



Inspection Report

Donna Jones

Blackwood



Date Inspection Completed

30/08/2022

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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	
Is this a Flying Start service?	Yes
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>	Excellent
<u>Care and Development</u>	Good
<u>Environment</u>	Good
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Good

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

Summary

Children thrive at this setting as they have a strong voice and excellent opportunities to make choices. They have very good bonds with other children and the child minder. They are relaxed in her company and enjoy the time they spend in her care. Children are developing their independence well and enjoy learning through play.

The child minder understands her role to keep children safe and healthy, as well as managing positive interactions. She provides a range of different activities and resources that promote children's development and learning. She is a knowledgeable and effective practitioner.

The environment is welcoming, safe and clean. The child minder provides good resources and facilities to enable children to take part in a variety of different activities.

The child minder is experienced and has a clear vision for her service. She manages the setting successfully and has built very positive partnerships with parents.

Children thoroughly enjoy their time at the service. They are settled and have a strong sense of belonging. Children are clearly relaxed, comfortable, and content at the service and separate from parents with ease. Their opinions are highly valued. For example, children complete a feelings board independently which allows them to express the way they are feeling. All attempts at communication are valued and the child minder responds appropriately to their requests and needs.

Interactions between children are excellent and they play happily together. They have formed positive attachments with the child minder and each other. Children's behaviour is excellent. They respond well to occasional prompts from the child minder which shows they are able to manage their own behaviour.

Children show great enjoyment in their play and learning. All children are engaged in individual or group activities. For example, children work together and share resources during a craft activity. All children concentrate well, sustaining interest in things they have chosen to do for extended periods. Younger children enjoy playing independently in small world activities and respond well to questioning from the child minder. For example, we saw a child responding well to questions about the colours and size of cars in a small world activity. Children's pronunciation improves as they repeat appropriately modelled vocabulary.

Children are happy and engaged in their chosen play activities. They access resources independently and are able to follow their own interests. For example, they ask for colouring pages that interest them and persevere to complete the detailed picture. During this activity they respond maturely and politely to the meaningful responses they receive from the child minder. They chat happily with us expressing their enjoyment at the service.

The child minder has a good understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. She implements suitable policies and procedures to safeguard children's personal safety and wellbeing. During the holidays she does not provide meals but encourages parents to provide children with healthy snacks and meals in line with healthy eating initiatives. We saw children enjoying a snack of different fruits and helping themselves to water. Parents also comment on the high-quality meals prepared during term time operation and how the child minder supports children's individual dietary needs and development.

The child minder has a comprehensive safeguarding policy in place and is aware of her responsibility to report any safeguarding matters. She keeps a record of all accidents and incidents, which are signed by parents. The child minder records any existing injuries of children when they arrive at her service and discusses these with parents. There is a clear medication policy and procedure that is followed.

The child minder ensures children experience a variety of stimulating activities and visits. She seeks opportunities for children to engage in community learning events such as educational visits to the farm and community Welsh lessons. Children contribute to the basic planning of key events. For example, children plan for pancake day, writing shopping lists, purchasing ingredients, and managing a money. However, there is no formal system in place to monitor the progress of children. Children are encouraged to be physically active and regular visits to playgroups and parks are arranged. The child minder uses a small amount of incidental Welsh with the children and is developing her skills by attending additional training. She has invested in Welsh resources that include toys, books, and display posters.

The child minder meets children's emotional needs particularly well. She considers each child's circumstances when planning activities which benefit them specifically. The child minder has a lovely manner with the children and delivers warm, nurturing care. She manages behaviour effectively through positive strategies that are in line with the behaviour management policy. The child minder is calm, patient and is an excellent role model. Consequently, the children behave well and benefit from the consistent approach and mutual respect shown. Children show excellent manners, saying please, and thank you, at all times.

The child minder provides a secure environment for children. External entrances are locked at all times and a 'Ring Bell' system is in place for additional security. A register records the times that children arrive and leave the service. Relevant safety checks are completed which ensure children's safety. Fire drills are completed regularly and as a result children are very familiar with the process. Cleaning materials are stored safely, and child locks are fitted on cupboards and drawers. Procedures for food preparation and infection control are followed. Most children access the ground floor toilet independently and the child minder provides suitable tissues for them to dry their hands. Posters are displayed appropriately which support children's independence in hand washing procedures.

The home environment is warm, comfortable, and well maintained. It provides a light, bright area for children to play. There is a dedicated playroom as well as a quiet room for relaxing. The garden is on two levels and has been developed for children's activities. Children have access to the lounge, playroom, and downstairs cloakroom and they have supervised access in the kitchen and garden. Plans are in place to utilise the garden room in the future which will provide another space for children's activities. Stairgates are in place around the house to restrict access for children to areas such as the kitchen when un-supervised. The upstairs area is restricted as it is currently not in use due to overnight care no longer being provided.

The child minder provides a wide range of suitable age-appropriate toys and resources. All resources are labelled, organised and accessible to the children. For example, children have access to a play kitchen and construction sets. Younger children's development is supported by excellent resources such as puzzles and small world role-play characters. All resources are of a good quality and well maintained. Craft resources are organised in boxes which children access independently. Multicultural resources are used to stimulate children's knowledge and curiosity about the wider society, promoting equality and facilitating learning about cultural awareness. Children's artwork take pride of place on displays in the playroom.

Leadership and Management

Good

The child minder organises her setting well. The required policies and procedures are in place, they reflect current practice and are regularly reviewed. She has recently updated her statement of purpose, which is compliant with regulations. The updated statement of purpose was provided to CIW during the course of the inspection. The required Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are in place for all household members. The child minder has an understanding of the Prevent duty and has a comprehensive safeguarding policy in place. Public liability insurance is valid. Records about the children are completed and organised and include contracts, children's information forms and parental consents.

The child minder demonstrates very good leadership skills. This is because she has a definite vision for her setting and is committed to her professional development. She is well-qualified and experienced in child development. The child minder has conducted a quality of care review and has written a report based on the review. However, the report does not include the views of parents and children and what the priorities are for future development. She has plans to re-introduce parents' questionnaires and children's suggestion box following temporary suspension during the pandemic. The child minder is fully engaged with the inspection process as part of her self-evaluation and improvement. She uses guidance to implement changes and drive improvement to improve outcomes for children.

The child minder has very strong partnerships with parents and in the community. The child minder raises money for local charities as well as national events. Children, parents, and neighbours are actively involved, and many commented positively about the fundraising events. Parents we spoke with confirmed that they are very happy with the care provided by the child minder. They receive photos via private message, a closed facebook group as well as verbal feedback when collecting the children. Parents told us that the child minder is extremely committed to the children's wellbeing and social development, remarking on the excellent support she provides for individual needs. They also commented that she supports families during difficult times and is a part of their extended family.

Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards

R1. Develop a system to record children's development.

R2. Ensure the self-evaluation of the setting includes the views of parents and children, and the quality of care report reflects these views, as well as identifying areas of improvement.

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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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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