



Inspection Report

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Swansea



Date Inspection Completed

02/05/2024

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About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	10
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	22 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>	Excellent
<u>Care and Development</u>	Excellent
<u>Environment</u>	Excellent
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Excellent

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

Summary

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the child minder's home because they have an excellent voice and express themselves extremely well. They communicate effectively; consistently making choices about what they do and how they want to spend their time at the setting. Children engage in purposeful play-based activities and form positive friendships with their friends and the child minder.

The child minder has an excellent understanding of her roles and responsibilities, ensuring safeguarding underpins her practice. She has excellent hygiene procedures and diligently maintains detailed records in relation to accidents and incidents. The child minder has an excellent understanding of children's individual needs, and she plans effectively.

The child minder provides a spacious, clean and secure environment. The indoor and outdoor spaces provide a rich environment for play and learning as they are welcoming, child friendly and have excellent resources to extend children's curiosity. The resources and equipment meet the needs of the children and the child minder identifies any unnecessary risks to children and eliminates them as much as possible.

The child minder has excellent organisational skills and runs an efficient service. She has a strong sense of purpose and uses feedback effectively to inform her quality of care report. The child minder clearly enjoys her role and has developed excellent partnerships with parents who speak very highly of her.

Well-being	Excellent
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Children have an excellent voice and express themselves extremely well. They are confident making their own choices about what they want to do and where they want to play. Children's opinions and interests are highly valued and acted upon and they successfully retrieve resources from other areas to use in their play. For example, one child took the accessories from the toy kitchen to use in their play with the small world resources.

Children are relaxed and settled at the setting; they happily express themselves because they know they will be listened to. For example, they told the child minder when they were ready for lunch, and they told her what they wanted to eat. Children feel safe and secure because they know the child minder respects their feelings and concerns. She responds with genuine care and affection and takes time to listen to them. Children are very familiar with the routines and the environment. They know where to find resources and confidently help themselves. For example, when children wanted some musical resources, they knew where to find them.

Interactions are extremely positive between the children and the child minder. Children are forming authentic relationships; thinking about each other and doing things for their friends. For example, when a child gave a younger child something to play with, they said, "*Here you go, this is for you, you will like it!*" The child minder immediately praised the child and told them, "*That was a very kind thing to do.*" Children benefit from her consistency, and this means they are building positive bonds of affection with her as they receive lots of attention and praise.

Children have an excellent range of opportunities to engage in self-directed play as well as directed activities. They are very curious learners and are extremely motivated and engaged in their play and learning. For example, children were engrossed when playing with the different vehicles and extended their play further by incorporating various resources from other areas of the playroom into their play. This meant they were immersed in their experience for an extended period and thoroughly enjoyed using their imaginations.

Children have excellent opportunities to develop their independence skills through a wide variety of purposeful activities. This enables them to do things for themselves successfully and to problem solve effectively. They are excited to talk about what they have been doing and they enjoyed telling us about their experiences at the child minder's. Children clearly feel a strong sense of achievement. For example, one child loved telling us how they had created a pretty picture from different materials and another child told us they had made a garage for the cars all by themselves.

Care and Development

Excellent

The child minder has an excellent understanding of her responsibility in relation to safeguarding children. She answers confidently about what to do should she have any child

protection concerns. The child minder demonstrates her commitment to promoting healthy lifestyles, safety and well-being through providing healthy and nutritious snacks and meals for the children. She carries out regular cleaning and follows efficient hygiene procedures, consistently reminding children about the importance of washing their hands. The child minder accurately records children's attendance times and promptly fills in accident sheets and pre-existing injury forms, appropriately sharing the information with parents and carers.

The child minder is an excellent role model and her interactions with the children are consistently engaging, demonstrating warmth and kindness. She interacts positively with the children and fosters strong relationships with them. The child minder encourages manners and frequently praises and encourages the children, especially when they say "please" and "thank you" independently. Their behaviour is exemplary. The child minder consistently implements positive behaviour management strategies. For example, she speaks softly to the children and uses positive reinforcement. She is calm and caring at all times and children follow her instructions without hesitation. Children share the resources extremely well with each other. For example, when playing with the small world resources, a child asked their friend, "*Have you finished playing with this?*" before taking it to play with. There was lots of laughter and giggling as children played together in the playroom enjoying their play.

The child minder allows children endless opportunities to explore and experiment by making their own choices and following their own interests. She is knowledgeable about child development and is confident in meeting children's individual needs and supporting them in their curiosity and imaginative play. The child minder ensures children are at the centre of their own learning and development as she effectively responds to children's ideas, which ensures she successfully follows the children's lead. For example, the children chose messy play as an activity after lunch and the childminder discussed using materials and resources that she knew the children would be fascinated with. They excitedly chose flour. The child minder maintains excellent observation records which inform her next steps and allows her to consider areas of learning to focus on with the children. She monitors children's progress through completing developmental records in detail, and she does not hesitate to seek additional support for children when required. The child minder promotes the Welsh language well in the setting, consistently using incidental Welsh when playing and interacting with the children.

Environment**Excellent**

The child minder implements effective procedures to keep the environment safe for children, ensuring it is secure and extremely well maintained indoors and outdoors. The child minder keeps a record of visitors to the property, and she has comprehensive risk assessments in place which cover all aspects of her child minding service. She is knowledgeable about managing risks and supporting the children to make their own choices safely. The child minder carries out safety checks frequently and establishes consistent cleaning routines that reflect thorough infection control practices. The child minder carries out regular fire drills which ensure children are confident to follow the relevant procedures to evacuate the premises in an emergency. She maintains meticulous paperwork which supports her to ensure the environment is safe and secure for the children in her care.

The child minder ensures her home is warm and welcoming, and provides a very stimulating, spacious, and accessible area for children to enjoy their play. There are pictures of the children on the walls which means they have a strong sense of belonging and feel valued in the child minder's home. The child minder ensures children have the freedom to safely explore the indoor and outdoor environment. They move around independently, choosing for themselves where to play. The outdoor area is an extension of the indoor environment and provides excellent play opportunities through the use of different areas. For example, children can choose to have quiet time reading or completing jigsaws, or they can choose to engage in more active play, such as riding on the bikes or playing in the water tray. The playhouse provides an additional learning space for the children.

The child minder provides a wide range of high-quality resources and equipment both inside and outside. There is an extensive selection of resources which include craft materials, messy play activities, small world resources and accessories, books, trains and cars, construction resources and games. Resources are in excellent condition, and they are plentiful which ensures children have a good choice to support their play. Children have access to an excellent range of play opportunities including role play and sensory experiences that are age and stage appropriate. There are child sized tables and chairs as well as larger comfortable sofas and furniture which provide a space for older children to rest on and sit at for their activities. Children regularly visit local attractions with the child minder, including the local park and heritage centre, to enhance their experiences.

Leadership and Management

Excellent

The child minder has an exceptional vision which she communicates effectively with parents and carers. This creates a very positive ethos where all children and their families feel valued and important. The child minder manages her child minding business successfully and endeavours to promote excellent outcomes for children. She strives to achieve extremely high standards and deliver high quality care, ensuring she provides valuable learning and development opportunities for the children. The child minder is very efficient and extremely organised. She places great importance on ensuring she runs an inclusive service. Her statement of purpose is accurate and detailed, and fully informs parents and carers of the service she provides. The child minder maintains the required child records and documents and completes them in detail, regularly reviewing her paperwork to ensure it is up to date and relevant. She is registered with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) and her insurance and car documents are valid.

The child minder has effective systems in place which enable her to seek meaningful and purposeful feedback. She implements these systems extremely well which enable her to reflect successfully as well as consider the areas where she can improve her practice. The child minder is extremely approachable and welcomes any ideas or suggestions. Her quality of care report reflects this and considers the varying aspects of her service.

The child minder is committed to promoting her own professional development and ensures her mandatory training is up to date. She also completes further training when there is a specific need. For example, the child minder recently completed a speech and language assessment course which enables her to assess the children prior to making a referral. The child minder obtains all the necessary checks, ensuring all household members have relevant Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificates. The child minder fully understands her responsibility to inform CIW of any changes to household members and does this promptly. She maintains ratios and is aware of the importance of ensuring children are closely supervised at all times.

The child minder has developed excellent partnerships with parents and carers. She is committed to working alongside them to promote children's well-being. The child minder ensures communication systems with parents and carers are inclusive, and she uses a variety of methods that suit the parents and carers and allows them a choice. The feedback we received from parents is extremely positive. For example, parents told us, "*Auntie Dee Dee is a breath of fresh air! She is part our family!*" The children told us they enjoy playing with their friends at the child minder's home and feedback also included, "*I miss her when I am at home.*" The child minder supports local initiatives and works closely with other stakeholders to promote positive outcomes for children.

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

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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