



Inspection Report

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Llanidloes



Date Inspection Completed

06/06/2024

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	6
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	[Manual Insert] First since registration
Is this a Flying Start service?	[Manual Insert] 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>	Excellent
<u>Care and Development</u>	Excellent
<u>Environment</u>	Good
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Good

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

Summary

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at this setting. They feel very secure, happy, and comfortable. They play freely, are extremely contented, and happily communicate their needs. Children confidently choose toys and activities which interest them from the excellent selection available. They have very positive and affectionate bonds of attachment with the child minder and each other.

The child minder has a comprehensive range of policies in place, which promote the children's well-being. The child minder provides a nurturing and caring atmosphere and consistently meets children's needs successfully. She offers an excellent range of free play opportunities and engaging planned activities for children to access independently or with support.

The child minder ensures the environment is safe, clean, and well maintained. The premises are welcoming, homely and well organised. Detailed risk assessments and safety checks are in place. The child minder provides a wide range of engaging resources, which extend children's play and further their development.

The service is managed well. The child minder has a beneficial range of policies and procedures which are shared with parents. Communication with parents is very effective. Links with the community are good.

Children are very confident communicators as their wants, moods and needs are fully considered. They know that their verbal and non-verbal communication will be acted upon. Children move around confidently, exploring and following their interests. They have very good opportunities to make choices and decisions about what affects them. For example, during outdoor play they were encouraged to choose what they wanted to play with and were happy to tell the child minder when they were hungry.

Children are delighted and express enthusiasm and enjoyment. Throughout their time at the setting, we saw children happy, smiling and laughing whilst washing their dolls in the bathtub. Children confidently speak with visitors. Their individual needs are met, and their routines are supported. They clearly have a strong sense of belonging, forming strong relationships and are very familiar with routines.

Interactions between children and the child minder are consistently stimulating. Children cooperate enthusiastically and feel inspired and motivated. Children confidently interact with each other and include visitors in their play, showing an exceptional sense of confidence. There is lots of positive play between different age groups of children, as well as with the child minder.

Children are highly motivated, animated, and fully engaged in their play and learning. We heard children mumbling to themselves as they played, and they concentrated for a good amount of time on their chosen activity. They eagerly enjoy interesting and stimulating opportunities indoors and outdoors and can choose to relax and have quiet times. Children have freedom to safely explore their indoor and outdoor environment. For instance, they move confidently between rooms and around the furniture and resources safely.

Children are self-motivated to initiate their own play and to influence their tasks and activities because there is a focus on child led activities. Children take part in activities resulting in a great feeling of achievement and high self-esteem. They are enthusiastic to show or talk about what they have been doing. Children have good opportunities to develop their independence skills, enabling them to do things for themselves successfully. For instance, they were encouraged to try and put their shoes on or access resources independently before being offered support.

Care and Development

Excellent

The child minder has an excellent understanding of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe and healthy. She has a clear understanding about the procedures to follow should she need to make a safeguarding referral and has successfully completed the relevant safeguarding training for child minders. There are effective systems in place to record accidents, incidents and medication administration. Effective and robust hygiene practices are in place. Handwashing and sanitising are carried out regularly and nappy changing procedures are appropriately followed. The child minder prioritises children's wellbeing and safety and holds current paediatric first aid and food hygiene certificates. She encourages lots of movement and outdoor activities to promote children's gross motor skills and physical development.

The child minder is experienced and carries out her role professionally and to the best of her ability. She is very aware of the individual needs of all the children in her care. The child minder is very kind and nurturing towards the children. She manages children's behaviours exceptionally well using a gentle tone and lots of praise to reinforce positive behaviour. She allows the children time to correct their behaviour and make the right decisions. For example, she asked the children to remind themselves of the rules and let her know what they needed to do differently and the reasons why.

The child minder has established excellent bonds with the children in her care and she is clearly adored by the children. The child minder has an excellent understanding and is knowledgeable of every child's stage of development. She is an exemplary role model and has created a calm, nurturing and homely environment in which children thrive. The child minder promotes children's learning and development very effectively. She plans opportunities which enables them to develop their skills. For example, Easter crafts, Mehndi patterns for Diwali, Santes Dwywnwen cards, Eid baskets and Chinese New Year lanterns.

Environment

Good

The child minder ensures that the environment is safe, clean, and well maintained. The child minder keeps the front entrance door locked. She practises fire drills at suitable intervals and completes safety tests on smoke detectors. She supervises children well and understands the difference between acceptable and unacceptable risk for the age group of children she cares for. She completes thorough risk assessments for the environment and outings.

The premises is welcoming, well organised, and accessible to all. Children benefit from a dedicated play area which is homely, bright, and engaging. Low-level furniture and accessible storage containing toys and natural resources promote children's independence and curiosity. The child minder's large, enclosed garden has been developed and includes a sheltered all-weather area, patio and grass area. Children are able to have free flow access from the playroom, allowing freedom of choice where they choose to play. The child minder provides quiet areas for children to rest and sleep when they need to. The child minder also has extra play space outdoors which offers a vast amount of play opportunities.

The child minder ensures the children have access to an extensive range of toys and play equipment that suit their individual needs. The child minder regularly refreshes and renews the resources in line with her thematic planning. Toys and resources are stored appropriately, and the layout and design of the play environment promotes children's independence. For instance, children can access toys and resources themselves. The child minder ensures the play environment is homely and nurturing and provides interesting activities and play equipment. Diversity is encouraged through varied resources and exploring celebrations from differing cultures. Planning is thematic and the child minder tracks the children's progress. However, there is scope for these to be linked together to plan next steps for each child.

Leadership and Management

Good

The child minder runs her service extremely well and exceeds the National Minimum Standards (NMS). She is very organised and keeps all the required records. A statement of purpose is in place which provide those who use the setting with an accurate reflection of the service provided. The child minder has a range of beneficial, easy to read, policies in place which she shares with parents. The child minder is suitably qualified and has a clear vision for her service. She has a strong culture of continuous personal development and has completed numerous training courses since registration.

The child minder reviews and reflects upon her service and produces a purposeful quality of care report. She seeks information from parents and children to support her in the evaluation of her service and provides an opportunity to make suggestions for improvements to the service. The report looks at what works well at the setting and clearly targets areas for improvement.

The child minder promotes positive partnerships with parents and other professional child minders. She keeps parents up to date regularly through verbal, private messages, and social media posts. The child minder makes good use of her local community and environment engaging in interesting and stimulating trips which will benefit the children's development and learning. For example, using the local library, local park and rural walks.

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

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)
To consider linking up the planning, observations and next steps for all children

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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