



Inspection Report

Rachael Jones

Llangefni



Date Inspection Completed

07/09/2023

About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	9
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	Click or tap here to enter text. 22 March 2017
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.

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

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 are active and express enthusiasm and enjoyment in their play and learning experiences. They have a sense of belonging, forming friendships and are familiar with the daily routines. Children have freedom to safely explore their play areas and develop their independence well.

The child minder has a warm and kind approach towards care giving. She implements most of her policies suitably to keep children safe and healthy. The child minder organises appropriate play and learning experiences and encourages children to play in the fresh air to develop their physical skills.

The child minder makes sure the environment is clean and generally secure. However, risk assessments are not robust enough and do not fully reflect the premises, activities, and outings. Toys and resources are suitable for the ages of children being cared for. The outdoor play area is spacious and there are appropriate resources to develop children's curiosity and physical skills.

The child minder is committed and responsive to making improvements. However, improvements are required to meet regulations and create better outcomes for children.

Children have good opportunities to make choices and decisions about what affects them. Their feelings, likes, dislikes and needs are acknowledged as they have good bonds of affection with the child minder.

Children are confident communicators and express themselves well. They enjoy introducing themselves and showing the different pictures on their t-shirts. A child said they liked 'pink' and proudly showed their outfit. Children enjoy talking to the child minder about what they have been doing. For instance, a child confidently told the child minder a story about when they went shopping for new shoes and showed how the shop assistant measured their feet.

Children are very happy and settled. They are familiar with the daily routines and show how they wash their hands and prepare themselves for mealtimes. Children approach the child minder with ease to make their requests and these are responded to swiftly. For instance, a child made a polite request to water the vegetables in the garden and this is what they did.

Children interact positively with their friends and the child minder. They enjoy the social occasion of mealtimes and practice using good manners. Children are demonstrating kindness. For instance, they greeted their friends with big smiles and a hug and held each other's hands as they went on a walk with the child minder. Children are learning to share and take turns well. For example, friends shared the food props to make a picnic display and took turns to assemble the ice cream cones neatly in the serving tray. They co-operated well to tidy up their toys and helped the child minder to prepare for nappy changing handing her their changing bag.

Children are active and curious learners. They are fully engaged in their play and learning experiences. For instance, children were busy in the home corner and practiced their counting skills by working out how many plates they needed for each of their friends. They enjoyed the puzzles on offer and a child showed their friend how they could put the correct colour chick in the correct eggshell. Children enjoy learning about the plants and vegetables they have been growing in the garden. They showed interest and interacted well throughout a story about the importance of having worms in the garden. During outdoor play, children developed their physical skills well in the fresh air. They had lots of fun running around the garden, exploring the sand tray, and practicing climbing the slide apparatus.

Children are developing their independence skills well. They explore their play area following their own interests and developing their imagination. For example, a child chose shop related props and organised them carefully on a table, then invited their friend to come into the shop.

Children are confident to relax and have quiet time, reading their favourite books or dressing their dolls. Children are doing things for themselves with positive encouragement from the child minder.

The child minder has a friendly and warm approach to care giving. She praises children for their efforts positively. The child minder is consistently responsive; she listens and respects children's views.

The child minder understands most of her role and responsibilities to keep children safe and healthy. She has an appropriate understanding of safeguarding procedures and implements most of her policies suitably. First aid and safeguarding training is current and suitable for the ages of children cared for. The child minder completes accident and incident records accurately and these are signed by parents and carers to evidence they are being kept informed. She encourages children to wash their hands, and this helps to develop their personal hygiene practice effectively. The child minder does not fully follow the current infection control guidance in relation to nappy changing procedures, for example, she does not wear a disposable apron. Since our visit the child minder has confirmed she has changed her practice in line with current guidance. The child minder records children's daily attendance, however, we found the child minder was caring for four children under the age of 5 years on the day of the inspection. Since our visit the child minder has submitted satisfactory evidence of making alternative arrangements to ensure she is operating in line with the ratios as set out in the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Child Care (NMS). The child minder told us she conducts fire drills to make sure children know what to do if they must leave the premises in the event of an emergency, but there was no record to evidence these taking place. The child minder promotes healthy eating but drinking options for children do not follow current guidance as fruit squash is being offered along with fresh drinking water. The child minder encourages outdoor activities for children to play in the fresh air and this helps to develop their physical skills appropriately.

The child minder praises children for their efforts and takes delight in their achievements. She provides them with lots of cuddles when needed and speaks to them in a calm and gentle manner.

The child minder has a responsive approach to activity planning. For example, she organised a lovely story time session and encouraged children to interact throughout. The child minder no longer keeps a written record of children's development and there is no plan to prepare for the next steps in their learning. The child minder, however presented photographs of children participating in various activities to capture their progress. She ensures children are engaged in their local community and raises their awareness of their local surroundings well. For example, photographs of children showed them playing on a tractor in the local park, building sandcastles on the beach, blackberry picking at a local nature reserve and shopping for flowers to plant in the garden.

The child minder raises children's awareness about their wider society through celebrating different cultural festivals. For example, photographs showed children tasting international foods and making related craft work.

Environment**Adequate**

The child minder ensures the environment is clean, generally secure, and well maintained both indoors and outdoors. There is sufficient play space for children to move freely.

Risk assessments were previously highlighted as an area for improvement during our last visit. However, they continue not to be fully reflective of the premises, activities and outings children participate in. They do not fully identify the potential hazards to children and what measures are in place to manage these risks. The child minder has not robustly risk assessed the outdoor play area and does not provide enough reassurance that appropriate supervision of children will be in place while they use this area for their play. This is placing children's health and wellbeing at risk, and we have therefore issued a priority action notice. The child minder must take immediate action to address this issue. She makes sure information is available to parents and carers on how to deal with emergencies. When the child minder took children for a walk in the village, she made sure she provided appropriate supervision and re-enforced road safety rules.

The environment is spacious and welcoming. The layout of the playroom promotes children's independence enabling them to freely explore and make their own choices about what they want to play with. The child minder ensures there is a designated area for children to store their personal items and this creates a sense of belonging. She displays children's artwork attractively and this shows children their efforts are valued.

The child minder provides toys and resources suitable for the ages cared for and children have some access to appropriately sized furniture. Indoor storage of toys and resources are suitable and accessible to children. Some dolls and resources reflect different cultures. There is a good choice of books available, and the child minder has displayed these nicely to encourage children to read them.

The outdoor area is spacious and consists of a climbing apparatus, mud kitchen, fairy garden, some re-cycled materials and slide to help develop children's curiosity and physical skills. There are planting areas to encourage children to learn about the natural world and experience growing flowers and vegetables.

Leadership and Management

Adequate

The child minder manages her setting suitably. However, improvements are required to meet regulations.

The child minder's statement of purpose contains the required information to provide parents and carers with information about what the setting offers but does not provide enough information about the arrangements for using the outdoor play space. Most policies and procedures have been regularly reviewed but some require updating, for example, the safeguarding policy has not been updated to contain information relating to current legislation and the food and nutrition policy does not refer to current guidance. The child minder has a suitable understanding of her responsibility to promote the Welsh language and basic Welsh is spoken.

The child minder's report reviewing the quality of care is reflective and informative and draws on the comments gathered from those using the setting. The child minder uses this information to evaluate the service she offers and identify any areas for future improvement.

The child minder is experienced and has achieved a Level 5 qualification in leadership within childcare learning and development. The child minder ensures she and those persons living on the premises have an enhanced disclosure and barring service (DBS) check to evidence their suitability to safeguard children. The child minder has not collated all the required information about children to ensure she can fully meet their individual needs, for example, the child minder had not received the signed contract from a parent / carer with all the relevant contractual and current information about the child. While no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action.

The child minder shares photographs of children in a variety of activities within the premises and in their local surroundings with parents and carers on her private business social media page. The child minder also prepares a regular newsletter to keep those using the setting updated on developments.

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
25	The registered person must ensure risk assessments are fully reflective of the premises, activities and outings children participate in. The registered person must ensure she identifies the potential hazards to children fully and what measures are in place to manage these risks especially in the outdoor play area.	New

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
30	The registered person must ensure all the required information has been collated in the children's individual records in order to meet their individual and care needs.	New

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	To ensure the Public Health Wales guidance (2019) for Childcare Settings (0-5 years) in Wales (Nurseries, Childminding and Playgroups) is followed in relation to nappy changing procedures.
Standard 12 - Food and drink	To make sure the Welsh Government food and nutrition guidance is followed consistently in relation to healthy hydration.
Standard 24 - Safety	To formalise the recording of fire drills.

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 ensure all policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and contain reference to current legislation and guidance.

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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