Statement of Purpose

Aims and objectives of the service:

I am a registered childminder, who has been caring for children since October 2001. I aim to provide a childminding service that allows both boys and girls to learn and develop in a fun, relaxed and stimulating environment. I treat all children as part of my family and the same freedoms and boundaries will be in operation for all children whilst they are in our home. The children’s safety and well-being will be safeguarded at all times. Whilst in my care the children will be closely supervised yet given space to develop skills independently and to learn to interact with other children. Most of the daily care takes place in the home, but with parental approval I take children to local toddler groups and on trips to the surrounding countryside and amenities such as Soft Play Centres, museums, the library, and parks, to name just a few. I offer a wide range of toys, activities, and experiences appropriate to the age and stage of development of the children. Children are encouraged to play, share, and work together, as well as to take care of, and act responsibly towards, each other.

I am a member of PACEY (Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years). As a registered childminder, I have to be inspected once every 3 years by the Care Inspectorate Wales. The registration process involves the verification of references, and includes Police checks on myself, my husband, my own children, and anyone else living in my house who is over the age of 16. I have all the relevant insurances needed for childminding.

I am registered to care for 10 children aged 0 to 12. If I work by myself, up to 6 of these children may be under 8 years old and up to 3 of these 6 may also be under 5 years old. I have three assistants, my husband, Stephen, my son, Thomas and Claire Lowe. Claire is my main assistant, when she is working with me, we can look after 10 children under 8 of which 6 can be under the age of 5. Stephen and Thomas are used mainly as back up assistants for when Claire is unavailable, however, if one of them works with me and Claire then we can look after up to 10 children under 5. My insurance allows me to look after 12 children in total under the age of 18. I believe in equality of both sexes and cater for all groups of peoples and their cultural beliefs. I can offer care for children with some additional/special needs, but I need to discuss each individual child’s needs with their parents.

Composition of my family:

My household consists of myself, my husband Stephen, and three of our four children, who are Thomas (born in 1999), Christopher (born in 2002) and Eleanor (born in 2007). Christopher is studying at Aberystwyth University and therefore is only living at home during University holidays. We do not have any pets. I discuss with parents whether their child has any problems relating to being near any type of animal so that I know what to expect if we come across any animals on trips and so that I can plan accordingly.

Opening hours:

I usually work between 8am and 6pm Monday to Thursday in term time. I also work in the school holidays (Monday to Friday), and I will work Bank Holidays (except Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and New Year’s Day) if required. The language of our home is English; however, I am able to use some Welsh with children.

Staffing:

I have 3 assistants, Stephen and Thomas who work with me occasionally and Claire Lowe who works with me full time. As my assistants, they are not allowed to be left unattended with the children for more than 2 hours a day. I will only leave children in their care in the case of an emergency or with prior consent from the child’s parents. I have staff files containing all the relevant paperwork for all 3 including references and a DBS.

Full details of the provision

Facilities available:

I childmind from my home, which is a large 4-bedroomed detached house in a quiet cul-de-sac in Penrhyncoch. I have a playroom which contains my wide range of toys and arts and crafts materials where most of the indoor childminding takes place. This is large enough to have 4 children under 12 in it. When more than 4 children under 12 are in the house we allow free flow between the playroom and the living room. The children also have access to my downstairs toilet, the halls and the dining area of my kitchen are used only to get from the playroom and living room to the downstairs toilet and the back garden. The children do not have access to the kitchen or the downstairs study. Upstairs I have 4 bedrooms and a bathroom. I have 3 travel cots which can be placed in any one of the upstairs bedrooms so that the children can have a sleep. Access to the bedrooms is restricted to sleeping. All children are to be supervised by me if they are using the stairs. My indoor toys include construction toys (bricks, duplo etc), dolls, small world toys (cars, houses, people), shape sorters, jigsaws, balls, a rocking horse, musical instruments, toy kitchen and shop, and a climbing triangle. I also have arts and crafts materials such as paint, playdoh, pens and pencils etc and a bookshelf which contains numerous reading books, picture books and colouring books for the children. I have a range of board games, lego and other toys suitable for older children.

Outdoors I have a large garden which consists of a patio area and a lawn. There is also a log cabin/outdoor playroom for the children so that they can have free flow between inside and outside. The log cabin has similar equipment and toys to the playroom. There are also a couple of raised flower beds for the children to use, and we also have a vegetable patch. We have a range of outdoor play equipment including bikes, balls, balancing beam, swing and slides, and bring outside various bits of the indoor equipment too, like the climbing triangle.

I have a 7 seater Hyundai Sante Fe. This is used for school runs and for trips out of the village. I have a wide range of car seats available for all ages of children. I also have both double and single buggies.

**Please note:** This is a **nut-free** setting. Therefore, no nuts or products containing nuts may be brought into the setting. Please can you also make sure that if your child has eaten anything containing nuts prior to arriving at my setting that their hands and faces are cleaned before arriving.

Services offered:

I can collect and drop off children from home, preschool or school. The children will be taken to local parks, beaches, and the woods on a regular basis. I also take them to toddler groups, soft play and educational places like Fantasy Farm, RSPB Ynys Hir and CAT to mention a few. We usually meet up regularly with other childminders and their minded children.

If required I will provide lunch and/or dinner for the children at a small extra fee.

Funded spaces:

I can offer spaces that are funded. The funding available is for 3 to 4-year-olds and is part of the 30 hours funding provided by the Welsh Government, I can offer up to 20 hours of the childcare element of this funding. I can also offer Flying Start places for children who are eligible. Please ask me for further information about either of these Funding schemes.

Adult led activities offered:

We do a lot of art and craft exploring lots of different mediums and textures. I also offer opportunities for reading, cooking, gardening, exercise, small world toys, puzzles and board games, trips, and outdoor play.

Average Weekly Routine (term time):

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| DAYS OF THE WEEK | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY |
| 8:00am – 9:00am | Children collected or dropped off | Children collected or dropped off | Children collected or dropped off | Children collected or dropped off |
| 9:00am – 12noon10 am | Art / CraftsFree playOutdoor walk/playSnack timeToilet/nappy time | Art / CraftsFree playOutdoor walk/playSnack timeToilet/nappy time | Borth Family Centre – Active play sessionSnack timeToilet/nappy time | Art / CraftsFree playOutdoor walk/playSnack timeToilet/nappy time |
| 12noon – 1:00pm | Hands washLunchToilet/nappy time | Hands washLunchToilet/nappy time | Hands washLunchToilet/nappy time | Hands washLunchToilet/nappy time |
| 1:00pm – 3:00pm | Sleep/rest time/Quiet activities | Sleep/rest time/Quiet activities | Sleep/rest time/Quiet activities | Sleep/rest time/Quiet activities |
| 3:00pm – 6:00pm | Free playToilet/nappy timeHome time | School RunFree playToilet/nappy timeHome time | School RunFree playToilet/nappy timeHome time | School RunFree playToilet/nappy timeHome time |

Terms and conditions:

I work with a series of policies and procedures. These are as follows:-

* Behaviour Management Policy
* Bullying Policy
* Complaints Policy
* Child Protection Policy (including Procedure for recording/reporting alleged abuse)
* Equal Opportunities Policy
* Additional Needs Policy
* Safety Policy (Keeping children safe and Managing Risk)
* Confidentiality Policy (including Data Sharing and Data Retention policies)
* Procedures in case of accident/emergency, fire, non-collection of child(ren), missing / lost children and illness
* Food and Healthy Eating Policy
* Internet Policy
* Prevent Duty Policy
* Nappy Changing Policy
* Headlice Policy
* Language Policy

Copies of the above policies/procedures are in my portfolio. These are regularly reviewed and, if changed, a copy will be given to parents, who must sign stating they have received, read and understood them.

Prior to placement of a child in Little Rosebuds Childcare the parents of the child are given a welcome pack which includes this Statement of Purpose, all my policies and procedures and a Welcome sheet. The parents also have to read and sign a contract and fill in a Child Record form which includes emergency contact details and any specific needs, likes and/or dislikes of the child. I also have a permission form that the parents are required to sign, and a Privacy Notice which is shared with the parents.

Admissions policy:

My service is available to any child, regardless of their gender, race, religion, age or ability; however, it is vital that I am informed by the parents of their child’s needs, likes and dislikes.

There are several forms that need to be completed before care is given to a child. Where possible I offer a free settling in session which lasts between 1 – 2 hours. I then offer a 6-week settling in period before the full contract commences.

Before accepting a child, I will need to be sure I am fully able to meet the child’s needs, be confident that I can follow the parent’s wishes and that caring for the child will not conflict with the needs of the children already in my care.

I am unable to hold a place open for a child until the parents have completed and returned all the forms, I have met and talked to the child to be cared for, a settling in plan has been agreed and maintained and the contract has been signed and agreed by all parties.

Arrangements for dealing with any emergency:

I will follow my accident/emergency procedure. I have a file in the playroom which contains the emergency contact details of all the children in my care and my husband, Stephen, is my emergency back-up cover. If required either myself, Claire, Thomas or Stephen will phone the emergency contact numbers so that the children not involved in the emergency can be collected as soon as possible and Stephen, Thomas and/or Claire will take care of these children until they are collected whilst I am dealing with the child(ren) who are involved in the emergency.

Complaints and Concerns:

It is my aim to provide parents with a childcare facility drawing on my experience and love of children that meets any of the requirements parents may have. A good rapport between parents and myself is essential. I encourage them to be comfortable in discussing any issue relating to their child(ren). I allow the parents to give feedback in the form of comments or queries which they can either do verbally or by writing in their child’s daily diary. Any complaints about my service and care of the children can be made to me either verbally or written and I will try to solve the complaint. However, should this not be the case, then the next place to contact is Care Inspectorate Wales, Government Buildings, Picton Terrace, Carmarthen, SA31 3BT. Telephone: 0300 7900126

Details of arrangements to review this Statement of Purpose and inform Care Inspectorate Wales of changes to the service:

This statement will be kept under review and revised regularly. It will be reviewed at least once a year and if required changes made. Care Inspectorate Wales and parents will be given a copy of the document each time it is revised.

Date this document was last reviewed – 11/08/2023

Date this document was last updated – 11/08/2023