



Inspection Report

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Colwyn Bay

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

11/04/2024

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	10
Language of the service	Both
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	This is the first inspection since registration.
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.

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

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

Summary

Children are happy and form warm relationships with the child minder and each other. They enjoy their time at the setting and are confident to let the child minder know what they want to do. Children have a good range of play and learning experiences and have plenty of opportunities to choose.

The child minder knows how to keep children safe and healthy. She supports individual children in a warm and highly positive way. The child minder is relaxed, kind and friendly and plans a range of activities in line with children's interests. She makes sure she captures children's imagination with interesting activities and days out which help them to learn and develop their skills.

The child minder provides a safe and comfortable environment for children with good learning opportunities. She ensures hazards and risks are monitored and managed effectively indoors. A good range of natural resources and experiences are effective in developing children's social, physical and creative skills as well as providing good learning opportunities.

The child minder manages her provision well and understands her regulatory responsibilities. Any recommendations are quickly acted on. Documents are clear, well organised and easy to find, and suitability checks are kept up to date. Parents are informed verbally about their children's development.

Children are happy and settled. They move around the resources and activities freely and can choose for themselves or ask the child minder to get items for them such as playdough. They are happy to follow their own interests making up imaginary games and choosing to dress up. They clearly express what they want to do. The children can decide on a name for the family cat which changes regularly when the children think of a better name. Children decide they would like to listen to songs and ask the child minder for their favourites which they are happy to share.

Children have close attachments with the child minder and develop warm relationships with other children who attend. They develop a strong sense of belonging and are confident to chat and explain what they are doing. Children are happy to approach the child minder for comfort. The children react well to positive words of encouragement and praise for the things they do such as 'A piece of art' and 'good girl'.

Children share resources such as playdough to make pretend food. They play alongside each other well sharing the ice cream shop. They listen to each other and provide a strawberry ice cream on request. They are confident as the daily routine is familiar. This ensures children feel both secure and excited as they know what is going to happen that day, such as a visit to a farm park. They happily chat to the child minder about what they are doing and are eager to involve her in their play by listening to their favourite songs such as Crazy Frog amid much hilarity as they play. One child pretends to be a sad tiger while another gets their doctors bag out and inspects the tiger's teeth. Children chat about what they are doing and how the tiger needs ear replacement surgery explaining how they are going to remove the ears and attach new ones. The children make constructive comments about what their friends are doing and are very supportive saying 'You can do it' when trying to write their names.

Children have a good range of play and learning experiences and develop new skills well. They like to spend time outdoors and usually in the garden daily. They have good opportunities to develop physically and socially. Children are encouraged to do things for themselves and others such as visiting the bathroom and getting dressed in costumes ready for role play. The children develop their Welsh language skills well using words and phrases.

The child minder understands her responsibility to keep children safe and healthy and has relevant policies and procedures in place. The child minder has undertaken safeguarding training so knows the procedure to follow should there be any concerns about a child. She records accidents and incidents and ensures parents if required sign the records on collection. Although the child minder promotes a healthy way of life by providing children with snacks and plenty of fruit, it is recommended she considers the nutritional guidance for early years settings. Fire drills and smoke alarm tests take place regularly so children know how to evacuate in an emergency. The child minder keeps records of these.

The child minder has built positive relationships with the children. The care is relaxed, and child led, ensuring children's emotional well-being is nurtured. The child minder interacts with warmth and kindness, giving plenty of praise for small achievements. She deals with the children, calmly and fairly. For example, distraction is highly effective and clear, simple explanations help children understand how sharing works when both children want the treasure chest.

The child minder is knowledgeable about children's development and successfully meets their needs however this is not recorded. She follows children's individual routines and preferences. Parents receive a good level of detail about the child's day through verbal feedback and plenty of photographs. The child minder plans stimulating activities and real-life experiences that the children enjoy such as visiting a farm park and which link to seasons, special occasions and places of interest. She ensures children are busy and respects all their choices, interests and requests.

The child minder ensures the premises are safe and well maintained and meets the needs of the children. The front door is kept locked and visitors to the setting are recorded. The child minder makes sure equipment is safe and the environment and toys are clean, well maintained and age appropriate. A safety checklist has been completed and risk assessments identify and manage any hazards and what action is needed. The child minder has purchased new window locks to ensure children are always safe. The child minder is aware of what needs to be considered when taking children off site and has started to record each individual place visited. The child minder is aware of her responsibilities and supervises children well during their activities.

The child minder ensures the environment is suitable and children feel comfortable and at home. She provides plenty of toys, games and equipment and organises these well so children can access them easily. The child minder ensures the space is welcoming to children. The layout of the room promotes children's independence and is attractively organised to enable children to freely explore and make their own choices about what they want to play with. Play areas are light and bright and all the furniture is appropriate and in good order. A garden has a climbing frame and different areas that provide a variety of different play and learning opportunities for children to enjoy outdoor play.

The child minder uses the local environment well with regular visits to different play parks with the children. These provide good opportunities for children to develop a range of skills. Just outside the house is a small stream and the child minder spoke of ways this is utilised in the warmer weather for paddling and trying to catch fish. Outdoors a playhouse and kitchen ensure children can follow their ideas and create imaginative play. The child minder has a growing area in the garden to ensure children can care for their plants. There are a variety of materials including plastic and natural objects which give the children the opportunity to work with different textures and surfaces. The layout of the room promotes children's independence and is attractively organised to enable children to freely explore and make their own choices about what they want to play with. The child minder makes sure a few pieces of children's work are displayed and this creates a sense of belonging.

The child minder runs her service in a professional way. The statement of purpose provides parents with the required information about what the setting offers so they can make a choice. Policies and procedures are available for parents and the child minder keeps a record of children's attendance. Most records are clear and well organised, with information and documents easy to find. The child minder is a member of a childminding support organisation. She finds this useful to keep up to date with information about her business and utilises some of the documentation the organisation provides.

The child minder is committed to improving the services she provides. She reflects on her practice and completes an annual review, unfortunately this year's self-assessment has not been received by CIW in time. The child minder has provided written confirmation that she has already completed the recommendations evidencing she is proactive in wanting to provide the best care possible for the children. The child minder is aware of her strengths and areas to improve. Parent's views are considered, and feedback is actively sought. Parents are very pleased with the service they receive and comment on 'Nice safe environment'. 'I am happy with the daily logs and chats'. 'Always has a great time'.

The child minder ensures she keeps up to date with all mandatory training and current guidance to improve her knowledge and carry out her role effectively. All relevant family members have a current Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.

The child minder has built effective partnerships with parents. She keeps them well informed about their child's day through daily logs which shows photographs of the children enjoying their time with her. The child minder is sensitive to the needs of the children and their parents and forms are completed before the child starts so the child minder can provide a good level of care. Regular updates from parents ensure that the changing needs of the children continue to be met.

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. Where the provider has failed to make the necessary improvements we will escalate the matter by issuing a Priority Action Notice.

Area(s) for Improvement

Regulation	Summary	Status
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N/A	No non-compliance of this type was identified at this inspection	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)
	No NMS Recommendations were identified at this inspection

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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