



Inspection Report

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Wrexham



Date Inspection Completed

25/06/2024

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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	21 May 2018
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>	Good
<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 are happy and form warm relationships with the child minder and each other. They enjoy their time at the setting and are confident to let the child minder know what they want to do. Children have a good range of play and learning experiences and opportunities to choose.

The child minder knows how to keep children safe and healthy. She supports individual children well in a warm and positive way. The child minder is relaxed, kind and friendly and plans a range of activities in line with children's interests. She makes sure she captures children's imagination with interesting activities which help them to learn and develop their skills.

The child minder provides a safe and comfortable environment for children with effective learning opportunities. She ensures risks are monitored and managed successfully. A range of experiences and resources develop children's skills well.

The child minder manages her provision well and understands her regulatory responsibilities. Documents and procedures are clear, well organised and easy to find, with suitability checks kept up to date. The child minder knows her setting and is proactive in making changes which benefit the children and improve outcomes for them. Parents enjoy a successful partnership with the child minder and are well informed about their children's development and the time they have spent with her.

Children are very happy and settled and move around the resources and activities freely. They can choose for themselves as everything is stored within their reach. Children are busy and follow their own interests and express what they want to do. For example, they carry a chair so they can sit down and join in play and choose which songs to sing.

Children settle well and have close attachments with the child minder. They are developing relationships with other children who attend. For example, three children play doctors together sharing dolls and the medical kit. They have a strong sense of belonging and show us where their bags are kept. They tell us about their family and who is picking them up. They are confident for us join in their play and encourage us to visit their doctors where we have our ears checked. Children are happy to cuddle close to the child minder when waking from a nap or for reassurance. They include the child minder in their play asking for their own feet to be bandaged like the dolls.

Children are starting to learn how to share resources and play alongside each other. The children react well to positive words of encouragement and praise which quickly sort any small disagreements, such as sharing the bandages for the dolls. They are confident as the daily routine is familiar. This ensures children feel secure as they know what is going to happen next, such as nappy changing and lie down ready on the mat.

The children are interested in what their friends are doing and often join in. They enjoy showing younger children how well they can tidy up. Children sit quietly listening to a story about a bear before lunch. They join in a little with the story enjoying the parts they know whilst the author reads the exciting tale.

Children have a good range of play and learning experiences and develop new skills well. They choose to spend time outdoors and use the large garden daily. They have good opportunities to develop socially as they visit places of interest in the local area. They increase physical skills effectively by using play equipment. The children develop their Welsh language skills listening to simple words and phrases.

Care and Development**Good**

The child minder understands her responsibility to keep children safe and healthy and has relevant policies and procedures in place. The child minder and her family have all completed safeguarding training and know the procedure to follow should there be any concerns about a child. This is excellent practice. The child minder has completed first aid training and records accidents and incidents and contacts parents, if required, and ensures they sign the records on collection. The child minder promotes a healthy way of life and good hygiene with the children such as covering her clothes when preparing food. The child minder practices regular evacuations, so children know what to do in an emergency.

The child minder has built positive relationships with the children. The care is relaxed, and child led, ensuring children's emotional well-being is nurtured. The child minder interacts with warmth and kindness, giving plenty of praise for small achievements such as listening well or sharing the doctors kit. She deals with any difficulties, calmly and fairly. For example, distraction is effective and clear, simple explanations help children understand how sharing works and there are enough resources for everyone. The child minder reminds children gently of simple rules such as one at a time or not playing under the table. She uses lots of different strategies to keep the attention of the children including a song while they are washing their hands.

The child minder is knowledgeable about children's development and successfully meets their needs. She records their achievement and shares this with parents through an app. Parents receive information about their child's day. The child minder plans activities and play experiences that the children enjoy, and which link to visits to places of interest such as parks and zoo gardens. She ensures children are busy and respects all their choices, interests and requests.

Environment**Good**

The child minder ensures the premises are safe and well maintained and meet the needs of the children. The front door is kept locked and visitors to the setting are recorded. The child minder makes sure equipment is safe and the environment and toys are clean, well maintained and age appropriate. A checklist has been completed and risk assessments identify and manage any hazards. The child minder is aware of her responsibilities and supervises children well during their activities.

The child minder ensures the environment is suitable with a lovely, dedicated playroom for the children full of resources. Children feel comfortable and at home having a unit containing low pegs with their names for hanging their belongings. Pieces of children's creative work are displayed giving them a sense of achievement and pride. The child minder provides plenty of toys, games and equipment and organises these well so children can access them easily. She ensures the space is welcoming to children and the layout of the room and the garden promotes children's independence well. It is attractively organised to enable children to freely explore and make their own choices about what they want to play with. Play areas are light and bright with natural wooden items such as a doll house and Noah's Ark. An enclosed garden is well resourced with dedicated areas that provide a variety of different play and learning opportunities for children to enjoy.

A well-resourced playroom encourages children to develop their play. The outdoor area with artificial grass and a canopy provides good opportunities for children to develop a range of skills in different weather conditions. A mud kitchen ensure children can follow their ideas. There are a variety of materials including plastic and metal life-sized objects such as pots and bowls, which give the children the opportunity to work with different textures and surfaces. The child minder takes the children out into the local area to parks and other places of interest which develop skills highly effectively and broaden children's knowledge of the world around them.

Leadership and Management

Good

The child minder runs her service in a professional way which is effective. The statement of purpose provides parents with the required information about what the setting offers so they can make a choice. Effective policies and procedures are available for parents and the child minder keeps an accurate record of children's attendance in a diary. All records are clear and well organised, with information and documents all up to date and easy to find. The child minder is a member of a childminding support organisation, and she finds this useful to keep up to date with information about her business and utilises some of the documentation the organisation provides.

The child minder is proactive and totally committed to improving her service. She knows her setting well and is aware of her strengths and areas to improve. The child minder has introduced a canopy outdoors and made changes to the outdoor environment along with new resources. She reflects on her practice and completes an annual review. Parent's views are considered, and feedback is actively sought through questionnaires. Parents are pleased with the service they receive. We received written confirmation following the inspection that all recommendations have been completed. This shows that by making immediate changes, the child minder wants to offer the best possible care to the children and their families.

The child minder ensures she keeps up to date with all mandatory training and current guidance to improve her knowledge and carry out her role effectively. She has attended training courses and is highly committed to improving her practice. The child minder has a play work qualification as well as those in early years. All relevant family members have a current Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check and are part of the update service.

The child minder has built effective partnerships with parents. She keeps them well informed about their child's day through an app and chatting at the end of the day. The child minder is sensitive to the needs of the children and their parents and forms are completed about the child so the child minder can provide a good level of care. Regular updates from parents ensure that the changing needs of the children continue to be met successfully.

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

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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