

John Gunn Childminding Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 19 June 2018

Service provided by:
Gunn, John

Service provider number:
SP2003910016

Care service number:
CS2012313139

The service

Introduction

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

This service was registered with the Care Inspectorate on 20 May 2013.

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. Getting it right for every child 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 Getting it right for every child. 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.

John Gunn is registered as a childminder to care for a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom a maximum of six will be under 12, 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 children of the childminder's family. Until 20 August 2018 the following will apply: to provide a care service to a maximum of seven children at any one time between 8:00 and 9:00 Monday to Friday and to have four children not yet attending primary school between 8:30 to 15:30 on specific days by arrangement. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family. This is in accordance of the variation submitted 4 August 2017 and supporting information 30 November 2017. Should any of the children leave the service or no longer require this service, the number will revert back to the above.

John Gunn provides a childminding service from his home in a quiet residential area of Tain. He made use of a large playroom, lounge, dining-room, hall and downstairs toilet. There is also a large fully enclosed garden to the rear of the property, which was used by the children on a daily basis. The childminder also made use of various local facilities including parks, walks and playgroups to offer the children the opportunity to be healthy, active and have access to fresh air and exercise.

The childminder's aims included:

- To provide a childminding service that meets the needs of both children and parents and carers
- The service is provided in a safe and stimulating home environment and is child centred
- Children using the service will be treated as an individual
- Childminding service is provided in a friendly and relaxed manner
- Focus of the service is play (eg dressing up/role play, crafts, outdoor activities, games).

What we did during our inspection

We wrote this report following an unannounced inspection on 19 June 2018. This was carried out by one inspector. The inspection took place between 10:00am and 11:30am. We gave feedback to the childminder on the day of the inspection.

We sent care standards questionnaires to the childminder to distribute to parents and carers of children who attend the service. Two parents and carers completed and returned a questionnaire.

During this inspection process, we gathered evidence from various sources including the following:

- Discussion with the childminder
- Talking with the children present
- Observation of interaction between the childminder and the children
- Children's records
- Policies and procedures
- Information folder made available to parents and carers
- Certificate of registration and public liability insurance
- Examination of the premises.

Views of people using the service

There were two pre-school age children present on the day of the inspection. The younger of the children slept for much of the inspection. The children were very happy and relaxed in the care of the childminder.

The parents and carers who completed and returned the care standards questionnaires were both very positive in their comments about the standard of care provided by the childminder. They both strongly agreed with the statement; 'Overall, I am happy with the quality of care my child receives in this service.'

Comments made included:

'John is fantastic, my child does a huge range of activities from outdoor learning, planting seeds and growing things, walks, going to toddler groups, soft play, music and dance'

'John regularly does interesting and fun activities with the children. There is lots of outdoor play which suits me very much'

'Good communication at the end of the day and makes himself available for a chat to catch-up on the day'

'Its a lovely, safe and secure place for my child. There are lots of dressing up clothes and toys as well as great outdoor space'

'As my child has grown and developed, the activities etc change to suit and he has helped greatly with my child's walking, speech etc'

'I am over the moon with the service John provides. The range of activities are huge and lots of outdoor play and learning'

'I'd give John full marks and highly recommend him to anyone.'

Self assessment

The childminder had fully completed and submitted a self assessment. She highlighted examples of things she did well and other areas she was proposing to develop.

What the service did well

The childminder was very attentive towards the children. He routinely checked the sleeping child. There was great deal of positive interaction, encouragement and praise between the childminder and the child who was present throughout the inspection.

The childminder had very well established relationships with the families he worked with. Parents and carers were very positive in their comments about the childminder and the individualised service provided to their children.

The childminder offered the children the opportunity to play and learn, to develop their imaginative play and to explore their surroundings. Learning about risk and taking part in various activities in the local area was also important.

What the service could do better

The childminder was very committed to ensuring that he continued to provide a service of a high standard to the children and their families. He should continue to access relevant training when it becomes available.

The childminder should continue to keep up to date with current best practice. He should routinely review and update his policies and procedures to ensure that they reflect best practice.

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 the childminder continued to provide very good care and support for the children. We were able to see that the childminder's practice supported very good outcomes for each child and we were able to gather information to support this.

The childminder explained that he had established good working relationships with the families. He stated that he very much operated an open door policy and parents and carers were welcome to contact him at any time about his service. The parental feedback in the completed care standards questionnaires confirmed how well the childminder worked with families. Parents and carers commented on the childminder's approachability and friendliness. They also commented on how he always asked for their opinions and suggestions in relation to the service provided to their children.

Information sharing took place informally when parents and carers came to collect their children. Parents commented on the very good levels of information they received each day. The childminder offered to complete

daily diaries for the younger children who attended the service. During the inspection we were able to see the diary for one child. It was very detailed and also included comments from parents.

From our observations and discussions with the childminder, it was evident that he knew each of the children in his care very well. The childminder had in place written records and personal plans for each child, which contained relevant background information and details of the child's routine. We reminded the childminder to complete and routinely review these records with parents and carers.

Listening to the children, respecting what they had to say and including them in deciding what activities they would like to do, was important to the childminder. During the visit the childminder was very attentive and responsive to the needs of the children. There was lots of positive interaction, chatting, praise and encouragement when required.

The childminder ensured that the activities provided encouraged the children to adopt healthy lifestyles, appreciate the benefits of being active and learn to keep themselves safe. He explained that the children were outdoors and taking part in a range of activities on a daily basis. As well as taking part in energetic play and physical activities, the children also enjoyed getting involved in planting and tending to various vegetables and fruit plants in the garden.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We found that the environment was of a very good standard. The childminder ensured that children in his care were safe and healthy by maintaining the premises and resources to a very good level. The childminder explained that he completed visual checks of the premises and their contents on a daily basis before children arrived as well as throughout the day. Toys and equipment were cleaned on a regular basis.

The childminder made very good use of the space available both indoors and outdoors. The rooms he used were all very clean, bright, homely, welcoming and child friendly. There was a very good selection of toys and equipment appropriate for the age of children who attended the service. Comments from parents and carers supported this.

The childminder had previously attended risk assessment training and had completed appropriate risk assessments in relation to his premises and equipment. The childminder explained that he encouraged the children to be involved in undertaking risk assessments to help them to learn about risk and how to keep themselves and their friends safe.

The childminder had a large garden area to the rear of the house which was used every day to allow the children the opportunity to take part in a wide range of activities in the fresh air. There was a large grass area where the children had space to run around and play. There was also an area set aside for the children to grow various vegetables, fruit, plants and herbs. The childminder explained that spending time outdoors was extremely popular with all the children. There was a wide selection of resources which allowed the children to take part in a range of imaginative play and outdoor learning experiences. The childminder had made use of natural resources and loose parts to allow the children to investigate and explore their environment. We signposted the childminder to various websites and good practice including 'space to grow,' 'our creative journey' and 'my world outdoors.' As well as using the garden for active outdoor play, the childminder also made very good use of the local play parks, forest walks and visits to the beach. Parents and carers all appreciated the opportunities the children had for outdoor play and learning while they were with the childminder.

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

The childminder managed his service to a very good standard and recognised the importance of ensuring that he had the appropriate knowledge and skills to meet the individual needs of the children attending. The childminder had previously completed training in relation to child protection and first aid and was hoping to complete refresher child protection training in the near future. He was a member of Care and Learning Alliance and was on the mailing list for the local authority so that he was kept informed of any planned training in the future. We spoke about the option of completing online training.

The childminder had in place a range of policies and procedures which he routinely reviewed to ensure that they reflected current best practice. The childminder was very proactive in relation to keeping up-to-date with best practice. He got ideas as to how he could develop his service by reading various publications and routinely accessing childcare websites on the internet, including the Care Inspectorate hub.

The childminder explained that he routinely met other childminders in the town. He found it useful having the opportunity to discuss practice and share ideas.

The childminder encouraged the children and their parents and carers to give him any suggestions as to how he could continue to improve his service. As stated previously, he tended to get most feedback informally at the end of the day when parents and carers came to collect their children. The childminder also routinely asked the children for their comments and ideas and used these to develop the activities provided for them. Comments from parents and carers highlighted how happy they were with the service and how the childminder listened to and acted on any comment or suggestion they made.

The childminder had in place a clear complaints policy and procedure which she shared with all parents and carers. There had been no complaints at the time of the inspection.

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
29 May 2014	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 5 - Very good

To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at www.careinspectorate.com

Contact us

Care Inspectorate
Compass House
11 Riverside Drive
Dundee
DD1 4NY

enquiries@careinspectorate.com

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànan eile ma nithear iartras.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.