



Childcare Inspection Report on

Anne Maureen Wood

Llanfairpwllgwyngyll

Mae'r adroddiad hwn hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg

This report is also available in Welsh



Date Inspection Completed

06/06/2019

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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

Anne Maureen Wood is a registered childminder and operates the service from her family home, located in the village of Llanfairpwllgwyngyll, Anglesey. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of nine children under the age of 12 years. The opening hours are Monday – Friday 0700 – 1800 hours. The service provides the Childcare offer but does not provide the Welsh Language ‘Active Offer’. The service operates through the medium of English with some incidental Welsh encouraged.

Summary

Theme	Rating
Well-being	Good
Care and Development	Good
Environment	Good
Leadership and Management	Good

1. Overall assessment

Children are happy and settled and are active and curious learners. The child minder has a welcoming and friendly approach to care giving. The indoor and outdoor play environments offer children positive play experiences. The child minder manages the service effectively.

2. Improvements

Since this inspection, the child minder has submitted to Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) an improved child protection policy and risk assessment for indoor and outdoor environments which suitably address our recommendations within this report.

3. Requirements and recommendations

We have made recommendations in relation to risk assessments, hand washing procedures and child protection policy.

1. Well-being

Good

Summary

Children are confident communicators and approach the child minder with ease. They interact positively and co-operate well. Children are active and curious learners and enjoy participating in their chosen activities. They are developing their independence well.

Our findings

Children communicated confidently with one another and the childminder. They played imaginatively and told the child minder they were taking their baby dolls on a bus trip to buy a chocolate egg. Children were excited as they told the child minder's daughter about the post arriving and told us they were going to learn about caterpillars. This led to a conversation about butterflies and one child excitedly said they had visited a local butterfly farm with their grandmother.

Children were praised with positive language and this made them feel good about themselves. They had bonds of affection with the children minder who knew them well and provided responsive care. For instance, when a child told the child minder they were tired she gave them a big cuddle and this reassured the child. While playing outdoors children approached the child minder with ease to make requests for various resources and this was given to them without question. This made children feel safe and valued.

Children were learning to co-operate and help one another as they tidied up their toys before meal times and going outdoors to play. They used good manners and interacted well with one another. Children told us they had to use '*kind words*', '*kind hands*' and '*kind feet*' and pointed to the posters on the wall reminding them to do so. Older children interacted positively with their younger friends and held their hand to walk up the stairs to the toilet with the child minder. Children were learning to build friendships well.

Children were actively practicing their fine motor skills as they were being given the opportunity to prepare their snack and carefully sliced a banana with a plastic knife. They had various opportunities to learn about colours, numeracy, size and weight. For example, children showed us and talked about the different sizes of the baby dolls and told us which one was the heaviest. They enjoyed playing in the home corner and selected a variety of related props to extend their play. During outdoor play children played happily and followed their own interests, for instance, they enjoyed playing shop and showed us how the scanner made a noise as they passed the boxes through it. They weighed the toy fruit onto the scales and talked about different prices. During circle time children enjoyed talking about how they were feeling and eagerly represented their emotions with stickers on the chart. This helped children to recognise their emotions well and inform their friends and child minder about how they felt in a positive way.

They ate their snack with limited support and were beginning to understand the importance of health and hygiene by helping to clean the tables after meal time and washing and drying

their hands. They were able to accomplish things for themselves for example, stacking their own chair after circle time and putting on their own coat and shoes.

2. Care and Development

Good

Summary

The child minder promotes healthy practices consistently but some procedures require reviewing. She manages interactions fairly. The child minder provides interesting activities for children to develop their learning through play effectively.

Our findings

The child minder understood and implemented the policies and procedures for the service positively and she followed correct nappy changing procedures. She used antibacterial hand gel to clean children's hands before meal times but this did not provide effective handwashing as alcohol based hand rubs are not cleansing agents. However, the child minder did encourage children to wash their hands appropriately with liquid soap and water after using the toilet. The child minder's safeguarding knowledge was suitable however, the policy required reviewing and updating. The child minder ensured healthy snacks and meals were provided. She had completed first aid training suitable for the age ranges being cared for and a basic safeguarding course and these were current.

The child minder promoted safety and supervised children well during their activities. She had recorded accident and incidents and these were signed by both herself and parent consistently to evidence parents were kept informed. Fire safety checks and fire drills were regularly conducted. The childminder had also recorded times when fire drills had been repeated more often to reassure some children who became unsettled during learning about emergency procedures. When the child minder walked children to and from school she reinforced road safety rules well to ensure children remained safe.

The child minder encouraged children to use good manners and to be kind to one another. During outdoor play children were encouraged to take turns to crawl through the play tunnel and share various toys and play equipment positively.

The child minder implemented some of the principles from the foundation phase effectively to create areas for children to follow their own interests. She organised circle time well and facilitated a variety of interesting activities. For example, the child minder developed children's numeracy through using visual aids such as posters and flash cards. She supported children's learning about two dimensional shapes and used an interactive chart to do this. The child minder invited children to talk about opposites and demonstrated these through using props and physical movement activities.

Incidental Welsh was used throughout the day and the child minder encouraged children to sing a variety of Welsh nursery rhymes. Story time was delivered through encouraging children to ask and answer questions to develop their vocabulary enthusiastically. She tracked children's progress on learning criteria relating to the foundation phase and consulted parents about their child's progress well.

3. Environment

Good

Summary

The child minder ensures the environment is secure and suitable for the needs of children. Resources, equipment and toys are of good quality and condition.

Our findings

The child minder ensured children were cared for in a clean and secure environment. Basic risk assessments had been completed for the indoor and outdoor environments. Visitors were recorded and the public liability insurance was current.

The indoor play area was well organised, welcoming and friendly. It was decorated with educational posters and children's art work. There was sufficient space and facilities to meet children's needs and this promoted their independence positively. For example, there was a step in the toilet to aid children's independence in using the toilet and a flow control was placed on the taps to ensure children were able to operate their handwashing with limited support. Storage was at a low level but some books were positioned too high for children to reach them.

Resources, toys and equipment were of good quality and condition. There was a variety of wooden and sensory toys to help children to practice using their senses. The child minder ensured the table top activities encouraged children to become curious learners, for example, they had opportunities to solve puzzles such as finding the correct key to open the latch, placing different wooden shaped pieces on a sorter and playing musical instruments. The home corner contained a variety of dolls some reflecting our multi-cultural society and the dolls clothes and props were clean and suitable for children to use. There was a lack of re-cycled household goods and commercial products suitable for the children's age and stage of development to help them learn about environmental awareness.

The child minder was well organised and currently in the planning stages of facilitating an activity for children to learn about caterpillars and the cycle of the butterfly. She had bought new good quality resources to explore this theme such as learning packs, pop up books, wooden threading equipment, flash cards and puzzles. The child minder ensured children had access to appropriate sized furniture and these were well maintained.

The outdoor play environment was secure and welcoming. The child minder ensured children could experience a range of play opportunities to develop their physical and sensory skills actively. For example, there was a range of different pedal vehicles, equipment where children could crawl through, a mud kitchen with stainless steel containers and utensils and an outdoor shop with related props.

4. Leadership and Management

Good

Summary

The child minder manages the service effectively. There is an appropriate system to evaluate the service but not all comments from those using the service are included in the quality of care report. Partnerships with parents and community are positive.

Our findings

The child minder had a clear statement of purpose that provided an accurate picture of the service offered. She ensured policies and procedures were implemented suitably and these were reviewed but some required updating. The child minder understood her responsibilities to promote the Welsh language and did so positively.

The child minder had appropriate systems for regularly gaining the views of parents but children's verbal responses had not been included in the review of the quality of care report. The child minder had identified developments for improving the outdoor play area for children. As a provision which offers the Childcare offer the child minder had applied for funding to help her do this, so that outcomes for children can be enhanced.

The child minder had ensured her own enhanced criminal record certificate was current as were the other household members. She had appropriate child care qualifications and completed suitable training for the age ranges of children being cared. We inspected two children's personal records and these contained the information to meet requirements. The child minder recorded children's daily attendance and on the day of our visit ratios were met.

Six parents completed the CIW questionnaires to provide us with their views of the service. These were positive and parents highlighted they were happy with the service provided by the child minder and their children were settled. Parents commented they were well informed about their children's development and progress and their children enjoyed talking about what they had been doing during the day.

The childminder enriched children's experiences through visiting the local community on a regular basis. She had documented these activities through sharing photographs with parents via social media and creating a photographic book named '*The Story of us*'. During the day children enjoyed looking through this book and talked about their memories of visiting different places. The child minder promoted positive partnerships with parents and community so that outcomes for children are good.

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 consider;

- Reviewing hand washing procedures in relation to the use of anti-bacterial hand gel in line with the Public Health Wales: *Infection Prevention and Control for Childcare settings (0-5 years): Nurseries, Childminders and Playgroups: All Wales Guidance (2014)*;
- Including in the child protection policy an outline of the signs of abuse and include the contact information for the relevant agencies;
- improving the risk assessments for the indoor and outdoor play areas by providing more detail and
- include the views / verbal responses of children within the report when reviewing the quality of care.

6. How we undertook this inspection

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

One inspector visited the service on Thursday 06 June 2019 from 1030 – 1345 and 1425 – 1715 hours.

We,

- inspected a sample of documentation and policies;
- inspected the areas used, toys and resources;
- spoke to children and childminder and
- provided feedback to the child minder.

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	Anne Wood
Registered maximum number of places	9
Age range of children	Under 12 years
Opening hours	Monday – Friday: 0700 – 1800 hours
Operating Language of the service	English
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	15 February 2015
Dates of this inspection visit	06 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 service does not provide an ‘Active Offer’ of the Welsh language. It does not anticipate, identify or meet the Welsh language needs of children who use or intend to use the service. We recommend that the service provider considers Welsh Government’s ‘ <i>More than Just Words</i> ’ follow on strategic guidance for Welsh language in social care.
Additional Information: The service provides the Childcare offer.	

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