



## Inspection Report

**Nadine Llewellyn-Blakemore**

**Barry**



**Date Inspection Completed**

10/12/2020

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## About the service

Type of care provided	Child Minder
Registered places	3
Language of the service	English
Previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection	<a href="#">Manual Insert</a> 07/07/2015
Is this a Flying Start service?	<a href="#">Manual Insert</a> 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.

## **Summary**

This is an inspection undertaken during the Covid 19 pandemic, therefore we have focused on the priority areas for this setting and not the full quality framework.

Children are happy and content at this service. The children and child minder know each other well and children know the child minder listens to them. Children have opportunities to become independent and develop their individual skills through good quality experiences.

The child minder has an acceptable understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. The child minder has a suitable environment and appropriate resources. She effectively supports children and meets their needs, with a sound understanding of child development. The child minder ensures children also experience visits to parks and local areas of interest.

The child minder has appropriate leadership and management arrangements in place. She has suitable policies, procedures and records, although these would benefit from more frequent reviews and updates. Parents have good partnerships with the child minder.

## Well-being

Children have opportunities to make some choices and decisions about what affects them. For example, choosing what colour plate and which food they would like for snack and whether to do things independently or with help. They decide what activities and equipment they would like to play with.

Children speak confidently, as they know the child minder listens. Children are happy to ask for help and know support will be given by the child minder, for example when asking to go to the toilet.

Children are settled, happy, and know the child minder well. Children are listened to and play with confidence. For example, when playing with playdough, a child commented "*I'm making a pizza for Nadine*", before passing it to the child minder to engage in imaginative play.

Children contribute to activities and aspects of the daily routine, such as tidy-up time. Children are encouraged to be independent. For example, when a child wanted a spoon for playdough she was able to access the resources and find a spoon for herself.

## Care and Development

The child minder has a good understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. She has a current first aid certificate and understands her responsibility in relation to child

protection. Although the child minder's food hygiene certificate expired some time ago, she recognises a new one is required and intends to complete one shortly. The child minder confirmed she had no children with specific health care needs, but has a good awareness of her medication policy. She has written permissions from parents for a variety of situations, including outings, emergency medical treatment and application of sun cream. The child minder promotes hygiene practices appropriately, with regular hand washing, cleaning and recording schedules in place.

The child minder interacts caringly with the children. For example, when sitting together at the table eating toast, talking about what activities to do next. The child minder demonstrates warmth and kindness, using praise and encouragement such as '*good girl*' and '*well done*'. She promotes good manners well. For example, she prompted children to say '*please*' and encouraged them to '*eat nicely*'.

The child minder is well organised, she plans and prepares interesting activities in advance. Each child has their own art and craft box, with individual equipment in. On the day of our visit, she had prepared crafts for children to make, including Christmas tree cinnamon sticks and Christmas cards. She plans a good balance of child led and adult led activities, with the child minder allowing children to develop their own play. The child minder promotes a range of celebrations, such as Christmas, Chinese New Year, Dydd Santes Dwynwen, St David's Day and Easter.

The child minder has a daily diary for each child that she shares with parents. She records detailed information related to their day, including areas of development and next steps (if required). The child minder has sound knowledge of child development and is confident to discuss children's development with parents. She reassures and supports children in activities and routines, and encourages their independence. For example, when accessing the downstairs bathroom. The child minder takes children to local parks and out to areas of interest. Due to Covid 19 children are currently not attending playgroups.

## Environment

The child minder generally ensures that the environment is suitably safe. For example, she keeps the front door secure, with a high locking system and ensures that safety checks are completed such, as boiler checks and basic monthly fire prevention checks. She carries out fire evacuations regularly and keeps brief records of these. She has completed basic

written risk assessments for the indoor environment, outings and visits, although these do not fully reflect current practices.

The child minder ensures the environment is warm, homely and clean. The children's playroom, in the converted basement is bright, with a compact area for children to play. There are low-level storage units children can access independently. A door leads to the bathroom and another to an outside, recently refurbished, garden area. The lounge, on the ground floor, has two large sofas and provides additional play space for the children, with a range of toys available. At the end of the ground floor hallway, is a kitchen diner with stairs down to the basement rooms. Table and chairs in the kitchen provide a social area for art and craft activities as well as meal and snack times.

The child minder provides an environment that supports children's independence and provides suitable play activities. The children have access to some resources within the lounge, with more available in the playroom. Arts and craft equipment is in the kitchen diner. The child minder has a range of equipment, suitable for all stages of development, including resources to promote children's independence such as a step for younger children to access the sink for hand washing.

## **Leadership and Management**

The child minder ensures suitable leadership and management of her service, but does not regularly update policies, procedures and risk assessments to reflect current practice. The child minder has a statement of purpose, which explains her child minding service, although it does not include practices in relation to Covid 19. The child minder has nearly all relevant paperwork required. For example, on our visits, she had records of children's attendance and children's records were almost complete. One child did not have consent forms, but the

child minder rectified this promptly following our visit. The child minder records information, such as fridge temperatures, children's temperatures and visitors in her diary. The child minder has public liability insurance and appropriate vehicle documents in place. She has a good understanding of her role in relation to data protection, confidentiality and data retention and ensures there are valid Disclosure and Barring Service checks in place for all household members.

The child minder has a system for reviewing the quality of her service. However, this does not include a formal method of seeking parent or children's views of the service. The child minder has acted upon some recommendations at her last inspection, including attending child protection training. However, she has not regularly reviewed her policies, procedures and risk assessments. The child minder has recently updated and improved her outdoor area.

The child minder has positive partnerships with parents. Parents that we spoke to confirmed that they are very happy with the care given. They told us that they were kept up-to-date through pictures on a private message site and that the child minder gave them a daily journal with activities and information about what their child has done on that day.



**Areas for improvement and action at the previous inspection**

None		
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**Areas where immediate action is required**

None	
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**Areas where improvement is required**

None	
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**Recommendations to meet with the National Minimum Standards**

R1. Complete food hygiene training.

R2. Include more information in the fire safety records.

R3. Update policies, procedures and risk assessments to reflect current practice.

R4. Include a more formal method of seeking parent and children's views when completing the annual quality of care review.

R5. Check if required to register with the Information Commissioners Office (ICO).

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