

Childcare Inspection Report on

Bethan Codd

Neath



Date Inspection Completed

04/09/2019

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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

Bethan Codd was registered as a child minder in November 2018. She cares for a maximum of ten children up to 12 years of age at her home in Neath. The service operates Monday to Friday from 8:00am to 6pm. The main language of this service is English but incidental Welsh is also used.

Summary

Theme	Rating
<u>Well-being</u>	Good
<u>Care and Development</u>	Good
<u>Environment</u>	Good
<u>Leadership and Management</u>	Good

1. Overall assessment

Overall, we the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) found that children are happy and settled with the child minder. They enjoy their play activities and interact well. The child minder is enthusiastic and caring. The child minder is committed to ongoing improvement and involves both parents and children in discussions about ways to improve the service she offers. The children are cared for within a comfortable, clean environment with access to a good range of resources and toys. The child minder manages her business efficiently.

2. Improvements

This was the first inspection of the service since registration.

3. Requirements and recommendations

We made three recommendations and more information on these can be found at the end of the report.

1. Well-being

Good

Summary

Children have a strong voice and feel safe and happy at this service. Children interact well, developing friendships and good bonds with the child minder and her family. The children enjoy an array of opportunities and their independence skills are developing well.

Our findings

Children are happy and settled. They have a good, positive relationship with the child minder talking confidently and asking her questions, especially during the car journey from nursery.

Children confidently moved from one room to another and naturally helped themselves to toys and resources. The children were comfortable and made their own choices and decisions, for example, we heard children asking the child minder for water and particular coloured cups and plates during lunch. Children have formed positive relationships and have a good understanding of concepts such as sharing and taking turns. Children's behaviour was good; they interacted well and were confident. We heard children use good manners saying '*please*' and '*thank you*' when given lunch and drinks.

Children enjoyed playing together during free play, sharing the role-play foods and kitchen. The children giggled and laughed as they played enthusiastically with small world characters on the play mat in the living room. Children listened to the child minder's prompt to share nicely and take turns when wanting the same toys. Children thoroughly enjoyed their play and learning opportunities, and they excitedly played with foods in the shop and kitchen area. Children are developing well. Children recognised colours and names of different fruits and vegetables whilst they played in the role-play corner.

Children showed independence. On return from nursery they changed from their uniforms with minimal support from the child minder, stored their bags, coats and shoes in the hallway and then went to wash their hands in the downstairs bathroom prior to lunch. Children smiled when praised for drinking from a cup independently and eating their lunch of tuna and pasta.

Children benefit from a well-planned programme of activities that keep them occupied and engaged and which stimulates learning.

2. Care and Development

Good

Summary

Children are cared for by a child minder who delivers good quality care and support and is committed to ensuring children grow and develop. The child minder ensures children enjoy their play and learning safely and promotes their learning and development through a range of activities. The child minder manages interactions well.

Our findings

The child minder promoted children's health; she provided meals and snacks and made parents aware that some meals were vegetarian. She ensured children drank in sufficient quantity, filling their water beakers regularly.

Relevant policies and procedures were in place to keep children safe and healthy. Risk assessments identified risks and set out mitigating actions. Good hygiene routines such as hand washing were evident. The child minder reminded children to wash their hands after using the bathroom and before meals.

There were many opportunities for outdoor physical play. The child minder told us that most days she incorporates outdoor play either in the garden, at the park or woodland, dependent on the weather. This offered opportunities to develop children's gross motor skills and for them to be active. The child minder set consistent and realistic boundaries and through this, children understood simple rules. She takes appropriate action if children disagree and we heard her talking to children about sharing and taking turns, not running in the house and being kind to each other. Practice is consistent with the behaviour policy and she uses positive intervention techniques rather than focusing on negatives.

The care was relaxed and child led. Children enjoyed spending time with the child minder, smiling and having fun. They asked her to help them set up the small world play when they came in from nursery and after lunch invited her to play shops in the role-play area. The child minder joined in with play ensuring she took opportunities to extend language by asking them to name colours, shapes and animals in both Welsh and English. The child minder is knowledgeable about children's development. We saw she followed children's individual routines and preferences. The child minder knew the children well, was skilled in meeting their needs and ensured the children were busy with experiences they would enjoy. Artwork around the home showed a good range of activities, experiences and visits in which the children had participated

3. Environment

Good

Summary

The property is clean and reasonably maintained. There is a large garden, which children can enjoy. There is sufficient space for the children to rest, play, learn and develop within a learning environment. The child minder provides a wide range of toys and stimulating resources for the children's learning and development.

Our findings

The property was locked on our arrival and we were asked to show identification. Risk assessments and daily checks were completed but there was no evidence to demonstrate regular reviews. The child minder had safety gates on the bottom of the stairs and another safety gate she used between the dining room and kitchen if it was required. The gas safety certificate had recently been renewed. All medicines, first aid and cleaning chemicals were stored away safely. The rear garden was securely enclosed with a padlocked gate. The child minder ensured that the property both indoors and outdoors was welcoming and child friendly and it was clean and tidy. Children sat in high chairs and booster seats at meal times whilst older children sat at the dining table. A potty, toilet training seat and steps were available for the children to gain access to the toilet. There was a good deal of space and facilities to meet the children's needs for child-focused play, quiet times and sleep and physical play outdoors. Children had access to the living room, kitchen, dining room, hallway, downstairs bathroom and the playroom. There were displays of children's craftwork hanging in the playroom.

The layout of the rooms created independent child-initiated learning opportunities and easy access to role-play, creative play and language and mathematical resources. The child minder ensured that the children had a choice of a wide range of toys and resources, which were organised within the role-play areas in the playroom.

Boxes of craft resources, small world toys, dolls, Welsh and English books, games and jigsaws were readily available for the children. Outdoors, the garden was large and surrounded by trees, with a tree swing that children could enjoy alongside two play houses and a good range of outdoor toys.

Children had opportunities to learn about animals, as there were the family pets of two chickens and two cats. Children enjoyed going to see the chickens and to collect the daily eggs. The garden also contained seesaws, slides, bikes; ride on cars, scooters and a sand and water play area.

4. Leadership and Management

Good

Summary

The child minder is organised and manages her service well. She plans activities and outings for children, which provide them with opportunities to socialise and develop. She is clear about her responsibilities and offers a service, based on the needs of the children.

Our findings

The children and the child minder made us welcome. The child minder had a statement of purpose in place, which reflected the service. The child minder had the relevant policies and procedures including a comprehensive statement within the safeguarding policy on the 'Prevent Duty'. All policies are due to be reviewed in the next two months. She did not have a policy on IT and social media. The child minder's paperwork and documentation was very organised and clear. Currently the child minder did not record attendance of visitors to the property during child minding hours. Most of the required paper work in relation to individual children was in place. The child minder was fully aware of the number and age range of children she could care for and had records such as contracts, register and child information forms; however, she had not asked parents to complete consent forms for application of sun cream, photographs, outings or the administration of medication if required.

The child minder was fully aware of the number and age range of children she could care for; she used a register to record their daily attendance. She ensured that she held a valid Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate as did her partner. The child minder had completed core training such as food hygiene and first aid. She had not undertaken recent safeguarding training, however prior to writing the report she confirmed that she had booked a place on a course. Public liability insurance was in place and valid as was her car insurance and MOT. She had not yet registered with the Information Commissioners Office in respect of the data she holds. The child minder has good relationships with parents. She shared photographs of children via WhatsApp or text. The child minder has registered to provide the 30-hour childcare offer, which benefits working parents.

The child minder was reflective and keen for feedback to make changes, which would improve the experiences and outcomes for the children. She intends to gather the views of parents and children about the service she offers shortly, as she will have been operating for a year in a few weeks.

5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection

5.1 Areas of non-compliance from previous inspections

This was the child minder's first inspection.

5.2 Recommendations for improvement

We recommended that the child minder;

- provides written evidence that risk assessments are regularly reviewed;
- keeps a record of visitors;
- provides a policy on IT and social media and
- obtains written parental consents for outdoor play, application of sun cream, transport, medication and outings.

6. How we undertook this inspection

This was a scheduled, unannounced post-registration inspection. One inspector carried out the inspection on Wednesday 4 September 2019 for a period of approximately 3 hours and 45 minutes. During our visit, we;

- observed the children and the care they received;
- accompanied the child minder on a nursery pick up;
- looked at a wide range of records;
- looked at policies and procedures;
- looked at the risk assessments and insurance certificates and
- provided verbal feedback at the end of the inspection

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

www.careinspectorate.wales

About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered Person	Bethan Codd
Registered maximum number of places	10
Age range of children	0 -12 years
Opening hours	Monday to Friday 8am -6pm
Operating Language of the service	English
Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	This is the first inspection
Dates of this inspection visit(s)	04 September 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 children who use or intend to use their service. We recommend that the child minder considers Welsh Government's 'More Than Just Words' strategic guidance for Welsh language in social care.
Additional Information:	

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