



Inspection Report

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Swansea



Date Inspection Completed

12/10/2022

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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	12 July 2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	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>	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 relaxed in the care of the child minder. They form good relationships with the child minder and peers. They have good opportunities to make choices and follow their interests. They are confident that they will be listened to and know that they are valued.

The child minder is kind and caring and supports children to develop their individual skills. She encourages children to have a healthy lifestyle and uses positive behaviour strategies. She enhances children's self-esteem through praise and celebration

The child minder provides a good environment for children's play indoors and outdoors. The layout of the environment supports children's independence and allows them to explore freely and develop their play. There is a range of good quality resources for different ages and stages of development.

The child minder manages the setting adequately. She has updated some documentation during the course of inspection. However, there are areas for improvement in relation to the keeping of records, the quality of care review and the provision of information. Partnerships with parents are appropriate.

Children are happy and relaxed at this setting. Children engage with the child minder happily, sharing resources during role play. Children feel comforted by the child minder. Those who woke from a sleep wanted to have a cuddle which was acted upon, and children who wanted to be close to the child minder choose a book for the child minder to read to them. Younger children's needs are considered. When they were tired their desires for their soothers were appreciated and they settled to sleep calmly.

Children have good opportunities to make choices and decisions which affects their play and learning. They choose activities that interest them, such as playing with jigsaws and choosing stories they like. Children's needs and preferences are respected. Younger children expressed that they wanted to sit in the highchair when they were tired and other children chose which foods they wanted to eat from their lunchbox.

Children interact well. Children have close relationships. They jumped up and down excitedly when they realised that a younger child had woke from being asleep for some time. Children confidently expressed to the child minder that they needed to be quiet as Peppa Pig was sleeping on the television. Children develop good self-confidence. They smiled as they were praised for completing a transport puzzle. Children share resources well. They share dollies and are recognised for their kindness by the child minder.

Children concentrated during activities and persevered to complete puzzles successfully saying "*All gone*" when they had finished. They enjoyed working out where the transport vehicles fitted into the correct places. Children enjoyed role play, they use dollies and a stroller and place the dolly in the highchair when the child minder places a younger child into a highchair at lunch time. Young children enjoy looking at books and turn pages naturally.

Children are developing good independence skills. They wash their hands and feed themselves finger foods and a drink at lunchtime. Children choose their play resources independently and develop suitable problem-solving skills as they play and explore the resources that are readily available for them.

The child minder follows good procedures in relation to keeping children safe. She actively promotes healthy lifestyles. She encourages regular outdoor play and physical activities. Parents provide lunchboxes and snacks for children, which are healthy, and the child minder encourages children to drink water. The child minder keeps children safe by giving them safety reminders when necessary and supervising them well. She has completed paediatric first aid and has knowledge of infection control procedures. She reminded children to wash their hands with liquid soap before eating and washed her own hands before assisting children during meals and sanitised the tables. The child minder wore gloves to change nappies and sanitised the area after each change and washed her hands.

The child minder's interactions with children are very positive demonstrating warmth and kindness. She is a good role model, always speaking calmly with children and having a giggle and laughter with them as they play. She implements a very positive behaviour policy which is child-centred and takes into account children's individual needs. The child minder praises children regularly. She praised a child who completed a puzzle saying, "*Well done babes!!*" and praised them for saying new words and phrases. She praised the children for tidying saying, "*Thanks darling, that's very kind of you.*" The child minder knows the children well. She knows what children need after they have woken from a sleep, knowing they need a cuddle and when they need some time before having their food.

The child minder is committed to providing a range of play and learning resources for child-led learning. The child minder enhances children's vocabulary and recognition of colours, shapes and numbers. She encourages children to recognise and say colours as they place the coloured coins in the toy pig asking questions such as "*where is the red/blue/yellow one?*" She praised them for correctly choosing the correct coins. The child minder read a story to a child who wanted a book read to them. She read 'Dear Zoo' to children and discussed the names of animals and the noises they make. She read the book 'Five little ducks' to children encouraging and developing recognition of numbers and counting and sang number songs such as 'One two three four five, once I caught a fish alive...' She encourages children's recognition of words and phrases successfully.

Environment**Good**

The child minder ensures that the environment is safe, secure and well-maintained, indoors and outdoors. She has safety measures in place such as keeping the door locked, ensuring that harmful items are kept out of children's reach and using a gate to prevent access to the stairs. The child minder keeps written risk assessments on the environment indoors and outdoors as well as car journeys and outings. Fire safety checks and fire drills are conducted regularly. The environment is well maintained. Heating maintenance checks are up to date and the child minder keeps all areas clean.

The property is welcoming, warm, and accessible to all. The child minder ensures that children of all ages have suitable furniture and ensures that there is a quiet space for children to sleep. The child minder provides a good indoor and outdoor play space which allows the children to move freely. She organises the space well to provide good play and learning opportunities for all age ranges and stages of children. She ensures that the environment meets the children's needs. The child minder provides a large play area with comfortable sofas for the children to relax upon and ample space for play, rest and for dining and tabletop activities. There is a kitchen area which is not accessible to children. The bathroom is located near the play area which children can access independently with aids and liquid soap available for them. However, there was only one towel available for children to dry their hands.

The child minder ensures that the outdoor space is used regularly, although the children did not use the area during this inspection due to the weather conditions. The outdoor area provides resources that stimulate children's physical needs and choices. Indoors, toys are visible and accessible for children to make independent choices, such as musical toys, role play resources, books, construction play, dressing up, creative resources and puzzles. There is a good range of good quality resources, suitable for a range of ages and interests.

Leadership and Management

Adequate

The child minder provides parents with relevant information about the setting. She has a statement of purpose which meets regulations and National Minimum Standards and has been updated during the course of inspection. Policies are regularly reviewed. However, some policies are missing information in relation to current guidance such as 'All Wales Safeguarding Procedures'. Child protection training has not been updated.

The child minder ensures that she keeps most of the required records. She has established an effective system for ensuring that Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, insurance, safety checks are in place. She keeps suitable records in relation to medication, accidents and children's details. However, at the time of our visit, records of children's attendance were not compliant with regulations. This is an area of improvement for the setting.

The child minder has made a number of improvements in recent years, including purchasing new resources based on children's preferences and further developing the outdoor play area. However, the child minder has not taken views of parents or carers to create a quality-of-care review since the last inspection of the setting, which was a recommendation. This is an area of improvement for the setting. The child minder engages well with CIW during inspections, however, she has not notified us of significant events, as required. This is an area of improvement for the setting. These areas of improvement will be looked at during the next inspection.

The child minder establishes appropriate partnerships with parents. She engages with parents at the end of each day and uses social media webforms to connect with them, sharing information and photos of children's achievements. She has good links with the local community and the local area as she takes children to the local parks, beach, library and playgroups.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

- R1. Ensure hand washing facilities have separate hand towels or paper towels to dry hands
- R2. Ensure an updated policy for child protection and safeguarding reflects current guidance and update child protection and safeguarding training

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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16	The child minder has not completed a quality of care review of the setting.	New
31	The child minder had not informed Care Inspectorate Wales of regular and recent closures to the child minding setting.	New
30	The child minder does not accurately record children's attendance at the child minding setting.	New

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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