



Childcare Inspection Report on

Judith Crooker

Dinas Powys



Date Inspection Completed

14/05/2019

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Description of the service

Judith Crooker was registered in May 2005. She cares for a maximum of 10 children aged under 12 years from her home in Dinas Powys, Cardiff. The service operates Monday to Thursday from 7:30am to 6:00pm. The main language of the service is English.

Summary

1. Overall assessment

Overall, we Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) found that children are happy and settled with the child minder. They enjoy their play activities and interact well. Children are cared for by an experienced and caring child minder. They are cared for in a comfortable and very clean environment and have access to a good range of resources. The child minder manages her business well and has good partnerships.

2. Improvements

We were forwarded an updated statement of purpose during the inspection process.

3. Requirements and recommendations

We made some recommendations, which are detailed at the end of this report.

1. Well-being

Summary

Children have a strong voice and feel safe and happy at this service. They interact well and have a good relationship with the child minder. They enjoy their play and have some opportunities to develop their independence.

Our findings

Children were happy and settled. We saw that children had a good relationship with the child minder, they were confident and relaxed with her. We heard children chat about their school day, their out of school activities and an upcoming football event. One child asked the child minder to play badminton with her outdoors and chatted to her about how long she had been a child minder.

Children had free choice throughout the inspection. Older children told us that they enjoy playing football outdoors, board games as well as playing with the younger children. Children chose if they wanted an apple or a banana for snack and had a drink of water. A good selection of resources was available for the children during our visit.

Children interacted well and they were confident. Children's behaviour was good throughout the visit. We heard the children use good manners as they were handed their snack. Children happily chatted to us and the child minder. They told us there was nothing they disliked.

Generally, children had some opportunity to develop and learn. Children visited the toilet independently and washed their hands. We saw that children were mostly independent within their play. However, the child minder cut up the children's fruit and provided their drinks for them. During sand play, we heard children use vocabulary, describing volume, including full and empty as well as naming colours. The child minder told us that children only attend for a very short period of time and they followed their own interests during that time.

2. Care and Development

Summary

The child minder is effective at keeping children safe and healthy. She manages children's interactions in a kind and caring manner and promotes their learning and development sufficiently.

Our findings

The child minder managed interactions well and interacted positively with the children. She was calm and caring. The child minder told us that she does not experience behavioural issues and this was apparent during the visit. The children were well behaved and we heard them use good manners, such as 'please' and 'thank you'.

The child minder was fully aware of her duties within safeguarding and her responsibilities to report concerns. She was also familiar with the radicalisation and prevent duty. The child minder told us that she was aware of the children's needs such as their allergies, dietary and any additional learning needs. The child minder did not provide meals but offered drinks and fruit as a snack. We heard the child minder give children safety messages such as to be careful whilst playing with the sand outdoors as the wind was blowing. The child minder ensured that each child washed their hands before snack and provided individual pieces of kitchen roll for hand drying. We did not see the child minder wipe surfaces clean with an anti bacterial cleaner before serving snack. Children using the service at present are fully toilet trained, however we did discuss nappy changing with the child minder. The child minder discussed the procedure she would follow for nappy changing, stating disposable gloves would be worn and the mat would be sanitised between changes.

The child minder promoted children's play, learning and development relatively well. She joined in with children's conversations at snack time and promoted further discussions as well as vocabulary by asking questions. We heard them discuss different colours and shapes whilst playing with the playdough as well as discuss vocabulary, describing volume whilst playing with the sand tray, for example full, half full and empty. We also saw albums of photographs showing children taking part in various craft activities. The child minder had also started scrap books for each child, consisting of photographs of various activities as well as observations. The child minder told us that the children were not with her for long periods of time and therefore mainly offered free play.

3. Environment

Summary

The child minder provides a safe, warm and homely environment. There is suitable space for children to play, rest and explore. She has a good selection of resources and appropriate furniture and equipment for children.

Our findings

The child minder ensured that the premises was safe. The main door was locked and the key stored at a higher level. The child minder had undertaken risk assessments and completed a monthly hazard checklist. The child minder had safety gates in place at the bottom of the stairs and at the entrance of the playroom. The heating test certificate was valid and fire drills had been regularly undertaken. The child minder had fixed the fire blanket to the back of the kitchen door. The rear garden was securely enclosed.

The child minder ensured that the premises both indoors and outdoors were welcoming and child friendly. There was sufficient space and facilities to meet the children's needs for play, quiet time and physical play. Children had access to the conservatory, which was the playroom, the dining room and downstairs toilet. Toys and resources were stored in labelled boxes and units at a low level to enable children to help themselves. Children had access to the rear garden for outdoor physical play and fresh air.

The child minder ensured that children had access to a suitable range of toys and equipment. She had a step to assist children in accessing the toilet and wash basin, low level table and chairs for the younger children along with a higher level table and larger chairs for the older children, and a sofa for children to relax on. We saw some items such as books, small world play toys, play dough, sand tray and dolls. The child minder told us that she rotated resources for older children such as games, board games and craft resources. Items viewed were clean and well maintained. The child minder told us that she celebrated some traditional and some wider world festivals and we saw photographic evidence of this in the children's scrapbooks. The child minder had some multi-cultural resources including a doll and small world characters.

4. Leadership and Management

Summary

The child minder is organised and has effective record-keeping systems in place. She manages her business well and evaluates the service provided. Partnership working is good.

Our findings

The child minder had a statement of purpose in place, which reflected the service provided, however, it did not contain all the required details. We were forwarded an updated statement of purpose containing all the information required during the inspection process. The child minder had devised policies and procedures and some of these had been reviewed. However, the child minder had not dated all documents for validity/reviewing purposes. The child minder was organised and provided the documentation and paperwork required with ease. She did not maintain a visitors' book, however recorded all visitors in her diary. We discussed recording household members as visitors when they were present during minding hours. The child minder held satisfactory accident and medication records. The child minder had records such as a children's register, contracts, information forms and various consent forms for children, however we saw that contracts had been completed for siblings and siblings shared the same permission forms. The child minder had started completing the Foundation Phase Profile for children as well as some observations in their scrapbook and on developmental records. Not all observations were dated. The child minder shared verbal information with the parents.

The child minder had a self-evaluation system, which included questionnaires for parents and children. The child minder had completed the Self-Assessment of Service Statement (SASS) part 1 and 2. The child minder had completed a review in November 2018 and this included the views of both parents and children along with training she had attended and her intentions for the coming year.

The child minder had been working as a child minder for several years and was very experienced. She was fully aware of the maximum number of children that she may care for at any one time. She ensured that valid Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificates for all adult household members were in place. The child minder had completed all the core training such as safeguarding, first aid and food hygiene. The child minder had completed further training on The Prevent Duty and training on Preparing for an Inspection. The public liability insurance certificate was valid.

The child minder had a folder containing her policies and procedures, which were available to parents. Parents confirmed that they received copies of all policies and procedures. We

heard the child minder share information about the children's time with her at collection times. A parent questionnaires stated, *'I have a great relationship with Judith and she is an amazing chid minder. Judith's support over the years has been amazing.'*

5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection

5.1 Areas of non compliance from previous inspections

None

5.2 Recommendations for improvement

We recommend that the provider should:

- clean surfaces with an anti-bacterial cleaner before serving food;
- date all children's work and observations;
- ensure separate permission forms and contracts are completed for siblings; and
- record household members as visitors when present during minding hours.

6. How we undertook this inspection

This was an announced full inspection undertaken as part of our normal schedule of inspections.

One inspector visited the service on 14 May 2019 for approximately four hours and 35 minutes.

We:

- inspected a sample of documentation and policies;
- observed practice;
- spoke to children, the child minder and three parents;
- provided questionnaires to be issued to parents and children and
- provided detailed telephone feedback to the child minder on 17 May 2019.

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	Judith Crooker
Registered maximum number of places	10
Age range of children	3 months to 12 years
Opening hours	Monday to Thursday 7:30am to 6pm
Operating Language of the service	English
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	15 May 2015
Dates of this inspection visit	14 May 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 is working towards providing an 'active Offer' of the Welsh language and intends to become a bilingual service.
Additional Information:	

Date Published [[Insert Report Published Actual](#)]

No noncompliance records found in Open status.