

# Stewart, Lynn Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)  
Inspection completed on: 16 March 2018

**Service provided by:**

**Service provider number:**  
SP2009975501

**Care service number:**  
CS2009232405

## The service

### Introduction

The service is provided from the childminder's home within a residential area in Carluke, close to the local school, shops, parks and other amenities. The children have access to the whole of the downstairs floor and can access the toilet upstairs. Five children were registered with the service attending on a part-time basis. On the day of the inspection one child was present.

Aims of the service include welcoming and valuing each child as an individual and providing a safe, hygienic, stimulating and smoke free environment.

The service registered with the Care Commission in 2010 and has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since April 2011. The childminder is currently registered with the following conditions:

1. The service will be provided at the address detailed in the notice granting registration.
2. To provide a care service to a maximum of 6 children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom a maximum of 6 will be under 12, of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than 1 is under 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.
3. The parts of the premises not to be used are all areas upstairs with the exception of the toilet.
4. Overnight service will not be provided.
5. Only those named on the certificate of registration can care for the children.

### What we did during our inspection

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. GIRFEC 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 GIRFEC. 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.

We compiled this report following a short-notice announced inspection, which took place between 12.15pm and 2.30pm on 15th March 2018. The inspection was carried out by a care inspectorate early years inspector.

One young child was present during the inspection. Throughout the inspection we spoke with the childminder and observed the child at play. We reviewed a number of documents which included children's personal files, risk assessments, attendance registers and policies. We also spoke to one relative of a child who was using the service.

## Views of people using the service

The child present was happy and settled and responded positively to the childminder.

One parent returned a questionnaire to us and we spoke with one relative in person. The views received were positive and demonstrated that they were happy with the quality of care their child received. Some comments are recorded below;

"Lynn's great with them".

"My child gets to draw, paint and play games after school".

"Lynn always asks if there are any changes".

## Self assessment

We did not receive a self-assessment from the childminder. Issues relating to how parents and children are involved in decisions within the service and the quality of the service's health and safety records are considered below.

## What the service did well

The childminder knew children and their families well. She communicated openly and regularly with them to identify children's care needs.

The indoor environment was warm, cosy and clean and the garden had been well thought out to provide different types of play experiences.

## What the service could do better

We discussed with the childminder the benefits of keeping up to date with best practice guidelines and attending training more often. This would help her develop play experiences for children and ensure their safety.

## From this inspection we graded this service as:

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

## Quality of care and support

### Findings from the inspection

The childminder had developed friendly relationships with parents and as a result they were able to share information with her, when they brought their child in to the home.

Information gained from parents was used to plan children's routines and snack. We found the childminder had recorded some information about children however, she did not have a plan in place to identify how children's health, welfare and safety needs would be met. See recommendation 1.

Children were settled and happy within Ms Stewart's care. They were responsive to her and we could see attachments had been formed. We observed the childminder tickling and chatting to a child whilst meeting their personal care needs. The child laughed and babbled in response.

We did find however, that children could be better stimulated during play. The children were presented with a variety of plastic toys which included, lego, animals, a static activity station and baby walker. We found babies spent extended periods of time restricted in the static activity station and also spent some time watching television. We spoke with the childminder about enhancing children's experiences through a balance of organised and extended play which should include open-ended resources to promote curiosity and interest in learning. We also asked the childminder to consider adding story books to the play routine. Story telling from a young age supports children's language development and literacy skills. See recommendation 2.

The childminder had given consideration to how children's needs could be met during outdoor play. The garden area included space to run, explore chickens, play in sand and climb on physical apparatus. The childminder told us that the children did not access outdoors during winter as they did not have appropriate clothing. We discussed the benefits of children accessing the garden in all weathers for physical exercise and good mental wellbeing.

The childminder told us that she was reluctant to administer medication to children in her care, even on the request of parents. We asked Ms Stewart to reconsider administering occasional medication, to support children's recovery from an illness. During the inspection, we found that there was Nurofen in a child's bag. We discussed with the childminder the importance of storing medication out of children's reach and following best practice guidance on administering medication in future.

## Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

## Recommendations

**Number of recommendations:** 2

1. We recommend that the service develop children's personal plans to ensure that children are supported to achieve their full potential.

Personal plans should set out how children's needs will be met (and must consider health, welfare and safety). Personal plans should be agreed with parents. They should be in place within 28 days of a child starting the service and should be reviewed at least every 6 months.

This is to meet National Care Standards Early education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 6- Support and Development.

2. We recommend that the childminder plans experiences that provide children with the opportunity to be independent, challenged and develop their creativity and curiosity. To achieve this, the childminder should give consideration to the following points:

- Using natural open-ended play equipment.
- Incorporating story time in to play.
- Promoting freedom of choice for children.
- Providing play in a variety of contexts all year round, for example outside.
- Spending increased time at the children's level supporting their play.

This will help motivate children to play and will increase their skills and learning.

This is to meet National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 5 Quality of Experience.

**Grade:** 3 - adequate

## Quality of environment

### Findings from the inspection

Children were cared for in a clean, smoke free and tidy environment. The downstairs of the house had plenty of natural light and was a comfortable temperature. The home was well maintained and furnishings and equipment were in good condition.

The childminder cleaned the toys daily and washed her hands at appropriate times to limit the spread of infection. We did however, discuss with the childminder that she should review her infection control practice to include the use of aprons and gloves when changing nappies. This would further reduce the spread of infection and would help to keep children healthy. See recommendation 1.

A number of pets lived in the childminders home. These included a dog, two lizards, fish and some chickens. The children were interested in the animals and were able to safely touch some of them in a controlled environment. The childminder had appropriately assessed the risks of her pets to ensure that children were safe.

Children had the opportunity to rest during their time at the childminders. We observed Ms Stewart checking on sleeping children regularly, to ensure their safety. We did however, discuss with the childminder recent safe sleeping guidance. Ms Stewart agreed to familiarise herself with this.

Cleaning materials were stored in the childminders lower kitchen cupboard. These could be accessed by opening the cupboard door. Whilst we observed good supervision from the childminder during the inspection we asked her, to consider securing the cupboard door to ensure that children could not gain access to the cleaning materials. This would help ensure children's health and safety.

### Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

## Recommendations

### Number of recommendations: 1

1. We recommend that the childminder reviews her infection control practice to include the use of aprons and gloves when changing nappies. This should reflect current best practice guidance 'Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings (Daycare and Childcare Settings)'.

This will help to ensure that the spread of infection is prevented and children are kept healthy.

This is to comply with the National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 2, a safe environment.

**Grade:** 3 - adequate

## Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

## Quality of management and leadership

### Findings from the inspection

The childminder created open, friendly relationships with families and welcomed them in to her home. She fostered a climate where parents felt able to openly discuss how their child's needs could be consistently met. Ms Stewart also made use of verbal conversations to gain opinions on how to shape the service.

The childminder told us that she had not kept up to date with best practice guidance since her last inspection. We found this was reflected in practice as detailed within this report. It is important that children receive high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice. During the inspection we worked with the childminder to explore recent publications that she could use, to inspire her thinking and benchmark practice. The childminder agreed to look at these in order to develop her skills and improve experiences for children. See recommendation 1.

### Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

## Recommendations

### Number of recommendations: 1

1. We recommend that the childminder consistently makes use of best practice guidance and training to increase her knowledge and equip her with the skills to provide high quality care to children.

To achieve this she should read and reflect on the following publications as a minimum:

- Building the Ambition
- Your Childminding Journey
- My Childminding Experience
- My World Outdoors
- Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Settings
- Management of Medication in Daycare of Children and Childminding Services.
- Reduce the Risk of Cot Death- Early Years Safe Sleeping Guide

This is to ensure that children receive high quality care which supports them to achieve and to be safe, healthy, nurtured, active, responsible, included and respected.

This is to comply with National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 12 confidence in staff.

**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

Although the provider kept up to date with best practice guidelines she should continue to try to access appropriate training in first aid and infection control, to maintain and improve her quality of care.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16, Standard 2- a safe environment.

**This recommendation was made on 31 January 2014.**

#### Action taken on previous recommendation

Not met.

## Recommendation 2

Although the childminder kept up to date with best practice guidelines she should continue to try to access appropriate training in child protection to maintain and improve her quality of care.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard3- health and wellbeing.

**This recommendation was made on 31 January 2014.**

### Action taken on previous 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](http://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
31 Jan 2014	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership Not assessed
7 Feb 2013	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 3 - Adequate Environment 3 - Adequate Staffing 3 - Adequate Management and leadership Not assessed
27 Sep 2011	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 3 - Adequate Environment 3 - Adequate Staffing 3 - Adequate Management and leadership Not assessed



Date	Type	Gradings	
17 Nov 2010	Announced	Care and support	3 - Adequate
		Environment	3 - Adequate
		Staffing	3 - Adequate
		Management and leadership	Not assessed

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