Childcare Inspection Report on

Sunita Singh-Landa

Penarth

Date Inspection Completed

26/03/2019
Description of the service
Sunita Singh-Landa is registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) to care for up to five children aged from birth to twelve years. She has been registered since February 2008. She lives with her two children, one of whom is aged over 16 years, in a mid terrace house near the centre of Penarth. Care is provided through the medium of English; the child minder also speaks fluent Punjabi.

Summary

1. **Overall assessment**
This was a focused inspection in response to an anonymous concern and to establish if the child minder was continuing to work with due regard to a condition placed on her child minding registration. Therefore, we did not consider any of the themes in depth. We also took the opportunity to review the recommendations made at the last full inspection of the service, which took place in September 2017 and also the issues of non-compliance raised at the previous focused inspection, which took place in January 2019. We found that the child minder had made some considerable progress in meeting many of the recommendations and issues of non-compliance raised at the previous two inspections.

2. **Improvements**
The following areas of non-compliance with the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010 have been met:

- Regulation 31(1) as the child minder had informed CIW of changes to people living at the property;
- Regulation 20(2)(a) as the child minder had obtained a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) certificate for her child aged over 16 and
- Regulation 16(2)(a) as the child minder had undertaken an annual review of her service and produced a report.

The following improvements were also noted:

- Records for testing smoke alarms and undertaking emergency evacuations are now being kept;
- the child minder has started to maintain development records for children which track progress;
- there are written risk assessments for the home and community activities and
• overall management systems for the child minding business have improved by being more detailed and organised.

3. **Requirements and recommendations**
   There were no areas of non-compliance identified at this inspection. Recommendations were made in relation to improving the child minder’s understanding of her responsibilities and governance arrangements and planning activities to meet children’s next steps. These recommendations can be found in full in section 5.2 towards the end of this report.
1. **Well-being**

**Summary**

As this was a focused inspection, we did not examine the theme of well-being in great detail. This theme will be inspected in full at future inspections.

**Our findings**

Children are happy at the service as they have developed bonds of affection with the child minder. We observed the children giving the child minder spontaneous acts of affection such as cuddles and kisses. The youngest child was cuddled and sang to sleep. Children have some choice over how and what they play with. Toys are stored within reach of the children and they are able to access these easily. We observed that one child really enjoyed making and then playing with homemade playdoh. They used a selection of tools to make some animals and other figures and were engaged with their play for a sustained amount of time. Older children were able to tell us that they enjoy going to the park and soft play centres, as well as singing and going to toddler groups. Conversation and incidental chat took place between the children and the child minder. Children told her about what food they liked to eat and all were looking forward to Easter and having lots of chocolate eggs. Over our two visits, we saw a selection of art and craft work which celebrated both Mother’s Day and Easter which the children had completed with the child minder and were looking forward to taking home. Children are confident to approach the child minder to ask for assistance such as accessing the toilet, getting specific toys or help with their snack.
2. Care and Development

Summary
As this was a focused inspection, we did not examine the area of care and development. This theme will be inspected in full at future inspections.
3. Environment

Summary

As this was a focused inspection, we did not examine the area of environment. This theme will be inspected in full at future inspections.
4. Leadership and Management

Summary
As this was a focused inspection, we did not examine the area of leadership and management in depth. This theme will be inspected in full at future inspections.

Our findings

Overall, we found that the child minder is now managing her service more effectively, but improvements are still required to ensure the service is working in line with the National Minimum Standards for Regulated Child Care (2016). She has satisfactorily addressed the matters of non-compliance identified at the last inspection. We also noted that the child minder has started to address the many recommendations identified during the last two inspections. Her record keeping is now more detailed and organised. Many of the policies and procedures have been reviewed and updated and now include the most relevant and up to date information. However, the Missing Child policy does not include that a referral would need to be made if a child were to go missing and also makes reference to calling upon another adult to assist. The child minder confirmed that this adult does not live at the property and is not available during the day due to work commitments, so therefore may not be available if a child were missing. Records relating to the children’s attendance, their daily routines, smoke detector tests and emergency evacuations are in place. The child minder has started to keep developmental records for the children in her care and has compiled a weekly timetable to help evidence the type of activities she undertakes with the children. The development records were kept within the main policy file, which did not maintain the children’s confidentiality. The child minder had not updated the annual gas safety certificate. However, following the inspection she arranged for this to take place and has forwarded a copy of the certificate to CIW. The child minder has not yet undertaken further training in Prevent, as highlighted in the previous inspection. Prevent is a government strategy to help protect children from radicalisation and all child care providers should be familiar with its contents. The child minder had obtained a copy of the National Minimum Standards (NMS) but these were not the most up to date standards for child care and play which were revised and distributed in 2016. Therefore we cannot be confident that she has made herself sufficiently aware of her responsibilities as a registered child minder. Although an annual review of the service has taken place and a report written, it did not include the views of the children or parents.
5. Improvements required and recommended following this inspection

5.1 Areas of non compliance from previous inspections

5.2 Recommendations for improvement

The following recommendations were discussed with the child minder as part of the inspection process:

- Undertake training in Prevent;
- obtain a copy of the most recent NMS for child care and play and become familiar with its’ contents;
- update the missing child policy so that it includes information on making a referral to Children’s Services if a child were to go missing and to ensure it accurately reflects who will be called upon to assist;
- ensure children and parents’ views are sought and included in future Quality of Care reports;
- undertake regular reviews of all paperwork to ensure it is kept up to date and contains the most relevant information and remains compliant with the Child Minding and Day Care (Wales) Regulations 2010;
- further develop planning processes and documentation for children’s activities; and
- store children’s development records into separate files to ensure confidentiality.
6. How we undertook this inspection

An announced, focused inspection was undertaken by one inspector over two visits. It was an announced inspection as the child minder was not available when we originally called on 25 March 2019. A total of five hours was spent at the service, with three minded children being present over the two visits. The inspection considered information contained in an anonymous concern received by CIW, which was not substantiated. The following methodology was used to gather evidence for this report:

- Observations of care routines and practices;
- consideration of information contained in the anonymous concern;
- conversation with two of the children present;
- discussion with the child minder and
- consideration of information held by CIW.

Further information about what we do can be found on our website:
www.careinspectorate.wales
### About the service

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of care provided</th>
<th>Child Minder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Person</td>
<td>Sunita Singh-Landa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Registered maximum number of places</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age range of children</td>
<td>Birth to 12 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Opening hours</td>
<td>Monday to Friday 8.00am to 6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Operating Language of the service</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date of previous Care Inspectorate Wales inspection</td>
<td>16 January 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dates of this inspection</td>
<td>26 March and 12 April 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is this a Flying Start service?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<td>Is early years education for three and four year olds provided at the service?</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Does this service provide the Welsh Language active offer?</td>
<td>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/parents who use or intend to use their service. We recommend that the service provider considers Welsh Government’s “More than Just Words follow on strategic guidance for Welsh language in social care.”</td>
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**Additional Information:**

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