

Niomi Wood - Childminder Child Minding

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

Service provided by:
Wood, Niomi

Service provider number:
SP2015987175

Care service number:
CS2015339283

The service

Introduction

Niomi Wood Childminding has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since 2015. The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 5 children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and no more than 1 is under 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.

Other conditions unique to the service:

Minded children cannot be cared for by persons other than those named on the certificate.

Overnight service will not be provided.

What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following an unannounced inspection which took place between 7:30am and 1.30pm on 30 January 2018. The inspection was carried out by a Care Inspectorate Early Learning and Childcare Inspector.

During this inspection we spoke to the childminder, children 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). This is 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. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of GIRFEC. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

Views of people using the service

There were two children present during the inspection. Children were confident and vocal with the childminder and they told us they enjoyed coming to the childminders. Children had a wide range of activities and were engrossed in their play. Some of the comments from children were:

'I like going to toddlers it's fun.'

"My brother comes here too and we have fun with Niomi"

We received three completed Care Standards Questionnaires (CSQs) from parents whose children use the service. All three respondents indicated they were happy with the service and all 'strongly agreed' with the statement: "Overall, I am happy with the quality of care my child receives at this service". Comments from CSQs included:

'I feel my child is safe when at Niomi's.'

'The service I receive from Niomi is fantastic! I have not experienced any problem or concern and my son loves being there.'

'No concerns or issues at all. My child is always keen to go (attends 2x week) and appears happy and relaxed with childminder and within the home.'

We spoke with parents during the inspection and used these comments to influence the inspection.

We spoke with two parents during the inspection who were happy with the quality of care their child received and made the following comments;

"I feel my child is very well cared for and is happy with Niomi."

"I do feel I could raise any concerns or suggests to Niomi."

"Niomi is very good and doing stuff with my child and taking him to play groups ect."

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate had not received an updated self assessment from the childminder prior to the inspection taking place.

What the service did well

The childminder provided a caring environment where children were happy playing with their friends. Children were encouraged to be independent and support their friends during activities.

What the service could do better

The childminder needs to develop the use of self evaluation to further develop their service with input from parents and children.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Quality of care and support | 3 - Adequate |
| Quality of environment | 4 - Good |
| Quality of staffing | not assessed |
| Quality of management and leadership | 3 - Adequate |

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Children in the service were provided with an adequate quality of care and support.

Children were supported to feel safe and secure through positive relationships with their peers and secure attachments with the childminder. Children's needs were met through the use of detailed care plans that highlighted children's needs and interests. The childminder asked parents regularly if there were any changes to

their child's needs. However, to ensure there is evidence of care plans being updated, the childminder should ensure parents sign and date their child's care plan every six months to confirm details are up-to-date. **(See recommendation 1.)**

Children received praise and encouragement promoting children to feel secure and supported. Children were praised when they had completed a task or had made developments in their learning. For example, one child who was potty training was praised when they asked to use the toilet. The child was excited to receive praise building their self-esteem. The childminder had carried out some observations on children that celebrated their personality and achievements. However, not all children had observations as they were new to the service. We discussed with the childminder how they should continue the use of these observations to celebrate children's achievements and how they could be used to support children's development.

Children were offered healthy snacks and meals throughout the day. For example for breakfast children were offered porridge and fruit. Children were able to ask for some fruit throughout the session if they felt hungry. Children also had access to water throughout the session to keep them hydrated. During lunch children were encouraged to feed themselves and to help one another, promoting children to support their friends when needed. This encouraged children to feel cared for and supported by their peers.

Children had opportunities to develop their independence and self-help skills with support and encouragement from the childminder. For example, when going out children were encouraged to dress themselves. The childminder supported children that were struggling and praised children when they were successful in dressing themselves.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. To ensure children's needs are recorded clearly, the childminder should ensure parents sign and date changes made in care plans.

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

Grade: 3 - adequate

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

Children were provided a good quality of environment.

Children were provided with an environment that encouraged them to be safe and to make choices. Children were kept safe through the childminders implementation of policies and procedures. For example, the childminder had a dog which the children enjoyed walking and looking after. Children washed their hands after

handling the dog which was in line with the childminders policy for handling pets. There were some basic risk assessments in place for the service; we discussed with the childminder developing risk assessments for outings.

The childminders home was well laid out and children were kept safe through the use of fire guards and socket protectors. There was a large selection of resources like cars, Lego, jigsaws, small world play and arts and crafts. Children were able to select resources they were interested in. Resources were easy to access with resources stored at a height that allowed children to find resources they were interested in. This promoted children to be independent and to follow their interests in their own time.

Children benefited from a range of planned and spontaneous activities that engaged them in their learning. Children were able to ask the childminder for specific activities that were of interest to them, parents also discussed with the childminder things that the child had been playing with at home. The childminder followed up these suggestions continuing children's learning from the home environment. Children were taken on regular outings to activities like toddlers, soft play and the park. For example, at toddlers, children were able to access a gym with large ride on toys which encouraged children be active. Children also accessed messy play activities like painting and sticking and gluing which they really enjoyed.

Children had the opportunity to learn about their responsibility to the environment and that of their local community. Through accessing local resources like toddler groups and parks children were able to mix with others. For example, at toddler group children were able to develop their social skills and make new friends. Children really enjoyed playing with others and sharing their toys during their time at toddler group.

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 provided an adequate quality of management and leadership.

Children were safe and nurtured in the childminders care. Since the last inspection the childminder had accessed child protection training which was used to keep children safe. The childminder discussed signs that a child may be in distress and how they would provide support for the child and their family.

The childminder took on board concerns and complaints from parents and had regular discussions with parents during morning and afternoon collection times. During collection times parents were able to raise any concerns they may have of their child or the service; parents also relayed information on their child's sleep, eating and toileting. The childminder had carried out questionnaires with parents which allowed parents to feedback their views and requests. The childminder currently did not evidence the actions taken based on parents input, but was keen to develop this to evidence their improvement journey. We spoke with parents during the inspection who felt the childminder was easy to approach and discussed their confidence in raising any issues with the childminder directly.

The childminder was not using an improvement plan, but had used their action plan from the previous inspection to plan developments in response to recommendations and requirements issued. However, the childminder is looking to introduce a basic improvement plan using their self assessment they complete for care inspectorate as a template. The childminder planned to use the self assessment to highlight improvements made and to highlight improvements they wish to make. The childminder should also consider using the Building the Ambition document allowing the childminder to evaluate their service using quality indicators.

The childminder acted on children's immediate requests but children are not involved in the direction of the service. The childminder was keen to develop questionnaires and other methods to gain feedback from children to ensure they are influencing the direction of the service based on their needs. For example, the childminder discussed their plans to involve children in the development of the garden area to ensure it meets the interests and needs of children in their care.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 3 - adequate

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

To ensure children in their care are safe and nurtured the childminder should look at attending child protection training as soon as possible.

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

This recommendation was made on 18 November 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had attended child protection training and had a clear child protection policy in place which they were able to discuss with us.

Recommendation 2

To meet the requests of parents and needs of children in their care the childminder should ensure that permissions for children are clearly noted and signed by parents.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 6: Support and Development

This recommendation was made on 18 November 2016.

Action taken on previous recommendation

All children have permissions in place which the childminder is following.

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 | |
|-------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 14 Mar 2017 | Re-grade | Care and support | 2 - Weak |
| | | Environment | 3 - Adequate |
| | | Staffing | Not assessed |
| | | Management and leadership | 2 - Weak |
| 14 Oct 2016 | Announced (short notice) | Care and support | 4 - Good |
| | | Environment | 5 - Very good |
| | | Staffing | Not assessed |
| | | Management and leadership | 4 - Good |

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