



## Inspection Report

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**Vale of Glamorgan**



**Date Inspection Completed**

24/09/2024

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## About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	5
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	8 June 2018
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes
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>	<b>Good</b>
<u>Care and Development</u>	<b>Good</b>
<u>Environment</u>	<b>Good</b>
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	<b>Good</b>

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

### **Summary**

Children are happy, settled and make sound choices. They confidently express themselves and have good relationships with one another and the child minder. Children follow their own interests and are developing their independence skills well.

Overall, the child minder implements her policies and procedures effectively. She is very kind and caring, engaging at children's level in a calm and nurturing way. The child minder is aware of children's development and supports their needs successfully.

The child minder's home is a safe place for children. She provides a range of resources and equipment. They have access to a variety of facilities and regularly visit local areas of interest.

The child minder runs her service well. She is organised and has a sound understanding of the national minimum standards and regulations. She has responded positively to the inspection, implementing improvements within her setting promptly.

## Well-being

Good

Children have good opportunities to make choices and decisions about what activities and resources they want to play with. Children ask for “*more bubbles*” and “*pink paint,*” with this provided promptly by the child minder. Children are confident to express themselves. For example, a child said, “*I want some food*”, choosing the fruit they would like from their bag at snack time. The child minder listens and provides what the children request.

Children are happy, settled and cope well with separation from their parents or carers. They have positive relationships with each other and the child minder. Children receive support and reassurance, with cuddles and comfort, if needed. They contently engage in play activities, independently or with each other and the child minder. Children ask for help if they need it and ask to use the toilet. Children are very familiar with the routines of the setting, such as at mealtimes and during activities.

Children express enthusiasm and enjoyment. They smile, laugh, and interact well. We saw children thoroughly enjoying bubble play with lots of laughter and excitement. Children cooperate well and are learning to share with support from the child minder. They successfully explore the environment and engage in a variety of play opportunities. When painting a child proudly shouted “*I did it*” when they finished. Children thoroughly enjoy exploring musical instruments, vehicles and small world play. We saw a child independently sing ‘twinkle, twinkle, little star’ whilst engaging in play.

Children are interested in their play and learning. They follow their own interests and engage in activities of their choice, alongside adult supported activities. Children develop new skills when playing instruments. For example, learning to blow into a recorder to make a sound. Children learn colours, shapes, sounds and new language throughout their play and interactions with the child minder. They access a range of opportunities at the child minders home and in the local area, which promote their all-round development.

Children are developing their skills and independence in line with their stage of development. They tidy up and follow instructions well. Many children feed themselves independently at mealtimes, competently using cutlery. Children access the bathroom independently to use facilities and wash hands, those who need help are supported by the child minder.

## Care and Development

Good

The child minder understands and implements suitable policies and procedures to promote safety for children. She holds current child protection, first aid and food hygiene certificates. The child minder is due to undertake level 3 safeguarding training soon. The child minder is aware of her responsibility to safeguard children and can explain how she would appropriately respond to safeguarding scenarios. Accident, incident and medication records are complete and signed by parents. The child minder has systems in place to meet allergy and dietary needs. Parents provide meals and snacks for children. Overall, there are suitable cleaning and hygiene practices in place. The child minder and children regularly wash their hands. However, the table was not sanitised prior to meals, and she did not consistently follow her nappy changing procedures.

The child minder understands her behaviour management policy and implements positive strategies successfully. Regularly offering encouragement and praise. We heard her say, *"Wow -well done you!"*, *"Da iawn ti"* and *"Good boy/girl!"*. She engages with children at their level, sitting on the floor and interacting in play with them. The child minder encourages children to share and uses distraction techniques effectively. She has a sound understanding of their needs. For example, recognising when a child is quiet and giving them cuddles, regularly checking in with them and asking, *"Are you ok?"* She interacts with warmth and kindness, in a calm and gentle manner. The child minder is a good role model, always engaging and observing the children, promoting interesting conversations and learning.

The child minder is aware of children's individual development. She recognises children's achievements and praises them. For example, when a child matches shapes whilst tidying blocks independently. She effectively develops and extends learning opportunities through activities and engagement with the children in their play. With a mathematical activity, she develops children's understanding of pattern, colour, shapes and sizes. Whilst with music, she introduces language such as soft, loud, quiet and rhythm. Most activities are child led with adult support. The child minder ensures there are development records in place which undergo regular review. She completes daily diaries for children, providing key information to parents. The child minder is aware of additional learning needs, with systems in place to monitor, support and signpost parents if needed. She includes basic Welsh language examples in her provision, such as using Welsh praise and colours with the children. The child minder confirmed they visit local parks, and areas of interest allowing children to engage with their wider community.

## Environment

Good

The child minder ensures the environment is suitably safe, secure, and well maintained. There is a secure front entrance, although the rear entrance is mainly used for minding. She ensures all visitors sign in. The child minder has a range of written risk assessments, which are suitable and regularly updated and reviewed. She undertakes visual checks and promotes safety messages to children. The child minder undertakes and records regular fire drills. However, she does not record all relevant information about these. Following the inspection, the child minder has provided a fire drill proforma which includes more detail. The child minder ensures annual gas safety checks are in place. Cleaning routines reflect good hygiene practices. Overall, the home is organised and well maintained. The family dog is mostly away from where the children play. Children can observe tree frogs in a vivarium in the room in which they play.

Children benefit from playing in a light and spacious lounge/ diner. They also access the downstairs bathroom, and kitchen as needed. Outside, the rear secure garden provides a patio area, allowing space for ride on toys and sensory activities, such as sand and water. We were informed by the child minder the front garden includes a playhouse, and slide. This was not in use during our inspection visit.

The play area provides a calming environment for children. There are some resources and equipment available at low level for children to access. Any stored out of reach or view are offered and provided by the child minder. There is an interesting range of suitable quality, developmentally appropriate play and learning resources. The child minder provides resources and learning opportunities which promote children's curiosity about wider society, celebrating equality and cultural awareness. There is suitable equipment for the ages of the children who access the service.

## Leadership and Management

Good

The child minder runs her setting well and complies with the national minimum standards and regulations. She is very organised, ensuring accurate records are in place. Registers with actual times of children's arrival and departure are maintained. Following the inspection visit the child minder confirmed times will be recorded when household members are present whilst minding. All household members have up to date Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. The child minder has an up-to-date Statement of Purpose and keeps CIW up to date with any changes to her service.

The child minder ensures children's contracts are accurate and complete, including any consent forms necessary. Following the inspection visit, she has updated consent forms to include contact with pets. The child minder has systems in place to review documents and policies. There are several policies in place. However, many needed to be updated in line with changes in legislation or practices at the setting. Following the inspection visit, the child minder has updated these accordingly. The child minder has public liability insurance in place and is registered with the ICO (Information Commissioners Office).

The child minder reviews and evaluates her service well. She has a recent quality of care report, which includes parental views. However, children's views are not included. She identifies improvements required within the setting and implements this as part of her self-evaluation. The child minder keeps up to date with mandatory training and uses resources available to her through her memberships, undertaking additional training and accessing support from the local authority.

The child minder promotes positive partnerships with parents. Keeping parents up to date, through private messages, diary entries and verbal conversations at the start and end of the day. As part of the inspection, we have gained very positive feedback from parents, with many describing the service as "*Excellent*". Comments include "*I am very pleased with Joanne that I feel safe leaving my child in her care*"



### 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

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

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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 10 - Healthcare	Ensure consistent hygiene practices are in place and follow policy.
Standard 5 - Records	Ensure records are kept of when household members are present whilst minding.
Standard 18 - Quality assurance	Ensure the quality of care report includes children's views and or feedback.

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.

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