

Karen's Little Angels Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 24 May 2018

Service provided by:
Wynne, Karen

Service provider number:
SP2013985033

Care service number:
CS2013318324

The service

Introduction

This service registered the Care Inspectorate on 10 September 2013.

The service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of 16, 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.

The service aims include to provide a loving, caring, safe and welcoming home environment for children aged birth to 16 years of age.

What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following an unannounced inspection which took place between 14:25 and 16:20 and on the 24 May 2018. This inspection was carried out by an Inspector.

During the inspection we spoke to the childminder and observed the minded children present. We looked at a number of documents including health and safety records, personal plans and certificates of training.

7 children were registered to use the service the week of the inspection, on the day of the inspection 3 minded children were present.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it Right for Every Child, 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.

Views of people using the service

We gathered the views of three parents of children using the service. They all told us they were very happy with the quality of care and support the children received. They were very happy with the daily activities on offer and how the childminder kept them informed of children's progress. One parent told us that they felt extremely lucky to have found a childminder like Karen.

We observed the minded children during our visit we found the children to be very settled, comfortable and secure within the childminder's home and with their family members. The children were having lots of fun playing in the garden and enjoying each others company.

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a completed self-assessment from the childminder. The childminder identified what they thought they did well.

What the service did well

The childminder provided a homely, welcoming environment for children to play and have fun. Children were encouraged to make friends, socialise and mix with other children to develop good communication skills. The childminder gathered the relevant information to plan and provide quality care and support to meet children's needs, interest and wishes.

What the service could do better

The childminder should consider attending training and development opportunities to keep themselves well informed, skilled and knowledgeable about on going child care issues and good practice guidance.

The service should ensure that all policies and procedures are in line with Scottish Legislation and were necessary have the Care Inspectorate contact details.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

We asked the childminder about how they identified and planned to support children's needs, interests and wishes. The childminder explained that when new families choose to use the service, they hold an introductory meeting to discuss the type of service that can be offered, gather information about children's needs and agree the care and support to be provided. Where possible, the childminder followed the children's home routine. Children were then encouraged to attend settling in visits to allow time for the child and the childminder to become familiar with each other and the new surroundings. Once children were settled and care is being provided the childminder held daily discussions with parents/carers to keep them well informed of children's progress and needs. When requested, the childminder completed daily diaries to inform parents of children's daily routines. The childminder kept detailed records for each child using the service. These records contained information about children's experiences, identified needs and how the childminder planned to support these. For example how to support children's communication skills, physical development and wellbeing needs.

The childminder had a healthy eating policy. They provided healthy snacks such as fruit, vegetables, yoghurt, wraps and milk or water. Parents provided packed lunches for their children, the childminder encouraged parents/carers to provide healthy nutritious foods.

To support children's physical needs, the childminder encouraged daily active play experiences. The spacious garden, accessed directly from the playroom provided lots of opportunities for the children to explore the natural world and take part in a range of physical activities from running around to ball games.

In addition, children visited local parks and soft play areas. The childminder told us that the children also enjoyed listening and dancing to music.

We asked the childminder about the service policies and procedures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the children using the service. The childminder gave a confident account of procedures they would follow if any concerns arose. We were satisfied that the childminder was well informed of procedures they must follow.

We observed the childminder to be promoting positive behaviour throughout the visit. The childminder was giving lots of praise and recognition reinforcing positive play experiences including sharing, turn taking and playing well with others.

We found the childminder had a very good understanding of the children's needs and was providing appropriate care and support to meet these. The childminder was committed to improving and supporting each child's needs and wishes through providing a quality childminding service.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 – very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The childminder used the back room which had direct access to the garden, kitchen and downstairs toilet for childminding. We found the childminder's home to be clean, tidy and having appropriate safety measures in place. The service was registered as a food business, however parents provided children's meals, the childminder provided snacks.

We asked the childminder about infection control measures. Children used individual face cloths and hand towels were changed as needed. Children were encouraged to wash hands, for example after toileting, before food and after playing outside.

The childminder transported children by car. The children were seated in appropriate car seats and we heard the children asking which seat they were to sit in when going to collect children from school.

The children were fully engaged throughout our visit, they were inside for a short period playing with construction toys but outside enjoying the space and playing with bubbles, having fun. We found the childminder made good use of the space available to them, especially the spacious back garden, which had recently had new fencing put in place to make it more secure.

The childminder had a trampoline in the garden, we asked the childminder to check the trampoline guidelines for example, for the recommended age group of children. It was a hot sunny day, we found the childminder to be following safe sun procedures.

When we arrived the children were all having a rest in the back room. Children were sleeping on the sofa, in a pram or on the floor with cushions and blankets.

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

We asked the childminder how they kept informed about good practice guidance and legislation. The childminder explained that they regularly read magazines and articles written by the Care Inspectorate and Scottish Childminding Association. They also used the internet to source information and share with other childminders. The childminder was aware of Care Inspectorate good practice guidance and was found to be following these. The childminder told us that they had formed good links with the local nursery and regularly sought advice and support from them.

We asked the childminder about how they identified and met their development needs. The childminder informed us that they had not attended any training events since their last inspection. We did discuss with the childminder the benefits of undertaking training to keep informed and learn new skills. The childminder should consider completing training online if they are unable to attend other training events for example, that are scheduled in evenings or weekends.

We asked the childminder about how they evaluated the service to ensure they were meeting standards and expectations of those using the service. The childminder explained that they encouraged parents to share their views and make any suggestions verbally. Parents told us that they found the childminder to be approachable and, if needed, they would feel comfortable discussing concerns with them. In addition told us that the childminder regularly consults with them on any proposed changes and takes into account their views and suggestions.

The childminder should review the service policies and procedures to ensure they follow Scottish Legislation and Good Practice guidance and where necessary include the Contact Details of the Care Inspectorate.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - 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	
17 Apr 2014	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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