



Inspection Report

Linda Jones

Bangor

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

24/06/2021

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	6
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	22 September 2020
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	<i>No. The service demonstrates a significant effort to promoting the use of the Welsh language and culture.</i>

<u>Well-being</u>	No Rating Required
<u>Care and Development</u>	No Rating Required
<u>Environment</u>	No Rating Required
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	No Rating Required

Summary

This is an inspection undertaken during the Covid 19 pandemic.

Children are happy; they play confidently together and in the child minder and the assistant's company. They express themselves well in accordance with their ages and stages of development. The child minder provides a good range of varied activities, which ensure children are interested in their play and learning and they enjoy themselves. The child minder and assistant are kind, caring, know the children well and are considerate of their needs and preferences. The premises are clean, secure and provide suitable space and facilities for children to develop and learn. The child minder has responded to guidance published regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and has taken appropriate action to minimise potential risk to children. The child minder understands her role in managing the service, makes changes to improve practices and has positive partnerships with parents.

Children have good opportunities to make decisions about what affects them. They are comfortable making choices, as they know they are listened to. For example, when children have enough playing a game, they confidently tell the assistant they want to do something else and their choice is respected. Children get their own drink of water when they are thirsty and given a healthy fruit snack to eat when they are hungry in between meals.

Children's feelings and needs are acknowledged as they have good bonds of affection with the child minder and the assistant. For example, children are cuddled when they want reassuring and naturally hold hands with the child minder and the assistant when they choose. Parents spoken to told us how their children run to the child minder when they arrive and confirmed their children settled well in her care.

Children interact well and show respect towards each other. They enjoy each other's company and play nicely together, sharing plenty of smiles and giggles. They listen to instruction and, when asked, help put away toys before moving onto a different activity. Children are kind towards each other and help their friends put their shoes on before going out to play.

Children are enthusiastic, interested in their play and learning and enjoy a good range of opportunities indoors and outdoors. Children move freely between activities, with some choosing to play indoors and others outside in the fresh air. Indoors, children identify different objects on flash cards and excitedly tell a story about something they have experienced on seeing the different pictures. Outdoors, there are celebrations when children create bubbles in the mud kitchen or find an animal in the exploratory tray. They have time to relax when they listen to a story in the quiet corner and all of them show off their musical skills playing instruments as they sing along to a Welsh song.

Children develop well and learn different skills by exploring and engaging in a range of activities. For example, they make up their own tunes on the organ keyboard and learn to catch a ball outdoors. Children who decide to test their physical skills, smile broadly when they safely climb the ladder to the slide or get up and down the low level climbing frame/block on their own. Their Welsh and English languages are developing well through the conversations they have with each other, the child minder and the assistant. Children understand the daily routine and do not hesitate to put anti-bac hand gel on their hands before going home.

The child minder and assistant understand their roles in keeping children safe and healthy. There is an appropriate Covid 19 policy and they explained what they would do should they have safeguarding concerns about a child. The child minder and assistant check sleeping children at 15-20 minute intervals and keep records to evidence this practice. We saw their first aid certificates were up to date so basic first aid could be administered if needed. Daily attendance registers are completed along with records for accidents and incidents, if required. The child minder and assistant keep parents informed should a child arrive with an injury. For example, they had taken a photograph of an injury to a child sustained at school and messaged the parents straight away with the information. Medication is not currently administered and parents are asked to keep their child at home if they are unwell. Parents provide their child with packed lunches with the child minder and assistant offering water to drink and healthy snacks of fruit. The daily routine includes spending as much time as they can in the fresh air, giving children opportunities to keep fit and active outdoors. Fire drills are undertaken monthly so children know what to do in the event of an emergency.

The child minder and assistant engage positively with the children and respect what they say. They sit alongside the children, talking to them quietly as they play. They make sure they praise children for their achievements and thank children who help when they are asked. The child minder and assistant make sure children have plenty to do to keep them occupied resulting in positive interactions and happy children.

The child minder and assistant know the children well and respect their choices. For example, children's sleep patterns are followed. Records of the children's learning milestones are kept in individual development books with the child minder and assistant making sure activities are varied to maintain children's interest. The child minder and assistant are responsive; they cuddle children naturally and wipe runny noses when needed. They engaged well with the children throughout our visit, talking to them and making sure they had what they needed and they were all happy.

Environment

No Rating Required

The child minder and assistant make sure the premises are secure, safe and clean. For example, doors were locked when we arrived, our identity was checked, we were asked to sign the visitors' book and use the anti-bacterial hand gel before entering. A written daily safety checklist, risk assessments and a daily resource cleaning log show the child minder and assistant are committed to maintaining a safe and clean environment. Items posing potential risk to children were quickly stored in a locked cupboard during our visit. A Covid 19 risk assessment had been undertaken showing how the child minder and assistant managed and where possible eliminated potential infection, in line with Welsh Government guidance.

The child minder provides care for children in premises / an environment that meets their needs. She uses the ground floor and a secure outdoor play area. The playroom is light, bright and clean and provides plenty of space for children to move around and enjoy their play experiences. Activities, both indoors and outside, are well set out with toys and resources so children can choose for themselves. A comfortable corner enables children to relax or listen to a story in the playroom. Facilities such as a low level sink and step up stool in the downstairs toilet, promote children's independence. Children's colourful craftwork displayed on the playroom walls and the Welsh flags coloured by the children to celebrate Wales in the Euros, gives them a sense of belonging.

The child minder ensures equipment suits the children's age range. For example, younger children are safely strapped into a highchair to eat a snack and there is a low level table and chairs for group activities. The child minder ensures the environment and resources are clean and in good repair. Toys and equipment are good quality, sufficient and promote children's play, learning and development. For example, they can play pretend in the mud kitchen outdoors, use ride on toys to practice more physical skills or sit quietly and read. There is an appropriate mix of sustainable and sensory materials; for example wooden building blocks, water play (changed regularly to manage potential cross infection) and materials to create bubbles.

Leadership and Management

No Rating Required

The child minder and assistant work with due care and attention in order to meet minimum standards and regulations. The statement of purpose provides parents with the information they need to decide whether the service suits their child's needs. Although the child minder and assistant speak Welsh fluently, they do not fully provide the Welsh Government's 'Active Offer' as policies and procedures are available in English only at this time.

The child minder and assistant work together well in order to improve outcomes for children. For example, they have revised policies and procedures, updated risk assessments and purchased new toys and equipment since their last inspection. Their quality of car review includes reference to parent and children's views with their feedback considered also. For example, they now complete individual diaries daily for the children to take home. Parents spoken to praised the child minder and assistant confirming they were kept informed of changes, were happy with the care provided and had recommended the child minder to friends.

The child minder manages the service appropriately. She makes sure both her own, her assistant and household members' Disclosure and Barring Service certificates are current. The assistant's staff file is complete and she keeps record of their meetings. The assistant told us they met regularly to discuss current practices and made changes as and when required, to improve outcomes for children. Both the childminder and assistant keep up to date with mandatory training and both told us they enjoyed caring for children.

The child minder and assistant have established positive partnerships with parents. They make sure they have the relevant information they need from them about their child's needs and preferences before their child starts. We saw parents given time to talk to the child minder and assistant when they collected their children and happy to hear their child had enjoyed themselves. The assistant told us they discuss children's development with parents and encourage parents to support their children's learning at home. For example, children had been learning different colours with parents asked to help with this subject at home with their children.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

None

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Achieved

The child minder needs to ensure that her daily attendance register accurately reflects the times she is present, and records the number and ages of children attending. Regulation 30(1)(a)	Regulation 30 (1) (a)
Regulation 15 of The Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010 (“the 2010 Regulations”): Statement of purpose:	
Regulation 25 (c) of The Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010 (“the 2010 Regulations”): Hazards and Safety:	
Regulation 29 of The Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010 (“the 2010 Regulations”): Employment of staff:	
Regulation 30 of The Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010 (“the 2010 Regulations”): Keeping of Records:	

Areas for improvement and action at, or since, the previous inspection. Not Achieved

None	
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Areas where priority action is required

None	
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Areas where improvement is required

None	
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