



## Inspection Report

**Sioned Williams**

**Caernarfon**

**Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg**

**This report is also available in Welsh**



**Date Inspection Completed**

15/08/2024

**Welsh Government © Crown copyright 2024.**

*You may use and re-use the information featured in this publication (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government License. You can view the Open Government License, on the National Archives website or you can write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gov.uk)  
You must reproduce our material accurately and not use it in a misleading context.*

## About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	6
Language of the service	Welsh
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	04 October 2017
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service promote Welsh language and culture?	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.

<a href="#"><u>Well-being</u></a>	<b>Good</b>
<a href="#"><u>Care and Development</u></a>	<b>Good</b>
<a href="#"><u>Environment</u></a>	<b>Adequate</b>
<a href="#"><u>Leadership and Management</u></a>	<b>Adequate</b>

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

## **Summary**

Children are confident communicators as their wants, moods and needs are considered. Their opinions and interests are valued and acted upon. Children have strong bonds of affection with the child minder and are familiar with daily routines. They interact positively with their friends and the child minder. Children are enthusiastic and interested in their play and learning experiences. They are developing their independence skills appropriately.

The child minder has a good understanding of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe and healthy. She manages interactions effectively. The child minder organises interesting play and learning experiences.

The child minder makes sure the environment is clean and welcoming. She ensures toys, resources and furniture are suitable and age appropriate. Owing to bad weather the outdoor play area was not in use during our visit. However, it is spacious and well maintained.

The child minder is dedicated and committed to caring for children. She manages the setting appropriately and partnerships with parents / carers are positive. However, there are some areas which require improvement to meet with regulations and standards.

## Well-being

## Good

Children have good opportunities to make choices and decisions about what affects them. They are confident communicators and express themselves well. For instance, a child politely makes a request for breakfast and chooses which cereal they would like. The child minder responds to the child's request promptly and this makes the child feel valued. Children enjoy introducing themselves and showing what they like to play with. They talk with interest about their visit to the park and show how they use their binoculars to look at birds.

Children are happy and settle quickly as they are greeted by the child minder who has a friendly and warm approach. They approach her with ease to make their requests or for a cuddle for comfort when needed. Children have strong bonds of affection with the child minder and call her 'Nain'. They are familiar with the daily routines and show how they wash and dry their hands after using the toilet and before mealtimes.

Children interact positively with their friends and the child minder. When children do have disagreements, they are learning to understand why their interactions are unwanted and respond well to the child minder's explanation on the importance of being kind to their friends. Children enjoy the social occasion of mealtimes; they sit at the table maturely and practice using good manners.

Children are active and curious learners. They enjoy developing their imagination in the home corner playing with a variety of related props. For instance, a child proudly presented their friends with a toy cup they had carefully placed on top of a saucer. Children take delight in reading books and talk to the child minder about the sea life creatures. This leads to lively discussions such as, who has seen a jelly fish. Children enjoy working together as a team and are excited about practicing their throwing skills. For instance, children invented a game, where they threw a hand sized bean bag to a target. This led to lots of fun and enjoyment. Children are developing their curiosity well. For instance, a child asked the child minder to close the curtains so they could show their friends how their torch worked. The child showed their friends how the torch beamed pictures of dinosaur scenes. Children experimented shining the images, on the wall, ceiling and wooden floors.

Children are developing their independence suitably. They feed themselves well using their cutlery proficiently. However, opportunities are missed at mealtimes to further develop children's independence skills, for instance, the child minder serves children their food. A child enjoyed some quiet time, they listened to the relaxing Welsh music played in the background and showed the child minder their graceful dance. Children are doing some things for themselves with positive encouragement from the child minder.

## Care and Development

Good

The child minder has a warm and friendly approach to care giving and has created a lovely, homely environment. She knows children well. The child minder supports children to speak and express themselves with confidence and provides them with a consistent timely response to their requests.

The child minder has a good understanding of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe and healthy. She has completed mandatory training suitable for the age range of children being cared for and has an appropriate understanding of safeguarding procedures. The child minder completes accidents and incidents accurately and these are signed by parents / carers to evidence they have been kept informed. She provides healthy meals and fresh drinking water is readily available. The child minder conducts fire drills regularly to help children learn what to do in the event of an emergency and the outcome is recorded to aid improvements for future practice. She encourages children to wash their hands helping them to develop their personal hygiene practices effectively. Nappy changing procedures are in line with current infection control procedures. The child minder consistently records the daily hours when children are attending to have a clear audit of which children are being cared for during these times.

The child minder provides a warm and welcoming setting and makes sure children are provided with reassurance and comfort when needed. This creates a relaxed and happy atmosphere. She praises children consistently for their efforts and takes delight in their achievements. The child minder is sensitive and responsive to the individual needs of all children. She encourages children to be kind to their friends and implements the positive behaviour management policy appropriately.

The child minder promotes the Welsh language effectively to develop children's use and understanding of the language. She has a responsive approach to activity planning and listens to children's requests about what they would like to do. The child minder organises interesting play and learning experiences but does not use the observations she records about what children do to help her plan for the next steps in their play, learning and development. She engages well with children during their play and joins in enthusiastically when invited into their play. Photographs of children showed them enjoying a variety of outdoor play experiences such as visiting local sites, collecting leaves to make a hedgehog collage, holding a rabbit and exploring nature by going on woodland and forest walks. The child minder encourages children's awareness of their Welsh heritage and organises lovely arts and crafts activities to celebrate Santes Dwynwen and St Davids Day.

## Environment

**Adequate**

The child minder ensures the environment is clean and welcoming. The indoor and outdoor play environments are well maintained and spacious.

The child minder has a suitable system to manage access to the premises. She has completed generic risk assessments identifying the potential hazards to children and what measures are in place to manage these risks. However, the current review date has not been included. The child minder has not made sure the annual safety checks for the oil heating system and log burner have been conducted. While no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action. Following our visit the child minder has submitted satisfactory evidence to Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) to evidence this matter has now been addressed. The child minder has fire safety policies outlining procedures to take in an emergency, but these have not been dated to ascertain the last review. She has not completed the Welsh Government fire safety risk assessment for childminding premises. The child minder has an emergency evacuation plan in place. Some of the equipment in the first aid box has expired. The child minder has completed the infection control audit tool and cleaning routines are effective.

The child minder ensures the environment has sufficient indoor play space for children to move freely and develop their play suitably. She makes sure the environment meets many of the children's needs and there are areas for children to rest and relax. There is a variety of age-appropriate toys and resources available, but these are not effectively organised into learning or focused areas. The child minder explained she is currently working on ideas to improve the play area and re-decorate. There are some dolls that reflect different cultures to raise children's awareness of our wider society and some natural and re-cycled materials to develop children's curiosity. The child minder provides resources to develop children's language, numeracy, and self-awareness skills appropriately. There is a designated area for children to store their personal items and this creates a sense of belonging. The child minder ensures children's artwork is displayed attractively to show children their efforts are valued. Books are displayed nicely inviting children to read them.

The child minder ensures the outdoor play space is well maintained. Owing to poor weather conditions we did not observe outdoor play. The child minder makes sure there is a suitable range of resources to improve children's physical and co-ordination skills. The child minder has created areas for children to plant and grow flowers to help develop their nurturing skills.

## Leadership and Management

Adequate

The child minder manages her setting appropriately. However, further improvements are required to meet with regulations and standards to create better outcomes for children.

The child minder has amended and improved the statement of purpose, and this contains the required information to reflect what the setting offers. She has not submitted the current document as a notification via the CIW online portal. The child minder has produced a safeguarding policy, but this is not based on the Wales Safeguarding Procedures in line with current Welsh legislation. While no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action. Not all policies and procedures have been regularly updated and some do not reference current Welsh legislation and guidance, such as the food and medication policies. The child minder has not ensured the contact information for CIW in the policies is correct. She has submitted the assessment of service statement to CIW. The child minder has a good understanding of her responsibilities to promote the Welsh language and culture.

The child minder has produced a report reviewing the quality of care, but she has not included the comments gathered from parents / carers, children and professional agencies to highlight what improvements could be made in order to fully evaluate the setting.

The child minder is committed and dedicated in her role as a childcare professional. She is experienced and has completed relevant childcare qualifications. The child minder has completed mandatory training which is up to date. She has ensured her own and her spouse have a current Disclosure and Barring Scheme (DBS) certificate. However, not all family members who live on the premises have a current DBS. While no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action. The child minder said she would action immediately. The child minder has gathered the required information in the children's personal records to make sure she can meet their individual needs.

Parents / carers said they are very happy with the setting and their children enjoy attending. They said the child minder offers '*good food and activities.*' Parents / carers said the child minder '*treats us all like part of her family*'. The child minder engages with the community well taking children on walks and visits to local sites to help them learn about their surrounding area and improve their social skills.



### Summary of Non-Compliance

Status	What each means
<b>New</b>	This non-compliance was identified at this inspection.
<b>Reviewed</b>	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.
<b>Not Achieved</b>	Compliance was tested at this inspection and was not achieved.
<b>Achieved</b>	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
20 (4) (a)	Regulation 20 4 (a) of The Child Minding & Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010; the child minder must ensure each person who has attained the age of 16 and who lives on the premises has an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service certificate countersigned by the Welsh Ministers. Two family members staying with the childminder aged over 16 did not have current DBS certificates.	Achieved

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.

Area(s) for Improvement		
Regulation	Summary	Status
22	The child minder must ensure the safeguarding policy is based on the Wales Safeguarding Procedures. In producing this policy, the child minder must also be familiar with the Welsh Government's statutory guidance on safeguarding children under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.	New
20	The child minder must ensure that every person who has attained the age of 16 and who lives on the relevant premises has a current enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate.	New
38	The child minder must ensure central heating systems, appliances, fittings, including fires are regularly checked by an approved technician. The child minder must make sure certification is kept and be available for inspection by CIW.	Achieved
15 (1) (a)	The child minder's statement of purpose needs to include the areas used indoors, and terms and conditions reference - as required by regulation - also GP to include admissions policy and emergency procedures reference	Achieved

Where we find the provider is not meeting the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Child Care but there is no immediate or significant risk for people using the service, we highlight these as Recommendations to Meet National Minimum Standards.

We expect the provider to take action to address these and we will follow these up at the next inspection.

National Minimum Standards	
Standard	Recommendation(s)
Standard 1 - Information	Make sure policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and these contain reference to current Welsh legislation and guidance.
Standard 18 - Quality assurance	Ensure the views of children and their parents / carers and other professionals about what improvements could be made are included

	in the report reviewing the quality of care. Make sure this is embedded in practice to measure the success of the service as part of these processes.
Standard 24 - Safety	Revise the Welsh Government's Fire safety: guidance for child minding premises which provides guidance to assist child minders in keeping themselves, and the children in their care safe from fire.
Standard 7 - Opportunities for play and learning	Consider what children do is observed and recorded to help plan the next steps for the children's play, learning and development.
Standard 7 - Opportunities for play and learning	Create further opportunities for children to develop their independence skills especially at meal times.
Standard 21 - Notifications of significant events	The child minder must ensure she submits the current statement of purpose to CIW via the online portal as a notification.

Ratings	What the ratings mean
<b>Excellent</b>	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.
<b>Good</b>	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.
<b>Adequate</b>	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.
<b>Poor</b>	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.

**Was this report helpful?**

We want to hear your views and experiences of reading our inspection reports. This will help us understand whether our reports provide clear and valuable information to you.

To share your views on our reports please visit the following link to complete a short survey:

- [Inspection report survey](#)

If you wish to provide general feedback about a service, please visit our [Feedback surveys page](#).

**Date Published** 01/10/2024