



Glennie's Childminding

Building community connections

Impact ...

- Children try new activities and grow in confidence and independence
- They form new friendships outside the setting
- They become more confident outdoors and with messy play
- Their vocabulary expands
- They develop an appreciation of diversity in the wider community
- They take pride in being part of group activities

Background

Glenys Jones, known as "Glennie", is a registered childminder in Aberdyfi, Gwynedd, with 26 years of experience. She works alone in a rural area alongside only one other childminder, and has had to navigate isolation and the challenges of the pandemic.

What are they doing differently?

Glennie has made community connection central to her practice, getting out and about regularly with the children to:

- attend local toddler groups for singing, playtime and craft activities
- visit the library for Welsh songs and story time
- participate in "Toddler Outdoor" sessions in local woods and beaches
- attend school events to support transition
- organise a toddler charity walk that raised £1,425
- celebrate different cultures using a wicker box of items labelled "Today I went to Wales/China etc"
- participate in a childminders Pen-Pal group where children make cards and hampers to send to their pen pals

Children who were initially quiet and unfamiliar with local groups have seen significant benefits.

“ By connecting with the wider community we open doors for us all to be learning more. We can share kindness, be more curious and become a part of something bigger. ”