

Litwinienko, Dagmara Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)
Inspection completed on: 30 November 2017

Service provided by:
Litwinienko, Dagmara

Service provider number:
SP2015987110

Care service number:
CS2015338801

The service

Introduction

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services is available on our website www.careinspectorate.com

Dagmara Litwinienko has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since December 2015, 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, of whom no more than one is under 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.

Minded children cannot be cared for by persons other than those named on the certificate. Overnight service will not be provided.

The service is provided from the childminder's home within a residential area of Livingston. It is close to the town centre. Public transport and motorway links are nearby.

Aims of the service include: "Encourage positive attitude for self and others and develop confidence and self-esteem."

What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following a short notice announced inspection, which took place on Thursday, 30 November 2017 between the hours of 10:00 and 11:30 am. We gave feedback to the childminder on the same day at the end of the inspection. The inspection was carried out by one inspector. We had arrived unannounced the previous day to carry out the inspection however, the childminder was not available.

During the inspection we spoke with the childminder and engaged with the children present who were all under school age. We discussed the care and support given by the childminder and looked at a number of documents including children's personal plans, medication records, risk assessments, some policies and procedures, certificates of registration and insurance and discussed training which had been undertaken since the last inspection.

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 the services that can help them. These are the wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC, safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

Views of people using the service

We observed three minded children during the inspection. We found all the children to be happy and confident within the childminder's home. The children played in the living room throughout the inspection. They had selected toys and activities to play with and took part in dancing actions while watching some television.

Three parents who completed the care standards questionnaire strongly agree or agreed with all of the statements. They provided us with positive feedback about communication, food provided, the range of activities available and the use of local community resources.

Self assessment

The provider last submitted the service self-assessment in March 2017, we requested an up dated form in November 2017 and this was not completed at the time of the inspection. We discussed with the provider the importance of submitting this particularly as she had completed further training since the last update.

What the service did well

At the time of the inspection the minded children's first language was Polish, their second was English. The childminder being able to speak in both Polish and English provided a familiar and supportive environment for these young children. The childminder worked in partnership with parents to support children's learning in both languages.

What the service could do better

The childminder should evaluate all training attended and record the outcomes for children, the benefits for her own professional development and the impact on the service as a whole.

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 had established respectful relationships with the children and families who used her service. Day-to-day information and any changes to the children's routine were shared verbally and recorded. Text messages and the use of an electronic application were also used. Regular questionnaires for parents ensured that they had the opportunity to comment on all aspects of the service. This included and respected parents' views and suggestions in the overall care and support of their child and the ongoing improvement of the service. Parents' comments included:

"Every time I bring my child to the childminder we swap information about what my child has done. Once a week I receive pictures via facebook or whatsapp."

"When I collect my child I have a quick chat with childminder about my child's activities and routine. We exchange any concerns if we have any, about my child."

The childminder was able to describe and give examples of the care and support she had provided. For example, following the child's daily routine and providing activities that supported their interests. When the childminder spoke about the children she did so with confidence and care. Throughout the inspection we saw examples of the childminder promoting the wellbeing indicators. As a result, children had opportunities to express themselves, be considerate about others and be aware of how their actions can affect others.

We made a recommendation about further developing personal plans at the last inspection and found that the childminder had taken positive steps to address this. We looked at the personal plans for the children present and found these had been updated with relevant information and reviewed with parents. The childminder in partnership with parents provided diaries and other records to support children's learning in both languages. These approaches contributed towards positive outcomes for children.

We made a recommendation that the childminder should access child protection. We found that the childminder had taken positive steps to address this. She explained that she enjoyed the training and it had helped to improve her knowledge and confidence in supporting the safety and wellbeing of children in her care.

The childminder discussed how she would administer medication and ensure that parents completed consent forms before this was given. She demonstrated a good understanding of the procedure to be followed, if a child spits out, or refuses medication. We have asked the childminder to include a statement detailing this procedure within her policy. This would help to ensure that children's health and wellbeing was promoted through the safe management of medication.

The childminder explained that she walks when collecting the children from nursery or school and uses public transport for outings. She explained that she is currently taking driving lessons. We discussed that if she were to use a car, business motor insurance is required for transporting minded children and parents should sign a consent form. The childminder stated that this is something for her to consider in the future.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We saw that children experienced a child centred, relaxed and homely environment with lots of fun and enjoyment. The childminder was attentive and responsive to their needs and interests providing warmth and affection throughout the inspection. The children were observed giving their views and making decisions about what they wanted to do during the inspection. This demonstrated that each child was treated with respect and dignity.

The childminder had an extensive range of resources to meet children's interests. To support their language development the childminder had resources in both English and Polish.

To further extend children's learning and play experiences the childminder used the garden, community resources including parks, soft play and cinema. These experiences gave children opportunities to be active, included and to socialise and helped contribute towards children developing healthy lifestyles.

Parents' comments included:

"My child goes for a walk to the nearest park, plays in the childminders garden and goes to soft play."

We made a recommendation that the childminder develop risk assessments for outings that the children are involved in at the last inspection. We found that the childminder had taken positive steps to address this. She continues to complete and review these regularly for the following areas; soft play and parks. This practice helped to reduce the risk to children and to keep them healthy and safe.

We made a recommendation that the childminder seek parental consent for children to use the trampoline at the last inspection. We found that parents had completed consent forms for their children to use the trampoline.

We discussed with the childminder the safe use of the trampoline and viewed the policy. We found there was scope to improve the policy. (See recommendation 1)

The childminder had registered the service with the Food Standards Agency since the last inspection in 2016. To support her in food safety management procedures and support children's health and wellbeing, she had participated in food hygiene and food allergy training in 2017.

The childminder explained the system in place to record and share information with parents about any accidents or incidents. This meant that parents were kept informed about issues affecting their children. The childminder had a first aid certificate expiry date 2018, to support her in dealing with emergencies.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. To support children's safety and help reduce the risk of serious injuries, the provider should develop a robust policy and procedure on the safe use of the trampoline. This should include the numbers and ages of children allowed on the trampoline at any one time. We signposted the childminder to guidance from The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA) on 'garden trampolining'.

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

The childminder engaged well with the inspection process. She was organised and records were accessible. She understood the conditions of registration and a copy of the current registration certificate was available to parents/carers to view. Attendance records were kept and public liability insurance was in place to protect those who use the service. We discussed with the childminder the annual return, self-assessment and notification processes during the inspection.

The childminder responded positively to the recommendations made at the last inspection. As a result, we found the childminder had reflected on her practice and attended some training. It is her intention to participate in further training either on-line or when it becomes available in a group situation. We suggested that the childminder may find training on 'Building the Ambition' useful as its focus is on children's developmental stages and what they need at different times in terms of their learning experiences, adult interaction and the environment. The childminder was open to our suggestion on how to continue to improve outcomes for children and the service.

We recommended that the childminder develop and maintain an evaluation of training completed at the last inspection. Whilst we acknowledged the childminder describing to us the ways in which the training had improved her practice and children's experiences no reflective log had been recorded. We have repeated this recommendation at this inspection (See recommendation 1). We advised the childminder that the provider of her insurance, has paperwork that may be of assistance in addressing this matter.

The childminder gave parents access to the complaints procedure. This created an opportunity for parents to raise any concerns they may have about the service. The parent who completed our questionnaire confirmed that if they had a concern or complaint they would have no hesitation in speaking with the childminder who they believed would resolve the issue as quickly as possible. No complaints had been received about the service since it was registered.

We emailed the childminder the following good practice documents:

"My World Outdoors."

"Space to Grow."

"Our Creative Journey."

"My childminding experience."

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. The provider should develop and maintain an evaluation of training completed to demonstrate the impact this has had on her personal development, outcomes for children or the service as a whole.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 years: Standard 13: Well managed service.

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

The provider should review children's personal plans with parents to update child's stage of development, sleep patterns, toileting needs and changes to their food preferences. She should also consider including a section to record mutually agreed achievements for children between herself and parents. This will further assist with participation in meeting children's needs and contribute towards positive outcomes for all children.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16: Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 24 January 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

From the sample viewed personal plans had been reviewed with parental involvement.

Recommendation met.

Recommendation 2

The provider should access child protection training or workshops to further her knowledge with current legislation and to support the safety and wellbeing of children in her care.

National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to age 16 Standard 3: Health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 24 January 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The provider had participated in online training in November 2017.

Recommendation met.

Recommendation 3

The provider should develop risk assessments for outings that the children are involved in. These should clearly identify what the potential risks are and steps taken to either minimise or eliminate any such risk. This will contribute towards the health and safety of children while in her care.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16: Standard 2: A safe environment.

This recommendation was made on 24 January 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Risk assessments had been developed.

Recommendation met.

Recommendation 4

The provider should seek parental consent for children to use the trampoline. This will contribute towards the health and safety of children while in her care.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16: Standard 2: A safe environment.

This recommendation was made on 24 January 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Parental consent had been given for children to use the trampoline.

Recommendation met.

Recommendation 5

The provider should continue to review her learning needs and access training for example: 'Building the Ambition' child protection and promoting positive behaviour in order to further develop her service and improve outcomes for children.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 years: Standard 14: Well - managed service.

This recommendation was made on 24 January 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The provider had participated in training.

Recommendation met.

Recommendation 6

The provider should develop and maintain an evaluation of training completed, to demonstrate the impact this has had on her personal development, outcomes for children or the service as a whole.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 years: Standard 14: Well - managed service.

This recommendation was made on 24 January 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The provider did not have a training or evaluation log. This recommendation has repeated at this inspection.

Recommendation not 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	
24 Jan 2017	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate

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