

Mabel Nwokoloh Childminding Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 30 March 2017

Service provided by:
Nwokoloh, Mabel

Service provider number:
SP2015987480

Care service number:
CS2015341993

The service

Introduction

Mabel Nwokoloh is registered as a childminder to provide care to children in her own home. The service has been registered since 19 January 2016. Current registration is to provide a care service to a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under 12 months old. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.

Between 26 January 2017 and 31 July 2017; to provide a service to a maximum of seven children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under 12 months old. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.

The childminder provides her service from her home in the village of Portlethen. The childminder's home is within access to the local schools and amenities such as the library, community centre and various parks and woods. Children have access to a good-sized living room in which to play. There is also an enclosed garden which can be directly accessed from the backdoor in the kitchen next to the living room.

Aims of the childminding service include:

- To provide a friendly and reliable service.
- To provide a safe, happy, home from home environment.
- To provide a stimulating environment where children are supported and encouraged to be achievers.

What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following an unannounced inspection which took place between 3.30 pm and 5.00 pm on 30 March 2017. The inspection was carried out by a Care Inspectorate early learning and childcare inspector.

During this inspection we spoke to the childminder, children present and parents. We observed the care given by the childminder and looked at a number of documents including health and safety records, children's records and certificates of training.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child (also known as GIRFEC); Scotland's national approach to improving outcomes and wellbeing for children by offering the right help at the right time from the right people. It supports them and their parent(s) to work with services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child: safe; healthy; achieving; nurtured; active; respected; responsible; and included.

Views of people using the service

The children were engaged in indoor/outdoor play and snack time during the inspection. We spoke to the children during our visit. Comments from the children included:

"I like playing on the trampoline."

"I like making bread."

We spoke to parents during our visit. Comments from parents included:

"Mabel is flexible and approachable."

"My child is happy, does lots of activities and there are no problems."

"Mabel is nurturing towards my daughter."

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a fully completed, self-assessment from the childminder. The childminder identified what they thought the service did well. Also, the childminder told us how the people who used the service took part in the self assessment process and how their feedback directed the development of their plans for improving the service.

What the service did well

The childminder had very good interactions with the children. She provided a wide variety of exciting activities and trips for the children, making use of the rural local community. She also provided parents with newsletters and questionnaires and was committed to improving her service for the children.

What the service could do better

The childminder provided a very professional, high quality learning experience for the children in her care. She should continue to seek out current training courses to keep her service at a high standard for providing care to children.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	5 - Very Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

During the inspection we observed very good interaction between the childminder and children. The childminder knew the children very well and was attentive to their needs. This helped to form attachments between child and carer.

The children were having a healthy snack when we arrived. All the children who wanted snack were sat together at a round table. Snack was a very social experience with the children and childminder chatting. Children helped themselves to various fruits on offer with tongs provided, this promoted their independence and self-help skills. The childminder had on an apron and wiped down the table when snack was finished to limit spread of infection.

The childminder kept care plans for the children to help meet their needs and to help keep them safe. The plans could be further enhanced by including the symptoms of children's allergies. **See recommendation 1.**

However, the childminder described with confidence symptoms of the child's allergy to ensure they were safe in her care.

The childminder also tracked children's development and how they were developing socially such as friendships with other children, helping them to feel included and respected. The development plans were signed by parents. This helped to build a positive relationship between the childminder and the families and that parents were aware of where their child was at in their learning.

Medication forms were kept up to date. The childminder had good knowledge on administering medicine safely. Accident/incident forms were completed and this information was dated and signed by parents to ensure safety of the children at all times.

The childminder kept photo books of activities she had done with the children. Links to the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators were made within the books such as 'We are active' with a picture of the child playing tennis. The childminder said she gained views from the children through daily discussion on what they would like to do.

There was 'All About Me' books for each child. This contained information on the child's routine, likes and dislikes helping the child to settle in well at the childminder's.

The childminder had a child protection policy and confidently described what she would do if she was concerned with the welfare of a child.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. Information regarding allergies such as signs and symptoms of the allergy must be included within the children's care plan.

National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 3: Health and Wellbeing

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The children were cared for in a safe, clean and secure environment that offered the children a home from home experience.

Children had access to a wide range of resources that were age and stage appropriate to support their development. Children could choose from puzzles, games, colouring in books, writing and drawing materials, blocks, a slide and a hop scotch mat. The children also played outside in the garden after their snack if they wanted. This helped to keep them active, healthy and have regular access to fresh air.

The garden was safe and secure, it offered a large area for the children to play. The children enjoyed playing on the trampoline, slide and swings on the grass area. In the concrete area there were scooters and trikes and a sand and water tray to assist with children's outdoor learning and creativity. We signposted the childminder to the document My World Outdoors. http://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/3091/My_world_outdoors_-_early_years_good_practice_2016.pdf

The childminder made use of the local community, regularly taking the children to parks, groups and the community centre. This helped children to feel a part of their community.

The childminder enjoyed baking with the children. Evidence of this was within the photobooks and one child commented that they liked making bread. Baking is a fun activity that also helps to develop children's literacy and numeracy with reading recipes and measuring out correct ingredients, helping children to achieve.

The children washed their hands before meals helping to limit the spread of infection. The childminder was aware of safety within her home and had risk assessments in place for indoors, outdoors and trips to help keep children safe. She also kept toy maintenance records to ensure toys were kept safe and clean for the children's safety and to limit spread of infection.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 – very good

Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

We found the quality of management and leadership to be of a very good standard. The childminder was professional, enthusiastic and keen to improve her service.

The childminder was a qualified teacher and had completed Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) induction training. The childminder had completed training in GIRFEC and had knowledge of the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators. Evidence of this training was observed in her practice with the children to ensure their needs were met.

The childminder had good knowledge of the best practice document Building the Ambition and understood her role in caring for children.

The childminder was registered as a food business. All food served to children was healthy and in line with NHS setting the table guidelines.

The childminder was part of a childminding group. This network helped childminders to self improve through sharing ideas and gave the children an extended learning experience when they meet up.

The childminder had a valid registration certificate, insurance and training certificates for parents and carers to see. This assured parents that the childminder was registered with the appropriate agencies and held the correct insurance to care for children.

Communication with parents was a strength. There was a noticeboard for parents in the hall. The parents received quarterly newsletters and regular questionnaires. The questionnaires had been evaluated and the feedback was positive. The parents commented that they were very happy with the service and could not identify any improvements to be made.

Children's views were gained through discussion and recorded. The childminder could look at other ways to gain children's ideas through fun mind maps and pictures. **See recommendation 1.**

She would benefit from reading the SCMA's guide to child-led participation.

http://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/News/Child_Led_Participation_Guide.pdf

As a new childminder she would benefit from accessing The Care Inspectorate's Hub and use this to further support the children's learning and development.

<http://hub.careinspectorate.com/tp://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/resourcedocument.aspx?id=5598>

This will also help her to further evaluate her service to provide good outcomes for children.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. The childminder to develop strategies which effectively involve children in regularly assessing and improving the quality of the overall service.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Standard 13: Improving the Service; and Standard 14: Well-Managed Service

Grade: 5 - very 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.

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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