



Childcare Inspection Report on

Kelly Richards

Machynlleth

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

25/06/2019

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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

Description of the service

Kelly Richards is registered to look after a maximum of 10 children, from six months to 12 years old, from her home address, in Cwm-Llinau, Machynlleth. The service is open Monday to Thursday 8:00am – 6:00pm and operates bilingually. However, the service does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language, because some documentation is only available in English.

Summary

Summary

Theme	Rating
<u>Well-being</u>	Good
<u>Care and Development</u>	Good
<u>Environment</u>	Good
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Good

1. Overall assessment

Children are confident and well settled because they have strong bonds of affection with the child minder and the other children. The child minder has a wealth of experience of working with children and as a result, she has extensive knowledge on child development and plans well to meet individual needs. The child minder has comprehensive and effective measures in place to ensure the environment is safe and secure. Children are relaxed in their surrounding because the space is used effectively. The child minder has a definite vision for her service and she successfully shares this with others; she has high expectations of herself and consistently works in partnerships with parents.

2. Improvements

First inspection since registration 11 June 2018.

Following the inspection the child minder sent a completed quality of care review report.

3. Requirements and recommendations

We made two recommendation in relation to providing children with a healthy and balanced diet, developing the environment to offer children additional play and learning experiences.

1. Well-being

Summary

Children are happy and settled. They enjoy spending time with the child minder and know their views and needs will be responded to. Activities provided are of interest to them and their independence is successfully promoted.

Our findings

Children experience meaningful interactions, because of good support and the caring environment. Children are polite, make progress, and enjoy their time with their friends and the child minder.

Children were extremely familiar with those around them; they were listened to and their views taken in to consideration and as a result they spoke confidently to each other and the child minder. For example, when clearing toys away before lunch time a child said he did not want to clear the farm animals, the child explained that they had been laid out carefully and the tractors had been 'parked' in the garage. The child minder listened to this and an agreement was reached.

Children clearly had a strong sense of belonging and were familiar with the routine. Lunch time in particular was a very sociable time. Everyone sat together and chatted comfortably about what interested them. They all knew the routine and structure of the day, individual place mats were used and children recognised where they were to sit. Children told us they would be going out to play in the garden after nap time and they knew who would be present each day.

Children were forming friendships and developing relationships. The children missed each other during nap time and they could not wait for everyone to be re-united, after their rest. They smiled from ear to ear when the child minder asked them if they wanted to go with her to wake a child from their nap. Children consistently showed empathy and were sensitive to the emotions of others. The child minder's own son coped extremely well with the other children and shared resources. Quieter children were able to make their views known through the positive encouragement and the attention provided by the child minder. During a focused task activity, the children waited for one another to take their turn. During free play we saw them work as a team, filling boxes with items, which they pretended were food. Children flourished because of the constant praise they received.

Children experience developmentally appropriate opportunities that promote their all round development and enables them to grow in confidence. With support from the child minder, children made their own sandwiches at lunch time, they were supported to spread the butter on the bread and chose what filling they wanted. They were able to cut the sandwich in to smaller pieces and they also poured their own drinks. One child took great pride in pouring a drink for his friend, he ran to him excitedly shouting '*I've made you a drink*'. Children were continually supported and enabled to do things for themselves which developed their independence skills.

2. Care and Development

Summary

The child minder fully understands her responsibilities in relation to keeping children safe and healthy. She is well organised and plans to meet children's individual needs well. She provides children with stability and routine enabling them to make good progress.

Our findings

The child minder consistently implements procedures to ensure children are safe and healthy.

The child minder had a thorough understanding of her responsibilities, in relation to promoting children's welfare. Relevant training had been updated and the child minder confidently conveyed the process she would follow should she have concerns about a child. Accident and incident forms were completed fully with evidence the child minder competently met any medical needs. To minimise the risk of spreading infection, positive and consistent practice was implemented; for example, individual hand towels were available for children and the child minder followed the process recommended to her by Environmental Health when changing children's nappies. The child minder does not follow a set menu for food, but parents can view a sample menu. Making use of the Welsh governments healthy eating guidance for regulated child care settings would provide the child minder with additional information and enable her to ensure she provides children with a healthy and balanced diet.

An active lifestyle was promoted by the child minder; she supports children to spend time in the outdoors and had recently started following the activity plan '*30 things to do with children outside*'. We heard how taking the dog for a walk was an integral part of the day, and the children were excited to tell us about their dog walking tales.

The child minder had a sound knowledge of child development and successfully conveyed her understanding of how this can impact on children's behaviour. The child minder discussed examples of good practice; how she had supported children and how she tailored the care she provides to individual children and their circumstances. The child minder was a good role model and respected children's views, for example, children chose which focused activity they wanted to complete, these having been planned to reflect the children's abilities.

The child minder is committed to providing a range of activities that will promote children's development across all ages. The child minder was fully aware of all the children's individual development and through regularly reviewing children's progress, she planned comprehensively for the next steps in their learning. For example, the child minder uses the first few months a child is with her to assess and get to know the child; this information

is then used to plan for their identified learning goals. Parents are kept fully informed and all information is available for them to view at their request.

The child minder actively implements a comprehensive plan of activities.

3. Environment

Summary

The child minder provides a safe and secure environment for the children. Risk management procedures are effective and the space available provides children with appropriate activities and resources.

Our findings

The child minder implements effective measures to ensure the environment is safe and secure. Comprehensive risk assessments had been completed; these had been reviewed regularly and acted upon. For example, risk assessments were updated in response to on-going building work and when a new cooker and fridge had been installed in the kitchen. In addition daily safety checks were completed for both indoors and outdoors and these highlighted any changes in the environment meaning the child minder and ensured the environment was as reasonably practical free from risks to children's safety.

Fire drills had taken place regularly meaning the child minder and children would be familiar with the process to follow should they need to leave the building in an emergency.

The environment provides children with reasonable space to move freely and it appropriately meets children's needs. The outdoor space was regularly used and offers children a basic range of activities. For example, children enjoyed riding on their bikes; all were seen to wear helmets, meaning the child minder positively promoted safety. However; the environment was limited in that it lacked activities to extend children's knowledge and did not stimulate their curiosity. The child minder felt restricted by the current space and wanted to provide children with additional experiences.

An extension being built to the house will provide an additional playroom for the sole use of child minding. The premises were welcoming, warm, and accessible to all and the child minder uses it well to ensure the smooth running of the service.

The child minder provides access to good quality resources which are age appropriate. They were well maintained with sufficient quantity available for all to use. Sustainable and recycled materials were used where possible; for example, card board boxes were used for a wealth of different activities, and the children enjoyed cooking in the mud kitchen with old household items.

4. Leadership and Management

Summary

The child minder is dedicated to providing families and their children with a service that is tailored to meet individual needs. She is knowledgeable about her regulatory responsibilities and implements sound procedures to regularly review and evaluate her service. She successfully works in partnership with parents.

Our findings

The child minder has a definite vision for the service and she competently shares this with others. We found the child minder had ensured her statement of purpose and policies and procedure were up to date and informative, all documents had been regularly reviewed and updated as required. The child minder had recently developed a short information leaflet to provide parents with a quick reference point containing useful information about how the service operates.

The child minder has consistently ensured she has a thorough knowledge of her regulatory responsibilities and as a result all required documentation was well organised and available for inspection. She has engaged positively with CIW and notified us of events which have had an impact on the service; such as when building work started on the extension.

Promoting the Welsh language is at the heart of this service and the child minder expressed her dedication and commitment to providing a Welsh language service for the children and their families. The child minder is currently looking at how she can make all documentation, to include her policies and procedures available bilingually.

Since registration in June 2018 the child minder has actively implemented self-evaluation procedures. Questionnaires have been distributed to all parents to gather their views and suggestions for improvements. In addition to this the child minder asks for feedback from parents after the first six months of them using her service. This enables her to ensure that all using the service are happy and more importantly they are pleased with how she is caring for their children. The child minder had recently consulted with parents, asking them to confirm which method they preferred to receive daily information about their child. Some had chosen to continue with written daily diaries whilst others had chosen to receive the information digitally. The child minder sent CIW a quality of care review reporting on the views of parents and highlighted how the feedback received would be used to implement future improvements.

The child minder implements a culture of continuous professional development and evidenced she wants to drive the service forward. This is done in partnership with parents with the child minder consistently communicating and engaging with parents positively. We

saw feedback from parents evidencing how the child minder had improved children's well-being and children and their families benefit from the care provided by the child minder.

5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection

5.1 Areas of non compliance from previous inspections

None

5.2 Recommendations for improvement

We recommended:

- Developing the environment both indoors and outside to offer children activities which will extend their knowledge and provide opportunities that will stimulate their curiosity and interest;
- familiarising herself with the Welsh Government's best practice guidance, Food and Nutrition for childcare settings; and

6. How we undertook this inspection

This was a full unannounced inspection undertaken as part of our normal schedule of inspections.

One inspector visited the child minder on the 25 June 2019 between 11:30 am and 2:45 pm.

We:

- inspected a sample of documentation, policies and procedures;
- we spoke to the children present;
- observed practice;
- inspected the premises and the resources used;
- informed the child minder of our findings.

Further information about what we do can be found on our website:

www.careinspectorate.wales

7. About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered Person	Kelly Richards
Registered maximum number of places	10
Age range of children	6 months – 12 years old.
Opening hours	8:00am – 6:00pm Monday to Thursday
Operating Language of the service	Both
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	First inspection since registration on the 11 June 2018
Dates of this inspection visit(s)	25 June 2019
Is this a Flying Start service?	No
Is early years education for three and four year olds provided at the service?	No
Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?	This is a service that identifies and meets the Welsh language and cultural needs of people who use or may use the, the service. However, it does not fully provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh Language because not all documentation is available bilingually.
Additional Information:	

Date Published 20/08/2019