



Childcare Inspection Report on

Joanna Pitman

Caerphilly



Date Inspection Completed

16/12/2019

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Description of the service

Joanna Pitman has been registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) since March 2013 and is able to care for up to 10 children aged from birth to 12 years. The child minder lives in a quiet, residential area of Machen in Caerphilly. She lives with her four children, one of whom is aged over 12 years. She operates from 8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday to Friday, throughout the year. Care is provided through the English language although the Welsh language is promoted as most of the children who attend the setting, attend Welsh speaking primary schools.

Summary

1. Overall assessment

This was a focussed inspection concentrating primarily on the well-being of children and specific areas of the leadership and management of the service. Children are happy, comfortable and settled. They confidently approach the child minder and are developing relationships with the other children present. The child minder provides the care in an environment that is suitable and well resourced. Leadership and management of the service is mostly effective. However, some improvements are needed to effectively monitor visitors to the premises and ensure that adults who have regular access to the premises whilst minded children are present are suitable to have contact.

2. Improvements

We did not consider progress towards the recommendations made at the previous inspection on this occasion. These will be considered during the next full inspection. However, it was noted that the child minder has introduced an on line learning journal to monitor and record children's progress and development.

3. Requirements and recommendations

We have advised the registered persons that improvements are needed to fully meet the legal requirements in relation to:

- Statement of purpose, Regulation 15 (2)
- Keeping of records, Regulation 30 (1) (a)
- Safeguarding and promotion of welfare, Regulation 20 (2) (b) and (c)

A notice has not been issued on this occasion, as there was no immediate or significant impact for children using the service. We expect the responsible person to take action to rectify this and it will be followed up at the next inspection. The recommendations provided

within the last full inspection report remain in place and will be considered during the next full inspection.

1. Well-being

Summary

This was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full and therefore we have not issued or revised any ratings awarded previously. However, we found that children are happy and settled in the child minder's home. They have good opportunities to develop independence and have formed positive relationships with the child minder and their peers.

Our findings

Children are happy, very comfortable and relaxed at the service. The children played happily together choosing from a good variety of resources available to them. Children's choice was further promoted at snack time and they were able to choose from a variety of healthy foods, including blueberries, water melon and strawberries. Children are confident to approach the child minder and express their needs. For example, younger children who babbled and used early speech were listened to by the child minder, who watched their body language and hand gestures to establish what they wanted.

Children are developing positive and trusting relationships and they knew they could rely on the child minder for comfort and support. Children approached us (CIW inspector) asking inquisitive questions and told us about the things they like to do with the child minder, where they go and the fun that they have. It was clear that they were accustomed to expressing their views, feelings and thoughts and that these were listened to and acted upon. Children interact well with the child minder and their peers, and older children are beginning to form friendships. They play happily alongside each other or together and are learning to share and take turns. Children are involved in devising house rules, which are displayed on the wall for all to see. Children use good manners and we heard frequent use of 'please' and 'thank you' during the inspection. Children enjoy their time with the child minder. We observed children enjoy their play with a variety of vehicles and garage. Children also enjoyed decorating a 3D felt Christmas tree, and spent a sustained period placing and replacing the felt tree decorations. Their enjoyment was evident through their smiles and laughter.

We will consider this theme in more detail at our next full inspection.

2. Care and Development

Summary

This was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme and therefore we have not issued or revised any ratings awarded previously. This will be addressed at the next full inspection.

3. Environment

Summary

This was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme and therefore we have not issued or revised any ratings awarded previously. This will be addressed at the next full inspection.

4. Leadership and Management

Summary

This was a focused inspection, we have not considered this theme in full and therefore we have not issued or revised any ratings awarded previously. However, we found that the child minder's management of the service is mostly appropriate. Some improvements are needed in relation to the statement of purpose, record keeping and Disclosure and Barring Service certificates (DBS) procedures.

Our findings

The child minder generally has appropriate procedures in place and provides most of the necessary information about the service. There is a statement of purpose in place which contains relevant information for parents. However, the child minder told us that she uses a volunteer on an ad hoc basis, to assist her with child care duties within the home. The statement of purpose did not contain this information and therefore parents cannot be certain that the document fully reflects the service that she offers. This is a matter of non-compliance with the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2016, although we have not issued a non-compliance notice about this matter on this occasion as there was no significant impact on the children attending.

The child minder keeps appropriate records. However, improvements are needed to records relating to the volunteer and DBS checks. The child minder maintains a record of visitors to the premises whilst minded children are present. However, the log did not contain any record of times that the volunteer is at the premises. This is a matter of non-compliance with the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2016, although we have not issued a non-compliance notice about this matter on this occasion as there was no significant impact on the children attending. The child minder ensures that her Disclosure and Barring Service certificate (DBS) is up to date. However, the child minder had not obtained a DBS for the volunteer and we saw that one household member's certificate had expired. The child minder was aware of the expired certificate and was able to evidence to us that the application was in progress. This is a matter of non-compliance with the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2016, although we have not issued a non-compliance notice about this matter on this occasion as there was no significant impact on the children attending. Since the inspection the child minder has contacted us to inform us that she will obtain a DBS for the volunteer as a matter of urgency.

5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection

5.1 Areas of non compliance from previous inspections

None

5.2 Recommendations for improvement

There were no further recommendations identified at this inspection.

6. How we undertook this inspection

CIW undertook an unannounced, focused inspection of the service to consider information shared with us through our concerns process. One inspector visited the service on 16 December 2019 for approximately 2 hours. We:

- reviewed a variety of information held by CIW;
- undertook a visual inspection of the premises;
- observed care practices and interactions between the child minder and children;
- spoke to the child minder and children;
- examined a range of documentation and other relevant records maintained as part of the service; and
- provided feedback to the childminder on the day of the inspection.

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

www.careinspectorate.wales

5. About the service

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| Type of care provided | Child Minder |
| Registered Person | Joanna Pitman |
| Registered maximum number of places | 10 |
| Age range of children | Birth to 12 years |
| Opening hours | 8:00am – 6:00pm Monday to Friday |
| Operating Language of the service | English |
| Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection | 7 January 2019 |
| Dates of this inspection visit | 16 December 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 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> . However, the child minder uses some Welsh vocabulary with the children and employs a Welsh speaking member of staff who is able to converse with children in Welsh. |
| Additional Information: None | |

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