

Vanessa Cairns Childminding Service

Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 30 January 2018

Service provided by:
Cairns, Vanessa

Service provider number:
SP2014986140

Care service number:
CS2014328790

The service

Introduction

Vanessa Cairns was registered with the Care Inspectorate in November 2014.

Due to exceptional circumstances she was inactive from July 2015 to September 2017.

She operated her service from her home which was situated in a modern, quiet residential area in Kirkliston. She was close to all local amenities.

What we did during our inspection

This was the first inspection of her childminding service.

We wrote this report following an announced inspection made at short notice to the childminder. This was carried out by an inspector of the Care Inspectorate. Two visits were made to this childminder to carry out the inspection. She was not available on these visits. The third visit took place in January 2018, this visit was made at short notice to the childminder., One minded child was present. The childminder's own child was also present.

During the inspection, we spoke to the childminder and observed the minded child present. We observed the care given by the childminder and looked at a number of documents including children's records and the methods in place for involving parents in her service provision. We also looked at the childminding environment and considered the experiences of the children.

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. We wrote this report following an announced inspection made at short notice to the childminder. This was carried out by an inspector of the Care Inspectorate. Two visits were made to this childminder to carry out the inspection. She was not available on these visits. The third visit took place on Wednesday 1st November 2017, One minded child was present. We gave feedback to the childminder on the same day as this inspection.

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Views of people using the service

The minded child appeared happy and confident in the childminder's care. Both children present played happily together in a variety of activities including art and craft which they proudly showed us.

Two Care Standards Questionnaires were returned to us by parents of the minded children. The information provided on these confirmed that they strongly agreed with the statement that, "Overall, I am happy with the quality of care my child receives in this service". Comments made were as follows:-

"We had a few issues with a nursery so we moved our daughter to Vanessa. She is so much happier here and we are so glad we made the change."

"Vanessa is brilliant and my child loves spending time with her."

Self assessment

The childminder provided comprehensive information about the service she provided. We took this into account when inspecting her service.

What the service did well

We saw that the childminder was nurturing and caring with the child present. The childminder provided a variety of stimulating activities which benefitted children's overall development. She provided a welcoming, homely environment where children could move freely around and feel at ease.

What the service could do better

She should continue to keep abreast of current good practice guidelines. She should also access any training opportunities which would enhance her own professional development and continue to provide positive outcomes for 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

The childminder had been caring for the minded child present for a couple of months. She knew the child very well, a strong bond had developed between them. The child continued to achieve and enjoy their time spent with the childminder as she used her knowledge well to continue meeting their needs and provide appropriate levels of care and support.

The childminder kept parents well-informed and involved in the service. Positive relationships with parents meant communication was relaxed, open and honest. Communicating through daily conversations, text messages and face to face consultations meant appropriate information was given and received in order to meet children's changing needs. This way of working helped parents to feel respected and included. The childminder listened to the child and responded to their requests and indications promptly. She was aware of when to interact and add value to the child's play and when to step back and let them work things out for themselves thus helping children to develop confidence and independence.

Children's individual records were maintained to a very good level. There were written records of children's developmental milestones and how the childminder was promoting children's next steps for development and learning.

Throughout the inspection the childminder was responsive to the child's needs in a nurturing and caring manner. This contributed to the child's sense of belonging and being well cared for.

The varied play experiences and trips and outings meant that children's overall development was being enhanced. Activities and outings were planned taking account of the children's individual age and stage of development and promoted their knowledge and understanding of the world and keeping safe. Children were able to remain fit and healthy through daily access to fresh air and outside play. Social development was enhanced by taking the children to groups where they could interact with other children. They were learning to share, take turns and respect each other. This ensured their continued enjoyment and feeling of being well cared for and belonging.

The childminder had received training in Child Protection matters and was aware of to whom she would report any suspicions of child abuse.

The childminder advised us that she provided meals and snacks for the children. She ensured there was a variety of nutritional food. Snacks provided were healthy and gave children choice and ensured their nutritional needs were met.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We found the childminder's home to be safe, very clean, in very good decorative order and smoke free. There was sufficient space within the lounge and dining area for the children to move safely and engage in varied activities. There was a rear garden which was suitable for supervised play and provide children with fresh air

and physical exercise. Activities that encouraged imaginative play and problem solving could be provided. The childminder should become familiar with the good practice documents "My World Outdoors" and "Space to Play", available at www.hub.careinspectorate.com.

Regular opportunities to access community resources such as parks and toddler groups and soft play centres were provided which enhanced children's physical, social and learning development.

The childminder confirmed she had exclusion periods for illness and adhered to these. This meant the risk of cross-infection in children would be minimised.

We asked to see documentation such as permission to administer medication forms and record of administration of medication. She did not have a system in place for administration of medication. We discussed this with her and she agreed to put appropriate records in place for this. We advised her that she should ensure that systems put in place meet the criteria as set out by the Care Inspectorate guidance of Management of medication in daycare and childminding services which can be accessed at www.hub.careinspectorate.com. See recommendation (1)

The childminder carried out risk assessments for each room that children use in the house, these were updated regularly, and on a daily basis she checked for any new risks ensuring children's safety within her home. We discussed with her the need to carry out risk assessments for outings and trips and she agreed to take this forward.

There was no system in place for recording accidents and incidents, we discussed this with her, she agreed to put a recording system in place. See recommendation (2).

All play resources were safe and suitable for the ages and stages of development of minded children.

The childminder ensured there were very good hygiene procedures in place e.g for hand washing and toilet and nappy routines.

The childminder had accessed information about nutritional needs of children and ensured safe storage, preparation and serving food.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 2

1. The childminder should develop documentation to be used for the permission of medication and record of administration of medication as set out in the Care Inspectorate's guidance Management of medication in daycare and childminding services which can be accessed at www.hub.careinspectorate.com.
National Care standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16, Standard 3 - Health and Wellbeing.
2. The childminder should put in place a system for recording accidents and incidents. This should include obtaining parents signature confirming they have been notified of any such event.
National Care standards early education and childcare up to the age of 16, Standard 3 - Health and Wellbeing.

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

As a member of the Scottish Child Minding Association the childminder received their magazine with ideas for activities, relevant reading and access to training courses. Her membership of a local childminding group was another useful way of keeping up to date with best practice and of accessing local training. We also found that although she had some guidance documents for example "Keeping it Safe and Healthy" she was not aware of the contents. We discussed with the childminder making use of the HUB, this is part of our Care Inspectorate website which includes information on best practice and changes in policies and procedures and legislation across the care sector. She confirmed she would access these to keep informed herself with the content.

The childminder encouraged parents and children to express their views on the service as a way of monitoring and improving its overall quality. She issued questionnaires to parents annually asking for their views. Comments were positive evidencing a high level of satisfaction with the service provided.

When reviewing policies and documentation we found that the childminder was very organised and had a system for their storage. She was easily access the requested documentation and policies.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

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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