appropriate supervision and appraisals to discuss their welfare, practice and development. Ensure staff receive appropriate supervision and appraisal.	New
30	The registered person has not ensured all of the required information has been gathered in the children's individual records and has not made sure the accident and incident records are acknowledged by all parents to evidence they have been kept informed. The registered person has not ensured all children's attendance is recorded correctly and has not recorded staff breaks or when they leave the premises to collect children. Ensure gathering and completing this information to make sure all children's individual needs are being met, making sure all parents acknowledge they have been kept informed of accidents, record all children's attendance correctly and record correctly who is caring for children at all times.	New

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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