

Siobhan's Childminding Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 6 June 2017

Service provided by:
Grady, Siobhan

Service provider number:
SP2011982639

Care service number:
CS2011298902

The service

Introduction

Siobhan's Childminding (referred to as the childminder in this report) provides the service from her home in a quiet residential area of West Calder. The areas used for her childminding service are the kitchen, lounge/diner, bathroom and enclosed rear garden.

The childminder is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of sixteen, of whom a maximum of six will be under twelve, of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under twelve months. These numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.

On the day of the inspection two minded children of primary school age were present. Her own three year old child was also present. She cares for another two children aged on different days of the week.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service. We want to ensure they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it right for every child (also known as GIRFEC). Set up by Scottish Government, GIRFEC is a national approach to working in a consistent way with all children and young people. It is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention.

The approach helps services focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people – and what they can do to improve. Getting it right for every child is being woven into all policy, practice, strategy and legislation that affect children, young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. We use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

Information on SHANARRI can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright>.

What we did during our inspection

As part of the inspection, we took account of the completed annual return and self-assessment forms that we asked the provider to complete and submit to us.

We sent the childminder four questionnaires to give to parents and carers of the children who use the service. No questionnaires were returned prior to the inspection to the Care Inspectorate before the unannounced inspection took place.

During the inspection we gathered information from sources including the following:

- Discussion with the childminder.
- Accident and incident recording systems.
- Policies and procedures.

- We took account of information in the returned Care Standards questionnaire.
- The childminder's self assessment and annual return.
- Children's personal plans.
- Parents information.
- Various communications with parents.
- Medication records.

We took account of all of the above information when we evaluated this service and wrote this report. Please note that parents and carers will be referred to as parents throughout the report.

Views of people using the service

There were two children present on the day we visited. They were nursery age and told us a bit about the service and their experiences. We found the children to be happy in the service and comfortable in the childminder's care.

Self assessment

Every year all care services complete a 'self assessment' telling us how their service is performing. We check to make sure this is accurate.

We received a completed self-assessment document from the childminder. We were satisfied with the way she had completed this and with the relevant information she had given us for each of the headings that we grade her service under.

What the service did well

She was committed to support children and their families in a positive way. Her friendly, reassuring and professional manner meant that she provided a high quality service that was supportive and caring to the families she worked with.

What the service could do better

The childminder should:

- add a sample menu to her information to parents so they are aware of what food will be on offer for their child
- ensure children's personal plans are updated every six months.
- ensure parents are aware that if their child is sick they must remain at home for 48 hours.

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

The childminder continued to speak with parents to support children's settling in period and to ensure her care is consistent with the parents' wishes. At settling-in sessions, parents found out what to expect from the service and completed forms with information about their child. This helped the childminder to gain knowledge of each child's needs, stage of development, likes/dislikes and family background. This meant that the childminder took good account of parents' wishes and encouraged them to take an active part in decision-making about their child's care and development. She made time every day to speak with parents to tell parents about their child's day.

The childminder told us she was aware of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC). (GIRFEC is the national approach to reforming children's services to improve outcomes for children). She had started to include the 'Shanarri Indicators' which underpin GIRFEC into her information she shares with parents to inform them how she follows this whilst caring for their child. We could see the records she kept to address this and the observations of child's development she shared with parents.

We saw that children's care and support needs were reviewed and verbally updated with parents. The childminder kept written personal plans. We told her about our legislation that states that each child's personal plan should be updated when a change occurs and at least every six months. (See recommendation one).

As the childminder provided the children with a snack she was registered with the Food Standards Agency. She was aware of the 'Setting the Table' guidance when planning meals. She told us she encourages children to make healthy choices regarding food. We suggested she should develop a sample menu to ensure that parents are aware of what food is on offer to their children. (See recommendation two).

Some of the children attend a local nursery and primary school. The childminder provides a drop off and pick up service for this. The childminder told us when taking the children, they talk about road safety. This enabled children to learn about their own safety whilst receiving appropriate protection, care and guidance from the childminder.

The childminder told us what steps she would take if she had a concern about a child's welfare. We found that she had included a statement on her Child Protection Procedures in her policies given to parents. This included the appropriate local Social Work Department details.

The childminder requested that parents completed and signed a form for the administration of medication. This helped to ensure she was informed about the dosage and how often it should be administered. She knew the importance of administering medication safely.

We discussed the 'Read On Get On Campaign' This was produced by 'Save the Children' to get every child reading well by the age of 11 across the whole of the UK by 2025. More information on this can be found at: https://www.savethechildren.org.uk/sites/default/files/images/Read_On_Get_On.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 2

1. To ensure the information she holds on each child is current and up to date, we recommend that children's personal plans are reviewed and updated with parents every six months.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16.

Standard: 3 Health and wellbeing.

2. To ensure parents are aware of what food children were being offered at the childminders home, we recommend the service develop a sample menu to show parents what food will be on offer to their child. This should clearly show that the service are following the new 'Setting the Table' Guidance when providing meals and snacks for children.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16.

Standard: 3 Health and wellbeing.

Grade: 4 – good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The childminder knew to keep her home safe and protect children from harm. Every day she did a number of visual checks to make sure that her home was safe for the children. On the day of the inspection, we found her home to be safe, clean and tidy whilst offering a 'homely' atmosphere for the children. There was appropriate lighting, heating and ventilation in her home which made her home comfortable. Smoking was not allowed in the home. In our questionnaire, parents confirmed that they felt the childminder's home was safe, secure, hygienic, smoke free, pleasant and stimulating environment.

To minimise the spread of infection and common illnesses, the childminder promoted sensible arrangements. She told us she understood the importance of good hygiene and would encourage the children to follow good hygiene practices, such as washing hands, after toileting and before meals. We suggested she add to her information she shares that parents should be asked to keep ill children off for 48 hours.

(See recommendation one)

A procedure for recording accidents and incidents was in place and shared with parents. The childminder told us she recorded any accidents and would share these with the parents when they collected their child.

Children had daily access to fresh air and energetic play. We found that the back garden of the home was safe offering a good range of toys and equipment. The childminder used outdoor play to encourage children to be active and to develop their physical co-ordination. We found this promoted children's general health, well-being, confidence and risk taking.

There was a good range of well-balanced toys and resources available; we found these to be clean, in good condition, accessible and appropriate for children's individual age and stage of development. On the day of inspection, we saw the children choosing toys they wanted to play with, allowing them to make choices and to promote their independence.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. To prevent the spread of infection, we recommend that parents are aware that they should keep their child at home for 48 hours after an illness.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16:

Standard 2: A Safe Environment.

Standard 3: Health and Wellbeing.

Grade: 4 – good

Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

Throughout the inspection the childminder demonstrated a good knowledge of childcare and child development. She kept up to date with best practice in child care through a wide variety of ways such as reading the Care Inspectorate Care News and obtaining information sent through the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA). We told her about the Care Inspectorate 'Hub' which gave examples of excellent and innovative practice as well as links to legislation, best practice documents and research.

During the inspection we talked to the childminder about how she involved parents and children in assessing and improving her service. She provided good evidence about how she met this quality statement. The range of ways she had developed to do this included:

- welcome information for parents;
- yearly questionnaires;
- daily conversations with parents and children;
- contract reviews;
- telephone calls and text messaging; and,
- the sharing of photographs.

The child we spoke to told us "I enjoy it at Siobhan's we are making pizzas today"

The childminder gave parents the Care Inspectorate contact details and made it clear to them that they could contact us without her knowledge should they wish to do so.

She had completed a course in Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC), First Aid and an SVQ 3 in Childcare

training. This was beneficial as it helped keep her practice and knowledge up to date whilst increasing her knowledge of new and current best practice.

The childminder should make herself familiar with the new 'My World Outdoors' document to further improve children's experiences outdoors. This can be found at www.hub.careinspectorate.com.

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

Recommendation 1

Ms Walsh should identify methods of obtaining the views of parents about all areas of her service. She should use their views to improve and develop her service for the children and their families.

National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16

Standard 13: Improving the service.

This recommendation was made on 15 April 2013.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had developed questionnaires to allow parents the opportunities to share their views on the service. This recommendation has been met.

Recommendation 2

Ms Walsh should record information about children's stage of development, their needs and interests. This information should be reviewed with parents every six months. National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16

Standard 3: Health and wellbeing

Standard 6: Support and development

This recommendation was made on 15 April 2013.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder updated these forms and was now using the 'Shanarri Indicators' to record children's development. We reminded the childminder that these should be updated every six months.

Recommendation 3

Ms Walsh should amend her medication policy to inform parents that they must give their child the first dose of any prescribed medication.

National Care Standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16

Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 15 April 2013.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had informed parents that they must give their child the first dose of any medication. This recommendation has been met.

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

Date	Type	Gradings	
15 Apr 2013	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
20 Apr 2012	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	3 - Adequate
		Environment	3 - Adequate
		Staffing	3 - Adequate
		Management and leadership	Not assessed

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