



Arolygiaeth Gofal
Cymru
Care Inspectorate
Wales

Inspection Report

Rebekah Robertson



Colwyn Bay



07849195629

Date(s) of inspection visit(s):

05/06/2025

Service Information:

Operated by:	Rebekah Robertson
Care Type:	Child Minder
Registered places:	10
Main language(s):	English
Flying Start service:	Yes
Receive funding to provide early years part time education:	No
Promotion of Welsh language and culture:	The service provider is not meeting the Welsh language and culture needs of people and this requires improvement.

Ratings:



Well-being

Excellent



Care & Development

Excellent



Environment

Excellent



Leadership & Management

Excellent

Summary:

Children are extremely happy, confident, and relaxed at the setting. They have strong bonds with the child minder and her assistant. Children are very excited and interested in their play and learning and the range of activities that the child minder provides. Children are developing their independence well.

The child minder understands her role in keeping children safe and healthy. The child minder and her assistant are professional, enthusiastic, extremely patient, kind and caring towards each other and the children and bring a sense of fun to all activities. They know the children very well and support children's learning and development very effectively.

The environment is very safe and secure. People who run the setting have created an environment that is very welcoming, child friendly and provides a stimulating space for children to play and learn with a strong emphasis on the outdoors. An excellent range of high-quality toys, equipment, and resources both indoors and outdoors promote children's play and learning.

Leadership and management of the setting is excellent. The child minder is very committed to providing an outstanding service. She is motivated and regularly reviews the care provided. The child minder has formed strong partnerships with families to ensure consistent care for the children.

Findings:



Well-being

Excellent

Children are extremely confident in communicating their wants, needs, thoughts, and ideas. For example, children confidently tell the child minder and her assistant about their play and ask questions and for help when they need it. They show by their demeanour that they know the child minder fully considers them and is very interested and responsive to their needs. Children consistently receive opportunities to make choices and decisions about what affects them. For example, children choose what toys and activities they want to play with, and how they spend their time at the setting. Their voice is strong.

Children are extremely happy, settled and enjoy attending the setting. New children settle very quickly and cope well with separation from their parents/carers. They feel safe in the child minder's consistent care. Children benefit from very strong bonds with the child minder and her assistant, who know them extremely well. For example, they readily seek comfort, reassurance, cuddles and hugs from them when they need to. Children talk, chatter, and laugh with the child minder and her assistant throughout the day. They are very familiar with the routines of the setting, and this adds to their sense of belonging and well-being. For example, children settle to sleep very happily and calmly.

Children play happily with or alongside each other, depending on their age and stage of development and enjoy sharing experiences together. They are learning to manage their behaviour, co-operate, take turns and share. We saw children being kind to each other, sharing together with support, respecting each other and the resources available to them

Children are highly motivated and engaged in their play and learning. They enjoy the excellent range of activities and resources available to them. For example, children excitedly join in with the multi-sensory foam activity, are happily absorbed in imaginative play in the mud kitchen and enjoy riding bikes outside. Children are visibly excited to go into the outdoor cabin and seek out their favourite toys and resources.

Children have excellent opportunities to develop their independence skills, appropriate to their age and stage of development. For example, children are supported to learn to be independent when using the toilet and competently take their shoes on and off.



The child minder has an excellent understanding of her role and responsibility to keep children safe. She has a very clear understanding of safeguarding issues, the signs and symptoms of abuse, and her own duty to report any concerns. She has up to date mandatory training including safeguarding, paediatric first aid and food hygiene. The child minder encourages exemplary hygiene standards at the setting, for example, we saw her routinely encourage children to wash their hands before food was served. She carries out regular fire drills with the children ensuring they are familiar with what to do in an emergency. The child minder has appropriate systems in place to record accidents, incidents, and pre-existing injuries. During the course of the inspection the child minder strengthened these systems of recording even further to enable her to more easily monitor for patterns and trends. The child minder has a very strong knowledge of children's allergies, dietary requirements, and health needs. She is very observant and vigilant in her care of the children, always contacting parents if children start to become unwell, ensuring any changes in children's health or well-being is noted and shared. She keeps accurate registers of children's attendance. The child minder has a range of written risk assessments in place and identifies and manages emerging risks and activities very well, balancing risk of harm against the benefits for children's development. The child minder and her assistant support healthy living at the setting. They serve home cooked food made from fresh ingredients, introducing children to a wide range of foods. The child minder ensures children have access to enriching daily outdoor experiences, both in her garden and in the local area. This offers children the benefits of physical exercise and fresh air. The child minder manages children's sleep very safely at the setting, ensuring they are able to get the rest they need in a very calm environment.

The child minder and her assistant are very responsive, caring, and warm in their interactions with the children. They are exceptional role models both in the way they speak to each other and to the children. They use plenty of praise and encouragement to support children and reinforce positive behaviour whilst being clear about boundaries. Their enthusiasm, commitment, and positive cheery attitudes permeate through the setting and set the tone for interactions.

The child minder knows children very well, and she ensures they receive care which meets their individual needs. She naturally extends children's play and learning throughout the day, as she shares activities with them. For example, she discusses colours with children as they share a story. The child minder organises imaginative activities which children thoroughly enjoy. For example, we saw children enthusiastically taking part in a multi-sensory activity during outdoor play. The child minder records photos and observations of children's activities and development and shares these with parents. She keeps records of children's progress and uses these and her knowledge of the children to plan activities and next steps which are relevant to them. The child minder uses some incidental Welsh with the children.



Environment

Excellent

The setting is very safe and secure. The external entrances are locked, and the child minder ensures only authorised access. The back garden is securely fenced. Routine safety certificates are up to date. Thorough safety precautions are in place throughout the downstairs of the house and in the garden area. For example, safety gates are in place to restrict access for children to the kitchen area. The child minder carries out very thorough risk assessments for the environment which are highly effective and completes safety checks indoors and outdoors daily. The child minder uses her car for trips out. She ensures MOT and insurance certificates are up to date.

The home environment is warm, comfortable, and very well maintained. It provides children with a light, bright and very inviting area to play. They benefit from a 'home from home' atmosphere, allowing them to relax as well as play and learn. Children have access to the open plan lounge and dining area which opens directly onto the large garden area. This is an area rich in play and learning opportunities and easily accessible to the children. The child minder provides a permanent awning ensuring children can freely go in and out in almost all weathers. The back garden contains a cabin which provides additional indoor space for children. The child minder has thoughtfully laid out this space to make it exceptionally inviting and appealing to children. The toilet is on the ground floor of the home, ensuring children can access the toilet area independently or with support if required. The child minder makes outstanding use of the surrounding local area to provide children with very frequent, highly enriching outdoor experiences. For example, beach trips and local walks.

The child minder has a very large quantity of high-quality age-appropriate resources, toys, and games, many of which are stored at children's height enabling them to access them freely. The wealth of choice of toys, resources and activities ensures that all children can find something that interests and delights them.



Leadership & Management

Excellent

The child minder has an exceptionally strong sense of purpose, seeking to provide an outstanding, warm and stimulating setting where children feel truly at home. This warmth, energy and commitment is shared by her assistant, giving a consistently positive ethos across the setting. There is a range of policies and procedures which are regularly reviewed. The child minder is extremely organised; she keeps written records consistently and stores them securely.

The child minder continually looks for ways to improve and develop practice and the environment. She has well developed and established systems to ensure regular feedback from parents, which supports the quality of care review and planning for improvement. She has recently expanded the numbers of young children the setting cares for, by starting to take on assistants. She constantly reviews the way the new expanded service works to ensure the highest quality of care for children. The child minder has fully engaged in the inspection process as a means to further raise standards for children.

The child minder follows robust processes to ensure the safe recruitment of her assistants. Staff files are up to date and checks are carried out to ensure they are suitable to work with children. There is a clear system in place to ensure that assistants Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks are current. She ensures they have the qualifications needed for their role. The child minder has created systems to ensure assistants receive regular supervision and appraisals as well as opportunities for further training.

The child minder has established very strong relationships with parents, ensuring good communication through a variety of methods. For example, informal verbal handovers and photographs and information shared through an online app. We received feedback from parents that shows they are very satisfied with the level of care their children receive. Comments show that they are able to relax knowing their children are safe, loved, developing well and thoroughly enjoying their play and learning at the setting. The child minder seeks to build strong working relationships with a range of professionals, ensuring that when there are concerns about children's progress or development, she shares information and works with parents and professionals to support children.

Areas identified for improvement

Where we identify **Areas for Improvement** but we have not found outcomes for people to be at immediate or significant risk, we discuss these with the provider. We expect the provider to take action and we will follow this up at the next inspection.

Where we find outcomes for people **require significant improvement** and/or there is risk to people's well-being we identify areas for **Priority Action**. In these circumstances we issue a Priority Action Notice(s) to the Provider, and they must take immediate steps to make improvements. We will inspect again within six months to check improvements have been made and outcomes for people have improved.

CIW has no areas for improvement identified following this inspection.

CIW has not issued any Priority action notices following this inspection.

National Minimum Standards

Where we find the provider is not meeting the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Child Care but there is no immediate or significant risk for people using the service, we highlight these as Recommendations to Meet National Minimum Standards.

We expect the provider to take action to address these and we will follow these up at the next inspection.

Standard	Recommendation(s)
	No NMS Recommendations were identified at this inspection

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