



Inspection Report

Ann Morris

Caernarfon

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

22/10/2021

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	8
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	08 May 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 are at ease in the child minder's company. They express themselves well, in accordance with their ages and stages of development.

The child minder incorporates seasonal events within the after school activities, to maintain children's interest. She is kind, caring, knows the children well and is considerate of their needs and preferences.

The premises are clean, secure and provide children with suitable spaces and facilities. The child minder has devised written risk assessments and takes action to minimise potential risk to children. She provides a service for children attending full time education, after school and term time only.

The child minder maintains the required records and paperwork and promptly addressed issues arising during the inspection process. She has good relationships with parents and the local school.

Well-being

Children have opportunities to make their own choices. They decide what they want to do and what they want to play with. For example, children were excited to play with small world characters after they had eaten their tea. They confidently tell us they like being cared for by the child minder. They are also proud to tell us other members of their family have been cared by the child minder previously as well.

Children are settled and content. They understand the daily routine and tell us about washing their hands or using the anti-bacterial gel when they come home from school. There is a natural family feeling as they sit around the dining table colouring. Older children help the younger ones without fuss. They are all willing to wait their turn to show us how well they can read from a book brought from school. Parents completing our CIW questionnaires, confirmed their child felt safe whilst in the child minder's care.

Children have good interactions with each other and the child minder, showing they understand how to be kind and respectful. They sit nicely together, chatting to each other and show good manners by saying please and thank you.

Children confirmed the activities they liked to do. For example, they played ball games outdoors, liked the character dolls and playing electronic games. They smile when explaining about the 'Just Dance' children's videos they copy from YouTube to keep fit. Children proudly show everyone how well they have coloured their Halloween witches and talk excitedly about which outfits they are going to wear on the night. Parents completing our CIW questionnaires, confirmed children had opportunities for physical play outdoors.

Children are old enough to focus for an appropriate amount of time during play. Their language is developing extremely well as they have plenty of conversations with each other and the child minder throughout our visit. Children use the toilet facilities independently and understand the importance of good hand hygiene. They use their imagination by making up stories as they play.

Care and Development

The child minder understands her role in keeping children safe. She explained the correct procedures to take should she have a safeguarding concern about a child and keeps her child protection training up to date. Basic first aid can be administered if needed as the child minder has a current first aid certificate. Daily attendance records are kept. As the child minder and the children arrive altogether from school, the child minder, when asked, recorded their times of departure at inspection. The child minder told us she had no cause to record accidents, incidents or medication to date. She did however show us copies of accident slips received from school, which the child minder had shared with parents. The child minder provides a tea time snack for children who want it and lets them choose what they want. Their choices however, are not always healthy and on occasion crisps may be given. She told us children are given water to drink and when requested, fresh fruit juice. The child minder practices fire drills with the children, the last being the week of the inspection. She intends to revise her fire risk assessment to meet the changes in recent guidance.

The child minder engages positively with the children and respects what they say. She praises them for their achievements, making children feel good about themselves. The child minder supports children in their play and is kind and gentle in her approach. She knows the children well and talks to them about their families and interests.

There are generally no set or planned weekly activities although thematic activities are incorporated into the children's play and learning during the year. The child minder confirmed she felt children needed to relax after school and respected their wishes in relation to what they wanted to do.

Environment

The premises are safe, secure and visitors are asked to record their attendance. The child minder has systems in place to ensure the safety of children, herself and family. For example, the premises are clean, tidy and well maintained, which minimises the risk of cross infection. The child minder added additional references to minimising risk to children in her risk assessment record during our visit. There was a reference to the 'gates' in the risk assessment with the child minder confirming these would be closed if children went outside to play. She also secured cleaning products during the inspection process, to prevent children having access to them. The child minder explained her procedures for cleaning resources, which were appropriate.

The child minder provides children with space to move around in a welcoming, warm and homely environment. Care is provided in several rooms on the ground floor. The downstairs toilet and washroom promotes children's independence. The child minder ensures the environment and resources are clean and in suitable repair. Toys are located within children's reach and suit their ages and stages of development. There are opportunities to sit together for meals and undertake craft activities at the dining table. The child minder makes sure children have comfortable chairs and quiet areas to relax.

Leadership and Management

The child minder has a satisfactory statement of purpose reflecting the service provided, which meets the National Minimum Standards. She has a file for parents to read information about her service, including policies and procedures. The child minder speaks Welsh fluently and policies and procedures seen meet the obligations of the Active Offer of the Welsh language.

The child minder completed a self assessment of service form and an annual quality of care review this year. She noted parents were satisfied with the service provided. For example, parents thought the small number of children being cared for, meant their child received equal opportunities. Since the last inspection, the child minder's improvements within her home mean children have more space to eat and undertake craft activities in the kitchen. Parents responded positively about the child minder and her service in the questionnaires we issued them. They confirmed being informed of any changes to policies, were 100% happy and felt the service was like a second home to them all.

The child minder makes sure both her own and all household members have current Disclosure and Barring Service certificates. Her insurance for the child minding business was in date. The child minder noted she no longer used her car for transporting children in her statement of purpose at inspection. She continues to make sure her mandatory training is kept up to date and told us she enjoys caring for children.

The child minder has established positive partnerships with parents. She makes sure she has the relevant information from them about their child's needs and preferences before they start. She shares information with parents when they collect their child. Parents commenting in our questionnaires noted the child minder was always available to help them as busy parents. The child minder collects children from school, so information shared with her by teachers is given to parents. This provides a consistency of care for the children's benefit.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1.Continue to record the children's times of departure.

R2.Develop a fire drill risk assessment as per recent guidance and regularly practice and record fire drills.

R3.Consider offering healthier snacks at tea time.

R4.Consider planning some structured weekly activities.

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

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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