



Inspection Report

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Prestatyn



Date Inspection Completed

18/03/2024

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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	18 October 2023
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>	Adequate
<u>Care and Development</u>	Adequate
<u>Environment</u>	Adequate
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Adequate

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

Summary

Children are confident communicators as their wants, moods and needs are considered. They are content and express enjoyment. Children are settled and familiar with the daily routines. They interact positively with their friends and the childminder. Children are suitably engaged in their play and learning. They enjoy a reasonable selection of appropriate opportunities indoors and can also relax and have quiet times. Children take part in activities resulting in a feeling of achievement and self-esteem. They are happy to show or talk about what they have been doing. Children develop their independence skills suitably.

The child minder is working towards implementing her policies and procedures to promote most healthy lifestyles appropriately. She has a warm and friendly approach to care giving. The child minder organises suitable play and learning experiences.

The child minder makes sure the environment is welcoming and clean. There is sufficient indoor play space for children to move freely. The child minder makes sure the environment meets many of the children's needs and enables them to access age-appropriate toys and resources with ease. The outdoor play area is currently not being used.

The child minder manages the setting appropriately. However, improvements are required to meet with regulations and standards.

Well-being

Adequate

Children are happy and settled. They have opportunities to follow their own interests and direct their own play appropriately.

Children use a variety of methods to communicate their needs. For instance, during snack time a child pushed their plate forward, showing the child minder they had finished, and this was respected by her. Children enjoy talking about and showing what they like to play with. For example, they talked about their toy horse and showed delight in pushing a shopping trolley.

Children settle quickly as they are greeted by the friendly child minder. They are familiar with the daily routines and prepare themselves well to collect their older friends from school. Children approach the child minder with ease to make their requests or ask for a cuddle for comfort and their requests are responded to in a timely manner by the child minder.

Children interact positively with their friends and the child minder. They enjoy the social occasion of mealtimes; they use good manners and sit by the table nicely. Children are learning to share and take turns. For instance, children share the toy cars and enjoy taking turns to roll them down the ramp. Children are learning about kindness. For instance, older children play nicely with their younger friends and hold out their arms to give them a cuddle.

Children have opportunities to follow their own interests and develop their play and learning appropriately. They interact positively during story time and actively ask and answer questions. Children are developing their speech and language skills well and enjoy learning new words. Children show interest and engagement when completing puzzles. They practise their counting skills confidently. Children enjoy playing a picture card game with the child minder and have a lively chat about what foods they and their friends like to eat.

Children are developing their independence skills suitably. They persevere with gentle support to put on their coats and shoes. Younger children are learning to feed themselves well at mealtimes. Children are learning to do things for themselves with positive encouragement from the childminder.

Care and Development

Adequate

The child minder values children's efforts and celebrates their achievements. She has a warm, friendly and caring approach. The child minder knows the children well. She supports children to speak and express themselves with confidence. The child minder provides them with a consistent timely response to their requests.

The child minder is working towards implementing her policies and procedures to promote most healthy lifestyles appropriately. The child minder provides healthy snacks of fruit, but drink options do not fully follow the Welsh Government food and nutrition best practice guidance, for instance, she offers diluted fruit juices. The child minder mostly follows the current infection control guidance. However, she uses wipes to clean children's hands before eating food which is less effective than using soap and water. When nappy changing, she does not dispose of used gloves before dressing the child or remove her apron before changing the next child. While no immediate action is required, this is an area for improvement, and we expect the provider to take action. The child minder has completed mandatory training suitable for the age range of children being cared for. The child minder has a suitable understanding of safeguarding procedures. She has improved her recording of children's daily attendance but is inconsistent in recording their times of departure from the setting.

The child minder records accidents and incidents accurately and these are completed fully and signed by parents / carers to evidence they are kept informed. The child minder conducts fire drills, so children know what to do in the event of an emergency. However, she does not conduct regular fire drills, recognising that children benefit from more frequent practise.

The child minder interacts positively with children. She encourages them to co-operate and be kind to their friends. She makes sure children are provided with reassurance and comfort when needed. This creates a calm, relaxed and happy atmosphere.

The child minder has a responsive approach to activity planning and focuses on children directing their own play appropriately. She encourages children's interests in books and story time activities. The child minder helps children to develop their language, communication and counting skills effectively. The child minder engages positively in children's play. For instance, she played along with children as they enjoyed a role play game of shopkeeper. The child minder keeps a record, on most days, of children's progress. The child minder said she provides parents / carers with daily updates verbally and via text messages. The child minder showed evidence she is taking children on visits to the local area to develop their social skills and raise awareness of their local surroundings.

Environment**Adequate**

The child minder ensures the environment is safe, secure, and well maintained indoors. There is sufficient play space for children to move freely. The child minder confirmed the outdoor play area is currently not in use until the summertime.

The child minder has an appropriate system to manage access into the premises and she records visitors. The child minder has risk assessments in place to identify most of the potential hazards to children and what measures she would take to manage these risks. During our visit the child minder had not risk assessed the building work currently being undertaken in the outdoor area. The child minder took immediate action to address this matter. She undertakes regular health and safety checks, and the business vehicle has current MOT and insurance. The child minder has improved her supervision of children to ensure they are kept safe.

The environment is welcoming, and the layout of the playroom promotes children's independence enabling them to freely explore and make their own choices about what they want to play with. The child minder provides toys and resources suitable for the ages cared for and children have access to appropriately sized furniture. Indoor storage of toys and resources are suitable and accessible to children. Some dolls and resources reflect different cultures. There is a good choice of books available, and the child minder has displayed these attractively to encourage children to read them.

Leadership and Management

Adequate

The child minder manages her setting appropriately. However, some improvements are required to meet regulations and standards.

The child minder has relevant policies and procedures in place and these have been reviewed. However, not all policies are fully reflective of the current practice at the setting. For example, the food and nutrition policy does not accurately reflect the options being offered for healthy hydration. The child minder has written a statement of purpose that contains most of the required information but does not include the details of the arrangements to review the document. The statement of purpose does not accurately reflect the arrangements for using the outdoor play area as the child minder confirmed the play area is not being used during winter months. The child minder has a basic understanding of her responsibility to promote the Welsh language. However, no Welsh was heard during the time of our visit to develop children's use and understanding of the language.

The child minder reviews the quality of care annually. She seeks the suggestions of parents / carers and children to evaluate the care and experiences provided to help her make future improvements.

The child minder and persons living at the premises have an enhanced disclosure and barring check to demonstrate their suitability in order to safeguard children. The child minder has made improvements and gathered the required information on children to ensure she can fully meet their individual needs.

Parents / carers said they are happy with the care provided for their children and their children are happy attending. Parents / carers explained they receive daily updates about their children's progress through verbal updates and text messaging. The child minder engages with the local community and organises visits to local areas to help improve the children's social skills.

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
25	The registered person must risk assess all areas of the premises fully and follow the risk assessment which reflects the premises, activities, resources and outings consistently to ensure potential hazards to children are identified and suitable measures are in place to manage these risks.	Achieved
30	The registered person must ensure all of the required information has been gathered in the children's individual records and there is a clear daily record consistently noting their hours of attendance.	Achieved
20	The registered person must ensure children are supervised vigilantly at all times.	Achieved

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
25	The registered person must ensure she follows the Infection Prevention and Control Guidance (2019) for Childcare Settings (0-5 years) in Wales (Nurseries, Childminding and Playgroups) in relation to nappy changing and handwashing procedures.	New
16	The registered person must ensure she reviews the quality of care annually and draws on the comments gathered from all those using the setting to evaluate and reflect on what works well, what requires improvement and to set out her vision for the future. The registered person must ensure the report reviewing the quality of care is presented to CIW and contains the required information.	Achieved

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)
Standard 12 - Food and drink	To follow the Welsh Government Food and Nutrition guidance for child care settings in relation to healthy hydration.
Standard 1 - Information	Ensure the statement of purpose and all policies and procedures are reflective of what is being offered at the setting.
Standard 24 - Safety	Make sure fire drills are carried out at least every 6 months, recognising that children benefit from more frequent practice.

Where we think it helpful, we may make best practice recommendations. These are to encourage settings that are doing well to become even better at helping children thrive.

Best Practice
Recommendation(s)
Develop confidence in using basic Welsh words and greetings to develop children's use and understanding of the language.

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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