

Jelly Bean Childminding Service Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)
Inspection completed on: 9 March 2018

Service provided by:
Ramage, Louise

Service provider number:
SP2009976614

Care service number:
CS2009235680

The service

Introduction

Jelly Bean Childminding Service has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since 2010. The service provides a care service to a maximum of eight children at any one time under the age of 16 years, of whom a maximum of six will be under 12 years, of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of the children of the childminder's family.

Overnight service will not be provided.

The service had an additional condition in place to allow an increase of numbers; however, this expired on 31 December 2017. We asked the childminder to submit a variation to have this removed.

The service is provided from the childminder's home within a residential area of Arbroath close to the local school, shops, parks and other amenities. The areas used to provide the service were the living room, kitchen/diner and downstairs bathroom. Children also had access to the rear garden.

Aims of the service include providing 'a safe and secure environment for your child, a clean environment which your child can play and learn, I provide stimulating activities that are appropriate to the age of your child which will encourage their creativity, self-expression and imagination.'

What we did during our inspection

We wrote this report following a short notice announced inspection, which took place between 09:15 and 12:15 on 9 March 2018. A Care Inspectorate Early Learning and Childcare Inspector carried out the inspection.

During this inspection, we spoke to the childminder and the children present. We observed the care given by the childminder and looked at a number of documents including children's care plans, equipment/resources, training certificates, health and safety records and policies/procedures.

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. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it Right for Every Child: 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

The children present enjoyed playing with the toys available to them in the living room and hallway. They were happy, comfortable and confident in the environment. Children shared some of the photos of them within the service.

We provided the service with questionnaires to be distributed to parents/carers; however, we did not receive any in return before the inspection. We did discuss with the childminder how she has gained feedback and if she had any complaints from parents/carers.

We found that there were no complaints made to the Care Inspectorate or directly to the service. The services own questionnaires demonstrated that parents/carers had provided positive feedback on all aspects of the service.

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a completed self assessment from the childminder. The childminder identified what she thought the service did well. To develop the self assessment further, the childminder should identify some areas she plans to improve over the coming year.

The provider told us how the people who used the care service had taken part in the self assessment process and how their feedback directed the development of their plans for improving the service.

What the service did well

Children were cared for by a childminder who knew their individual needs and how to meet these. Children's individual files contained good quality information about their learning and development as well as how the childminder would support learning further. Each child was seen as an individual in many areas and adapted the service to meet their individual needs.

The childminder's home was hygienic, tidy and very homely. Children were very comfortable in the home and in the care of the childminder. Children had access to a wide range of equipment and resources, which complimented their play.

The childminder managed her service well. She had appropriate insurances, policies, procedures and systems in place.

What the service could do better

The childminder should continue to develop play experiences for children that will support their learning and development further. Children's records should reflect the new challenges and experiences the childminder has identified to develop their learning and development further.

The childminder should continue to keep up to date with best practice, especially using the Care Inspectorate Hub. Children would benefit from having access to more natural resources especially those that do not have a prescribed purpose.

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

We found that overall the childminder provided very good quality care and support to children in her care.

Each child had a registration form and care plan in place. These were completed with the parents/carers. The care plan detailed each child's individual needs with specific focus on likes, dislikes, toileting, and sleep routine and dietary requirements. These were reviewed regularly to ensure they were kept up to date.

A settling in procedure was in place to ensure it met the needs of each child. The childminder had a standard procedure which could be tailored to suit parents/carers and the children. This included visits, gaining important information and agreeing care needs for each child.

The childminder attended a course on Makaton, which is a communication method using hand signs. This course enabled her to improve the support and communication with children.

Children's experiences, activities and achievements were recognised and recorded in their personal folder such as recognition of colours, counting, independence etc. Children were happy to show us some of the photos, which documented their time in the service. The childminder used these experiences and activities to identify each child's developments as well as identifying how their learning could be developed further. The quality of next steps could be improved, through being more specific.

Children were supported to be respectful and take care of each other. We discussed with the childminder her approach and policy for promoting positive behaviour. We found this was in line with good practice.

Children received snacks that were healthy and took account of food and nutrition guidelines. The majority of foods were provided by the parents/carers with additional items such as toast or fruit being provided by the childminder. We signposted the childminder to the best practice document Setting The Table. This provided guidance on healthy eating for children. It was available at <http://www.hub.careinspectorate.com/media/177298/nhs-setting-the-table-updated-jan-2015.pdf>.

We reviewed the children's medical records to ensure it promoted their safety and health. Although no children were currently receiving medication, we were able to review the paperwork used and discussed with the childminder her knowledge. We found that both of these followed best practice.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The childminder provided a safe, homely environment for the children she cared for. We concluded she did this to a very good standard.

Children were supported with a clear and regular routine. This allowed children time to take part in activities within and out with the childminder's home. Children took part in local toddler group, a dancing/activity group as well as a craft group. This gave children opportunities to take part in activities but also to socialise with other children too.

Children had independent access to the majority of the equipment and resources, which were stored outside the living room. Children enjoyed playing with small building blocks, which they used to build a castle and a tower. Children also played with the play kitchen. Children played well together and had a close relationship with each other.

Children were able to be active each day through access to the childminder's garden. The childminder had a variety of outdoor play equipment. The childminder ensured her garden was secure as she had secured the garden gate. We still advised the childminder to closely supervise the children while playing outdoors.

The childminder promoted children's safety. She told us that regular visual checks were carried out of her home, especially in the morning before children arrived. Through our observations, we did not find any safety issues. The childminder told us that where any hazards were identified these were removed promptly. Where children had accidents, the childminder kept clear records. The accident records were shared with parents and carers.

Children were regularly transported using the childminder's car. The childminder confirmed that her car was checked at regular intervals to ensure it was still safe, this included servicing and an MOT. The childminder also confirmed she had appropriate insurance in place.

Children's health was promoted by the childminder through good infection control practices. We discussed the childminder's nappy changing procedures and found that these followed best practice. The childminder told us that she ensured she washed her hands before and after nappy changing. It would be good practice for the childminder to wash the children's hands after she has changed their nappy too.

The childminder had clear contingency arrangements in place should there be an emergency. She had linked with another childminder in the local area, which can be a safe place for children to go.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

We found that the quality of management and leadership was very good. We concluded this after reviewing a range of paperwork and through discussions with the childminder.

The childminder's policies and procedures reflected the service that was provided. We reviewed a range of policies including nappy changing, confidentiality, child development and medication. The childminder should continue to review these regularly to ensure they accurately reflect her service.

The childminder had a range of appropriate insurance policies in place including public liability and for her car.

The childminder was registered with the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA). The SCMA supported childminders across Scotland and provided them with access to training, learning materials, regular newsletters and information emails. This was a good way for the childminder to keep up to date with changes. The childminder also accessed a local childminding group where she was able to share best practice and knowledge with other childminders.

Parents/carers provided the childminder with a range of permissions such as for their children to attend outings, use outdoor play equipment and for their photographs to be used on social media.

The childminder used Facebook well to share the work she does with the children. The childminder told us that this page was private and only accessible by the families who use the service. She felt this was well used by parents/carers and it was something they appreciated being able to look at.

The childminder had a good commitment to her training, learning and development. Recently she has attended a course about British Sign Language, first aid and child protection. To develop this commitment further, the childminder could reflect on her learning and identify how this has positively affected the children she cares for.

The childminder appreciates feedback on her service. She issues parents with a questionnaire to gain information about children's care needs, activities, likes, dislikes and asks if parents/carers can identify any areas for improvement. We reviewed a number of these and found that these were very positive. The childminder could develop this further by gaining more feedback from children.

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

Date	Type	Gradings	
18 Feb 2016	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
7 Nov 2013	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
29 Nov 2012	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
15 Feb 2012	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
20 Jan 2011	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed

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