



Childcare Inspection Report on

Kelly O'Connor

Barry



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Description of the service

Kelly O'Connor was registered as a child minder in June 2008. She cares for a maximum of ten children aged under 12 years from her home in Barry. The service operates Monday to Friday from 7am to 6pm. The main language of the service is English.

Summary of our findings

1. Overall assessment

Overall, we Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) found that children are very settled and happy at this service. We found that children have access to a good selection of toys and equipment. They have very positive relationships with the child minder and her family. Children are cared for in a safe, clean and child friendly environment. Overall, the business is managed effectively.

2. Improvements

Following the previous inspection the provider has:

- revised her statement of purpose;
- updated the name and contact details for Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) in all policy documents and
- familiarised herself with the Radicalisation and Prevent Duty guidance.

3. Requirements and recommendations

No requirements were made at this inspection.

We have made one minor recommendation which is detailed at the end of this report.

1. Well-being

Summary

Children feel safe and happy within their environment and with the child minder and her family. Children make good age appropriate choices and are developing well. They enjoy the good range of play opportunities and experiences.

Our findings

1.1 To what extent do children have a voice?

Children make choices and are listened to.

Children had choices of what to play with and where to play. We saw that children helped themselves to the resources from the low level storage such as the animals or the books. Children decided to play with the farm and animals and they helped lay out the artificial grass and set up the farm. We saw that children followed their own interests with some children choosing to colour whilst other played in the shop role play area. Children chose from the crayons or pencils to colour. Children freely moved around the play areas with confidence.

Children have a good voice.

1.2 To what extent do children feel safe, happy and valued?

Children feel safe and have positive relationships.

We saw that children had a good relationship with the child minder and her family. Children were well settled, we saw them confidently playing with each other and the child minder and her husband. Children were contented and relaxed in the child minder's care and they also happily included us in their play. Children responded positively with smiling faces when they had praise or 'high fives' for their efforts, such as colouring or sharing.

Children feel very safe, happy and valued.

1.3 How well do children interact?

Children play well together and are beginning to co-operate and take turns.

We saw children play alongside each other comfortably. They mostly shared the toys and took turns to use the till in the role play shop. We heard them confidently interact with each other and the adults present. We heard children ask for toys and to use the toilet. Overall, children's behaviour was good. We saw some minor sharing disputes but the children responded well to the child minder's intervention. We saw one child share a toy with another and heard the child minder use praise such as, "*good boy/girl*", "*good sharing*" and "*sharing is caring*". Children helped to tidy away the toys.

Children interact well.

1.4 To what extent do children enjoy their play and learning?

Children enjoy experiencing free play and exploring.

We saw children enjoy the toys on offer. They happily explored the resources available to them and they chose what they wanted to play with. They were particularly interested in the shop role play area. They enjoyed buying items with the play money and bringing the food to us. We saw them have fun with the farm animals and making the animal noises as well as colouring. Children had access to a good supply of age appropriate play resources.

Children successfully enjoy their play and learning.

1.5 How well do children develop, learn and become independent?

Children are developing well and have opportunities to become independent.

We saw some craft work and educational material displayed on the walls. Most signage was bilingual and we saw that the storage boxes were labelled. We saw the children giggling whilst placing the farms animals in various sections of the farm yard, for example putting the horses in the stables and the duck near the pond. The children told us that the farm dog is called 'Peter'. Children responded to questions and told us that carrots are grown on the farm and the rabbit eats them. There was laughter when they pretended to eat the carrots. Children ate their snack independently at the low level table. We saw them ask to go to the toilet and the child minder was on hand to offer assistance if necessary. We saw children colour independently and spontaneously help to tidy away the toys. We heard children singing songs and look at the numerous books available.

Children are developing well and becoming independent.

2. Care and Development

Summary

The child minder works with care and concern to keep children safe and happy. She knows them well and is able to recognise when children need support. She promotes the children's play, learning and development and manages the children's interactions positively.

Our findings

2.1 How well do practitioners keep children safe and healthy?

The child minder supervises children well and follows good health and safety procedures.

The child minder supervised the children closely during our visit. We heard her give safety messages to the children, such as not to put boxes over their heads. We saw that she supervised children during toilet visits and ensured that they washed their hands. We saw her supporting children during their play activities and responding to their needs, such as when a child became tired and needed their comforter. During the school run service, she told us that all children are taken out of the car and into the school. The child minder confirmed that she never leaves children unattended in her vehicle or with other children. The child minder told us that, on her busiest day, she often drops children off at their home, drops children at school and collects children from school. She told us that she has buggies for the younger children and always holds the hands of the other younger children during the school run.

The child minder keeps children safe and healthy.

2.2 How well do practitioners manage interactions?

This inspection did not focus on this area on this occasion. This whole theme will be considered at future inspections.

2.3 How well do practitioners promote children's play, learning and development and meet their individual needs?

This inspection did not focus on this area on this occasion. This whole theme will be considered at future inspections.

3. Environment

Summary

This inspection did not focus on environment on this occasion because the inspection focused on a concern received in relation to care and development and leadership and management. This whole theme will be considered at future inspections.

We did note that the child minder provided a homely, child friendly environment. The premises was well maintained. Children had access to a dedicated play area as well as other areas of the home, where they easily access a very good selection of resources and play opportunities.

4. Leadership and Management

Summary

The child minder mainly manages her service well. She has good record-keeping systems in place.

Our findings

4.1 How effective is leadership?

Overall, the child minder strives to comply with the relevant regulations and national minimum standards.

The child minder had a current statement of purpose in place, which reflected the service provided. The child minder kept a daily register of the children attending and she used a daily diary to record the children due to attend. She also recorded the daily activities and events. We randomly sampled four dates; one in the month of January; one in February and two in March 2019 and found that apart from one date, the child minder was compliant with her registered numbers. Records showed that the child minder on one date cared for four children under the age of five years. The child minder told us that she had resolved the issue of being over her numbers and now remained within her registered numbers at all times. She had notified CIW of this issue. We saw that the other dates sampled showed that the child minder remained within her registered numbers, caring for between five and eight children in any one day. A record of visitors was maintained.

Overall, leadership of the business is good.

4.2 How effective is self evaluation and planning for improvement?

This inspection did not focus on this area on this occasion. This whole theme will be considered at future inspections.

4.3 How effective is the management of practitioners, staff and other resources?

This inspection did not focus on this area on this occasion. This whole theme will be considered at future inspections.

However, we did note that the child minder was currently in the process of obtaining a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate for one household member.

4.4 How effective are partnerships?

This inspection did not focus on this area on this occasion. This whole theme will be considered at future inspections.

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 that the provider should:

- ensure that the visitors' book is completed when household members are present during child minding operation hours.

6. How we undertook this inspection

This was a focused inspection brought forward following a concern about keeping children safe and complying with the number of children she is registered to care for. When we inspected the child minder constantly supervised the children and her registers evidenced that she complied with her numbers. We also considered the recommendations highlighted at the previous inspection.

One inspector visited the service on 13 March 2019 for approximately 2 hours. We:

- inspected a sample of documentation;
- observed practice;
- spoke to some children and the provider and
- provided feedback to the provider at the end of the inspection.

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 O'Connor Parsons
Registered maximum number of places	10
Age range of children	0 – 12 years
Opening hours	Monday to Friday from 7am to 6pm
Operating Language of the service	English
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	8 August 2018
Dates of this inspection visit(s)	13 March 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 does not provide an 'Active Offer' of the Welsh language. It does not anticipate, identify or meet the Welsh language needs of people /children who use, or intend to use their service. We recommend that the service provider considers Welsh Government's 'More Than Just Words follow on strategic guidance for Welsh language in social care'.
Additional Information:	