



Inspection Report

Donna Busuttil

Caerphilly



Date Inspection Completed

06/09/2024

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About the service

Type of care provided.	Child Minder
Registered places	4
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	15 August 2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Does this service promote Welsh language and culture?	This service does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language and does not demonstrate a significant effort to promoting the use of the Welsh language and culture.

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

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

Summary

Children are happy and enjoy attending the setting. They feel safe and secure in the care of the childminder. Children develop nurturing relationships and a sense of security. They are excited by the play opportunities on offer to them.

The child minder promotes children's care and development well. She has a sound understanding of how to keep them safe and healthy. She promotes positive behaviour in a caring and inclusive manner and meets children's individual needs well.

The environment is clean, secure and well maintained. A good range of toys and resources are on offer to promote children's play and learning. The indoor and outdoor environments take children's interests into consideration.

The childminder operates a good service. She is motivated and committed to on-going improvements. She has a very clear understanding of her responsibilities and operates her service smoothly, continually working to improve outcomes for children.

Well-being

Good

Children have good opportunities to make effective choices at the setting. Activities on offer are child led and children are engaged and motivated in their play. They follow their own interests and show good levels of concentration, appropriate for their ages and stages of development. They confidently communicate their thoughts and ideas, as they know the child minder will listen and show interest. For example, children confidently told the child minder that they had finished playing with the play dough and wanted to move onto the next activity.

Children are happy at the setting and feel valued. They benefit from a strong family ethos at the child minder's house. The child minder's husband often visits the children when he arrives home from work, making them feel part of the wider family. Children enjoy being in the company of their friends of varying ages, and form friendships that help them to feel content. Children have developed strong bonds of affection with the child minder which gives them a sense of belonging. They receive lots of encouragement and praise from the child minder which gives them the confidence to play, learn and explore.

Children form friendships in line with their age and stage of development. They play happily alongside each other or together. Children welcomed us warmly and were excited to chat and show their toys. Children told us "*I like playing in the garden*" and "*I like the dollies best; they have new clothes.*" Children share resources and show kindness to each other and the child minder. For example, we saw children happily sharing the resources in their playdough activity. Children follow instructions well and were able to sit down in preparation for lunch time.

Children participate enthusiastically in their play and learning. They benefit from a good variety of age-appropriate play and learning resources. Children are motivated to follow their own interests and sustain their play for periods suitable to their age and stage of development.

Children have some opportunities to develop their independence skills. However, they are not currently independent during daily routines. Children are encouraged to use the toilet independently with minimal help. At mealtimes, they choose where to sit and feed themselves whilst chatting with their friends.

Care and Development

Good

The child minder has a sound understanding of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe and healthy. She has policies and procedures in place to effectively promote the welfare of all children in her care. However, there are no dates to document when these were last updated. Her mandatory training, including safeguarding and paediatric first aid training is up to date, and she has established robust procedures to safeguard children. Accident, incident, existing injuries and medication records are completed and shared with parents to ensure children's health needs are monitored. Good hygiene practices are in place with handwashing and sanitising carried out regularly. Children who are toilet training are reminded to use the toilet regularly throughout their day.

The child minder acts as a very good role model and nurtures warm, positive relationships with the children. She is consistent in giving children lots of praise and acknowledging their efforts. She treats children with dignity and respect. The child minder adopts a calm, positive approach to managing children's behaviour and is enthusiastic and kind in her interactions. She uses her experience and training to implement her behaviour management policy. She reminds children to wash and dry their hands, after using the toilet.

The child minder creates a fun environment to support children's play and learning. She accesses training to ensure that she has the knowledge and understanding to support children to suit their individual needs. She undertakes observations of the children and tracks their development, with next steps in children's learning identified. The childminder plans for activities linked to numerous celebrations throughout the year. However, these do not include multi-cultural and diverse celebrations.

Environment

Good

The environment is safe, secure, welcoming, clean and well maintained. The entrance is secure with the front door locked and only authorised persons enter. She completes registers of children attending and visitors to the setting. However, the arrival and departure times of the children attending are not currently recorded. The risk assessments in place are effective. However, there is no risk assessment in place for the family pets. Safety certificates are up to date including gas boiler service and fire safety checks. The child minder carries out fire drills regularly to ensure the children understand what to do and where to go in the case of an emergency. There is sufficient space and suitable facilities to meet the needs of all children who attend. Both the inside and outside play areas are welcoming and provide sufficient opportunities to extend children's play and learning.

The child minder ensures that children have access to resources that are suitable for their needs and are stored in a way that allows them to choose toys independently. The child minder has plans in place for further development of the outside area to provide shading from bad and hot weather. The inside area is set up to encourage children's independence. Children's artwork is displayed, which celebrates their achievements, giving them a sense of pride and belonging.

The child minder takes children to many groups in the local community such as a music group, and visits to the local park, farm and splash pad during the summer. This gives children a sense of the world around them. Resources and equipment are well maintained and of good quality. All furniture is at a level suitable for the children that attend. Children have access to clean and organised toileting facilities and age-appropriate furniture.

Leadership and Management

Good

Leadership and management of the service is good. The child minder has a clear vision to continually develop her service so that children are happy and engaged within a welcoming environment. She has systems in place to ensure policies, procedures and record keeping are organised and stored close to hand, if needed. She understands how the National Minimum Standards and regulations support her to keep children safe, healthy and promote their learning. The child minder transports children in her own private vehicle. She has the relevant safety checks in place including car tax, MOT and car insurance.

The child minder actively reviews her service to ensure that it is safe for children. She consults with parents, children, and professionals for their feedback into her annual quality of care review. These consultations are meaningful and lead to improvements to her service.

The child minder takes advantage of opportunities for her continued professional development and accesses a range of training to help improve her already good working knowledge and practices. Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks have been completed for all those over the age of 16 years living at the address.

The child minder has developed positive relationships with parents. She keeps parents informed via private messenger chat and shares information at drop off and pick up times. During the inspection, we saw parent questionnaires and thank you cards that had been given to the childminder. These provided positive feedback on the service she provides. For example, we saw messages such as *“the child minder is very reliable. We trust her completely with our children.”* And *“we can’t thank the childminder enough for everything she has done for us. We will really miss you”*.

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.

Area(s) for Improvement

Regulation	Summary	Status
N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this	N/A

	inspection	
30	The provider has not ensured that records contain all necessary information	Achieved
12 (1) (a)	The provider has not ensured that the statement of purpose contains all relevant information as required by regulations	Achieved
16 (1)	The provider has not ensured that she reviews her service on an annual basis	Achieved
25 (a)	The provider has not ensured that there is an up to date gas safety certificate	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 24 - Safety	Ensure there is a risk assessment in place for the family pets.

Where we think it helpful, we may make best practice recommendations. These are to encourage settings that are doing well to become even better at helping children thrive.

Best Practice
Recommendation(s)
Consider how children can be more independent during daily routines.
Ensure policies and procedures are regularly updated with the date clearly recorded.
Ensure that children are given opportunities to experience diverse and multi-cultural celebrations.
Ensure times of children's arrival and departure from the setting are clearly recorded.

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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