



# Childcare Inspection Report on

**Bethan Davies**

**Newport**



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## **Description of the service**

The child minder is registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) to care for up to six children under the age of 12 years. She operates her business from the family home which she shares with her son. The home is located close to local schools and amenities and the child minder provides flexible care including wrap around and after school care. It is an English speaking service with incidental Welsh used throughout the day.

## **Summary of our findings**

### **1. Overall assessment**

This was a focused inspection to test non compliance raised at the last inspection on the 13 June 2018. We looked at children's well-being and considered aspects of care and development, the environment and leadership and management. We found that children are well cared for by a supportive and nurturing child minder. They enjoy a good selection of play activities which promote their all round development. The service is generally run appropriately but some documents require updating.

### **2. Improvements**

The child minder has addressed the non compliance issue raised at the last inspection

Since the last inspection visit the child minder has completed a safeguarding course. She has checked that car seats are suitable for use, daily records of the premises are now maintained and children's records have been updated.

### **3. Requirements and recommendations**

We did not identify any non compliance at this inspection. We have made recommendations in relation to the environment and leadership and management themes.

# **1. Well-being**

## **Summary**

Children enjoy their time at the child minders. They engage well with each other and are forming positive relationships with the child minder and their peers. They benefit from a good range of free play opportunities and their independence is promoted.

## **Our findings**

### **1.1 To what extent do children have a voice?**

Children are able to speak freely and make their needs known. We noted that children were confident to approach the child minder. Some of the children had emerging language skills but were able to make their needs understood and the child minder listened carefully to what they had to say. Older children confidently spoke to the child minder about their day at school and all children were able to freely choose their play activities and follow their specific interests.

Children have a voice in the service and their wishes are considered.

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

Children are secure and settled in the home. We noted that they were relaxed and comfortable around the child minder and approached her for reassurance and cuddles. They were familiar with the routines of the service and knew where toys and resources were. They were respected and treated gently and kindly by the child minder who showed an interest in what they were doing. One child was sleeping when we arrived. When they woke up they were supported well by the child minder who gave them time to wake up properly. Children collected from school were warmly welcomed by the child minder and looked happy to see her.

Children are relaxed and settled in the child minder's care.

### **1.3 How well do children interact?**

Children are developing their social skills. Most of the children we observed during our inspection visit were under the age of five. We noted that they played well together in line with their age and stage of development. Bonds of friendship had developed between two younger children who played happily together and held hands when sitting in the car. Older children chatted together and there was a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

Children are developing appropriate social skills.

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

Children enjoy the selection of play and learning opportunities they have available to them. For example, we observed children playing with small toys and looking at books, smiling at they did so. They pointed to pictures in the books and asked the child minder "*What's that?*". They enjoyed touching the book to feel the different textures and were interested and curious to hear what the child minder had to say

about the animals. They have regular opportunities for outdoor activities as the child minder ensures that there are daily walks or visits to local play groups to widen children's social opportunities.

Children have a good range of play experiences to promote their all round development

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

Children are developing their self help skills in line with their age and stage of development. They were very confident and explored their environment independently. They knew where resources were and picked out toys without support from the child minder. They were independent learners and sat on the floor looking and flicking through books which interested them.

Children are becoming independent in line with their stage of development and this helps prepare them for more formal education.

## **2. Care and Development**

### **Summary**

This was a focused inspection. We did not consider it necessary to look at care and development in any depth on this occasion. This theme will be considered at future inspections.

### **Our findings**

#### **2.1 How well do practitioners keep children safe and healthy?**

The child minder is aware of her responsibility to keep children safe and healthy. She has completed a child protection course since our last inspection visit and told us that she found the course very helpful. She has reflected on how she supervises children during school runs and has reviewed her procedures and risk assessments accordingly. We observed a school run which involved dropping off children at one site and collecting children from school. The child minder was mindful of children's safety. She supervised children closely when walking from the school to the car, holding the hand of a younger child and ensuring that older children remained close to her. As a result she has addressed the non compliance notice issued at the last inspection. She has reviewed car seats to ensure that they are safe for children to use and is aware that she will need to monitor this situation.

The child minder has appropriate procedures in place to ensure children's safety.

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

At the last inspection visit we made a recommendation around development of children's records to identify their individual needs and plan for their next steps. The child minder told us that she is updating her records more regularly but is still in the process of developing her current system for capturing children's progress and planning for their next steps.

### **3. Environment**

#### **Summary**

This was a focused inspection. We did not consider it necessary to look at the environment in any depth on this occasion. This theme will be considered at future inspections.

#### **Our findings**

##### **3.1 How well do leaders ensure the suitability of the environment?**

At the last inspection we made a recommendation that the skirting board should be replaced in the bathroom. The child minder told us that she has decided on a complete refurbishment of this room and the work is scheduled to take place in the near future. We also recommended that daily checks are recorded, for example in relation to fridge temperature checks and this has been actioned.

## **4. Leadership and Management**

### **Summary**

This was a focused inspection. We did not consider it necessary to look at leadership and management in any depth on this occasion. This theme will be considered at future inspections. We found the child minder to be receptive and open during discussions with us. She has addressed some matters highlighted at the last inspection in relation to her record keeping system but has still to update some documents and policies.

### **Our findings**

#### **4.1 How effective is leadership?**

The child minder runs her service effectively overall, but some development is required.

She has acted on some recommendations highlighted at the last inspection but has still to action others. We saw that children's records had been updated and parents have been contacted with regard to consent for emergency medical treatment for their children. The Statement of Purpose still needs to be updated to provide more detailed information about the service and the complaints policy needs to be reviewed to give parents more information on timescales for dealing with complaints. The child minder has yet to address a recommendation made at the last inspection in relation to developing a complaints policy for children so that they know how they can raise a concern/complaint about the service.

The child minder is making steps to develop her records and documents. Further development of some documents and policies is required.



## **5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection**

### **5.1 Areas of non compliance from previous inspections**

Regulations 20 – Safeguarding and promotion of welfare. This non compliance has now been met.

### **5.2 Recommendations for improvement**

- Update the Statement of Purpose in line with National Minimum Standards;
- revise the complaints policy and develop a complaints policy for children;
- refurbish the bathroom and
- continue to develop records to capture children's progress and plan for their next steps.

## **6. How we undertook this inspection**

This was a focused inspection conducted by one inspector. The inspection took approximately two hours and as part of the inspection process we:

- spoke to the child minder and minded children;
- observed care practice and accompanied the child minder on the school run;
- looked at a selection of service documents and
- reviewed information held by CIW including the last inspection report.

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

[www.careinspectorate.wales](http://www.careinspectorate.wales)

## About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered Person	Bethan Davies
Registered maximum number of places	6
Age range of children	1 – 9 years
Opening hours	Monday to Friday 8.00am – 6.00pm
Operating Language of the service	English
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	13 June 2018
Dates of this inspection visit(s)	25 September 2018
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 <i>'More Than Just Words follow up strategic guidance for Welsh language in social care.'</i>
Additional Information: None	