



# Childcare Inspection Report on

**Karin Williams**

**Cwmbran**



**Date of Publication**

**Friday, 18 January 2019**

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## **Description of the service**

The child minder is registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) to care for up to 10 children under the age of 12 years. She lives in the Thornhill area of Cwmbran and cares for children in her home that is on three levels. Children have no access to the rear garden. Care is offered Monday to Friday, including school holidays. The service operates through the English language with incidental Welsh used throughout the day.

## **Summary of our findings**

### **1. Overall assessment**

Children experience warm, consistent care from the child minder who is experienced in her role and has cared for many of them for a number of years. Children have access to a good range of resources many of which are linked to the current theme. The child minder has undertaken further training to ensure she keeps her child care knowledge up to date. The environment is generally safe although completion of ongoing renovation and redecoration needs to be prioritised. The child minder has sustained improvements implemented at the last inspection. However, further improvements are recommended to ensure incidents are recorded promptly and some policies are followed more effectively.

### **2. Improvements**

The child minder had made the following improvements following recommendations made at the last inspection:

- Updated Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks for herself and family members living at the premises;
- improved records of activity planning and links them to children's individual needs;
- maintained a clear record of children's attendance;
- improved security at the premises;
- maintained a clear record of visitors to the premises during child minding hours.

Additionally, the child minder has successfully completed the Level 3 Diploma in Child Care Learning and Development and is awaiting her qualification certificate. She had reviewed her risk assessment for the collection of children from school and purchased safety equipment to support her new process.

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

The child minder should prioritise finishing re decorating the premises and hang a door on the bathroom/toilet. In addition, she should refresh her knowledge of some policies and procedures to ensure she is clear regarding their effective implementation.

# **1. Well-being**

## **Summary**

This was a focused inspection concentrating on the Care and Development theme. We looked at the general well-being of children during our visit. This theme will be looked at fully at the next inspection.

Children feel safe, happy and valued by the child minder. The children present were happy and relaxed at the setting. They enjoyed playing with building blocks and watching the television. Children were excited when they returned after school to see that Christmas decorations and displays had been put up. They eagerly sought out Christmas books and toys to play with. They were clearly familiar with the home and moved freely between the downstairs lounge and kitchen/dining area, accessing toys they wanted and bringing them to the child minder to support them with their play. The children clearly enjoyed a warm relationship with the child minder and her grandchildren whom she cares for. They readily approached her for cuddles and support with their play. They dressed themselves for the outdoors independently with appropriate support. We saw them following the child minder's instruction confidently. For example, they were asked to choose a coloured strap on a rope to hold when walking to collect older children from school. They listened attentively to the child minder and were keen to demonstrate the skills they had learned to cross the road safely.

## **2. Care and Development**

### **Summary**

Overall, the child minder has the skills and knowledge to keep children safe and healthy because she has undertaken more than the required training recommended by the Regulations and National Minimum Standards. She has taken prompt action to review procedures following an incident on the school run. She knows the children and their families very well. She uses this knowledge to effectively manage children's behaviour appropriately, successfully promoting their development and individual needs.

### **Our findings**

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

The child minder generally keeps children safe and healthy. The child minder has successfully completed her Level 3 certificate in Child Care, Learning and Development and has current certificates and a good working knowledge of safeguarding, first aid and food hygiene. The child minder also promoted the children's awareness of danger by reminding them not to run and to sit on the chair properly to prevent accidents. Children were clearly aware of the 'danger zone' by the cooker when food was being prepared. We heard the child minder explain to the children the importance of putting their hand to their mouth when coughing to stop the spread of germs and why hand washing was so important. We discussed a recent incident that had occurred on the school run. We saw that the child minder had taken prompt steps to review her risk assessment and purchase equipment to support her in keeping children safe and secure whilst out walking to school or elsewhere. The child minder was confident in operating her new procedure. The child minder has improved security at the premises to keep children safe. We saw the inside door was constantly locked and parents routinely knock on the window or the inside door to gain entry to collect their child.

Appropriate systems were in place to record accidents, incidents, medication given and any existing injuries children had prior to them attending the service. Accidents recorded were minor matters and medication had not been administered since 2015. However, we found that the child minder had not recorded significant incidents promptly.

Overall, the child minder has appropriate systems in place to support children's health and welfare.

#### **2.2 How well do practitioners manage interactions?**

Most children had been attending the service for a number of years and some were sibling groups and friends, as well as the child minder's own grand children. The child minder promoted good behaviour and intervened when minor disagreements occurred using distraction methods. Children got on very well with each other, supporting each other's play

and praising each other. The child minder provided appropriate praise and recognition for achievements.

The child minder manages interactions well.

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

The child minder knows the children in her care very well as they have been attending the service for some time. She has developed a system to record developmental milestones for younger children and has started keeping records to aid her to plan developmentally appropriate activities. She has attended a course to support her with sharing developmental information effectively with parents. We saw appropriate supervision of children, with older children allowed to go to the lounge and toilet unaccompanied, but with regular checking by the child minder. Younger children were appropriately supervised. The child minder supported children to put on their coats and shoes ready to go out and was mindful of the time required for them to do this for themselves. She provided good levels of support.

The child minder meets children's play, learning and developmental needs appropriately.

### **3. Environment**

#### **Summary**

This was a focused inspection concentrating on the Care and Development theme. The environment will be looked at more closely at the next inspection. We found that the lounge and kitchen environments were generally safe and clean. There are plenty of resources to promote children's development and keep them engaged and stimulated. However, many resources were located in an upstairs bedroom/toy room which was not being used at the time of the inspection as the bedrooms were being reorganised. Additionally, the bathroom/toilet did not have a door due to ongoing renovation work.

## **4. Leadership and Management**

### **Summary**

This was a focused inspection concentrating on the Care and Development theme. We did look at some matters regarding Leadership and Management pertinent to the concern raised with CIW. However, this theme will be looked at during the next full inspection.

### **Our findings**

Overall, leadership and management have improved since the last inspection because the child minder has taken steps to effectively implement improved procedures and practises as a result of the last inspection. These have included: reviewing policies and procedures; ensuring contracts are in place for all children; updating DBS checks for herself and persons registered to live at the premises; maintaining clearer records of attendance and reviewing risk assessments.

However, we found that the child minder had not always implemented her lost child policy effectively and had not recorded significant events promptly.



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

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

None

### **5.2 Recommendations for improvement**

The child minder should:

- Ensure any incidents or significant events are recorded in a timely manner and
- refresh their knowledge of policies and procedures, such as the lost child procedure, to ensure that they are confident in putting them into operation in the event of it being required.

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

This was a focused inspection of the service in response to an anonymous concern raised with CIW. One inspector completed a visit to the service. The inspection was unannounced and took approximately two hours. We gathered information through:

- Observation of children and the care they receive;
- discussion with the child minder regarding the school run and observing the school run in operation;
- looking at documentation including updated risk assessments, children's contracts, visitors book, accidents and incidents records and attendance registers;
- a visual inspection of the premises;
- we spoke to some children present and
- we gave feedback to the child minder at the end of the inspection.

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	Karin Williams
Registered maximum number of places	10
Age range of children	Under 12 years of age
Opening hours	6am to 7pm Monday to Friday
Operating Language of the service	English
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	12 April 2018 and 17 April 2018
Dates of this inspection visit	27 November 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 on strategic guidance for Welsh language in social care</i> '.
Additional Information:	