

# Little Smurfs Childminding Services

## Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced  
Inspection completed on: 21 February 2017

**Service provided by:**  
Jankowska, Justyna

**Service provider number:**  
SP2015986973

**Care service number:**  
CS2015337659

## The service

### Introduction

The childminder only cares for children who's first language is Polish. The childminder lives in a small flat which is attached to a block of four, this small flat is close to a number of primary schools and a large well equipped play park.

The childminder was registered with the Care Inspectorate on 20 August 2015 and can care for up to six children at any one time.

The aims of the childminder were to provide a service that is safe, secure and attractive to the children that attend.

Children will be provided with a range of educational activities and outside play on a regular basis.

### What we did during our inspection

Observation of practice  
self assessment  
annual return  
policies and procedures  
conversations with the children  
returned questionnaires  
children's records.

### Views of people using the service

Four children were present during the inspection, three were very young and one older child had the confidence to speak to the Inspector. The child was fluent in both English and Polish.

All children were very comfortable in the presence of the childminder and looked to her for security and reassurance (which was given) when needed.

### Self assessment

A self assessment was completed.

### What the service did well

The childminder had created a warm and welcoming atmosphere within her home. The childminder had established very good relationships with children who were relaxed and at ease within the service. There were ample toys and play equipment for children under three years of age.

## What the service could do better

Floor space within the childminders home was limited though children were able to sit down at a table for arts and crafts along with meals and snacks.

There was a lack of challenging toys for older children who attended the service.

To assist children in settling at the service and providing activities that meet with their needs gathering additional information on their likes and dislikes may assist the childminder to get to know the children quicker.

## From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

## Quality of care and support

### Findings from the inspection

We found that the childminder was very welcoming and children responded with lots of smiles. Children were very comfortable within the childminder's home and had the confidence to explore their surroundings.

Children were treated with dignity and respect at all times and during the observed session we found that the childminder provided both physical and emotional comfort to children.

Younger children were able to make choices by choosing toys and games that were on open display within the sitting room. A small table and chairs for younger children was in place and this provided them with a space where they could have snacks, meals along with taking part in arts and crafts.

The childminder had an infection control policy and procedure in place and we observed children hand washing at the appropriate times. The childminder had attended a first aid course and was intending attending a refresher course in the near future. Parents were also advised of exclusion periods for children who were unwell.

Parents provided food and snacks for the children and the childminder provided healthy drinks which were available at all times.

When children were required a morning or afternoon nap a suitable travel cot was in place away from the main play area but within hearing distance. Children were accompanied to the local park which was a short distance from the house and this wide open expanse allowed children of all ages to run freely.

### Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

## Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

## Quality of environment

### Findings from the inspection

The flat was warm, welcoming and well maintained both inside and out. Children were cared for in the small lounge which was suitably furnished. All toys and games were stored in the lounge which allowed the children to view and access them.

An infection control policy and procedure was in place and parents were informed of exclusion periods for children who were unwell.

During the observed inspection we saw children and the childminder following good practice when it came to hand washing. Nappy changing followed good practice and protective gloves were used when changing children's nappies to protect the childminder and other children attending the service.

There was a small garden to the rear of the property which held a few plastic toys for very young children. The equipment on offer would not appeal to older children (4+) as there was nothing that would physically challenge them or materials that could be utilised in imaginary play. Referring to 'my world outdoors' and 'loose parts play tool kit' on the Care Inspectorate hub may assist in developing outdoors play.

Close to the childminder's home was a large children's park which did offer both physical challenges for children of all ages plus huts and corners that would encourage imaginary play.

## Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

## Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

## Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

## Quality of management and leadership

## Findings from the inspection

The childminder had retained basic details of each child along with signed contracts and permissions for outings. Basic policies and procedures were in place and we observed the childminder speaking with children asking them what games/toys they would like to play with. The childminder said she spoke with parents every day when they were picking up or dropping off children and that she was happy to take on board what parents had to say.

To seek further feedback circulating questionnaires to parents on a regular basis may assist the childminder in developing her service.

Children's records need to be expanded by completing development records that demonstrate children's learning and development when attending the service.

These records should include a detailed 'all about me' informing the childminder of the child's likes, dislikes, attitude to new situations, favourite foods, games and nursery rhymes.

Development information such as first words, walking and physical achievements such as catching a ball or completing a six piece jigsaw would also inform parents of how their child is progressing.

When completing records the SHANARRI indicators should be considered and influence what outcomes children have met.

The childminder had attended basic training such as child protection and first aid training. Attending other child care courses would assist the childminder in keeping her practice up to date. Accessing web sites such as the Care Inspectorate hub may also provide information and ideas that would assist with her professional development.

## Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

## Recommendations

**Number of recommendations:** 0

**Grade:** 4 - good

**What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection**

## Previous requirements

There are no outstanding requirements.

## What the service has done to meet any recommendations we made at or since the last inspection

### Previous recommendations

There are no outstanding recommendations.

### Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com).

### Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

### Inspection and grading history

This service does not have any prior inspection history or grades.

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