

Leaver, Lynette

Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)
Inspection completed on: 31 May 2018

Service provided by:
Leaver, Lynette

Service provider number:
SP2003901990

Care service number:
CS2003003750

The service

Introduction

Mrs Leaver is registered to provide a childminding service for up to six children up to the age of 16, of whom no more than three children should not yet be attending primary school, and of whom no more than one child is less than 12 months old. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.

The childminder operates her childminding business from the family home in Lennoxton, East Dunbartonshire. The rooms on the ground floor of the house are used for childminding; lounge, kitchen, conservatory and toilet. Children also have access to a large private garden for outdoor play. The garden is at the rear of the property and has secured gates.

The childminder states that she aims to:

"Provide a high quality service ensuring babies and children of all ages are happy, nurtured and safe in a home from home environment that their parents have confidence in."

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services can be found on our website at www.careinspectorate.com

The service was previously registered with the Care Commission and transferred its registration to the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

The Care Inspectorate is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all children receiving a care service to ensure they have the best start in life, are ready to succeed and live longer, healthier lives. The Care Inspectorate has an important role to play in supporting this approach in inspecting care services for children.

The Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. It's a consistent way for people to work with all children and young people. The approach helps practitioners focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people, and how they can act to deliver these improvements. Getting it Right for Every Child is being threaded through all existing policy, practice, strategy and legislation affecting children, young people and their families. In Scotland, the Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach puts wellbeing at the very heart of its approach. The eight 'indicators' of wellbeing that form the basis of GIRFEC are - safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included - often referred to as 'SHANARRI'.

What we did during our inspection

An early learning and childcare inspector carried out a short notice announced inspection on Thursday 31 May 2018. As part of this inspection we spoke with the childminder and two minded children. We observed the care given by the childminder and the interactions between her and the minded child. We looked at a number of documents including children's personal plans, risk assessments, training records, sections of policies and procedures and insurance certificates.

Views of people using the service

We sent the childminder three care standards questionnaires to issue to parents prior to our inspection. The childminder issued one questionnaire to the family she provided care for. The positive comments included; "Lynn is a fantastic childminder and has been a great support and encouragement to both my children and myself. I cannot praise Lynn enough".

Self assessment

We received a fully completed self assessment document from the service provider. We were satisfied with the way the service provider had completed this and with the relevant information they had given us for each of the headings that we grade them under.

What the service did well

The childminder provided very individualised care for children and families based on their interests and needs.

She worked hard to engage with parents and children, developing and building resilience and establishing strong family relationships. She communicated very well with parents, regularly exchanging information and seeking comments and feedback about her service.

The childminder was well trained and well informed of relevant good practice guidance relating to childcare.

The principles of the Scottish Government guidance Getting it right for every child (GIRFEC) was well embedded in practice as were other current good practice documents such as Building the Ambition.

What the service could do better

The childminder should continue to develop her service as planned.

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

The childminder provided very good opportunities for children and parents to be involved in the continued development of the service. She consulted children to establish what activities and outings they wanted to be involved in.

The childminder developed strong ties with families and worked hard to build supportive partnerships with parents by being open and approachable. She invited parents for coffee and shared information about children's progress.

The childminder kept records about children and used text and telephone to communicate with parents during the day. She ensured that feedback about the care, activities and experiences the children received was taken into account.

General information about children's health, medical background and emergency contact information was recorded within each child's personal plan.

The childminder considered nutritional guidelines to plan menus for children and used these to plan nutritious snacks for children. Children were encouraged to be physically active. The childminder accessed local walks, used the garden, local parks and countryside and visited facilities further afield during school holidays. She promoted healthy lifestyles in discussion with children and parents.

We found that the childminder had good systems in place to administer, store and record any medications children had been given.

There was a policy on child protection and the childminder was well aware of how to implement this if required.

At the time of the inspection the childminder was caring for two older children after school only, on a very part time basis. We chatted with the children and it was evident that they enjoyed the care they received and the long term relationships they had with the childminder and her family. They talked affectionately about family members and family events they had been part of.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We found the childminder's home to be a very warm and homely environment where the minded children were welcomed and included. The childminder interacted very well with the minded children. Children were very comfortable, relaxed and chatty.

The large, detached house provided good spaces for children to play and learn. Children had access to the lounge, a conservatory, kitchen and back and front gardens. They had use of the downstairs toilet.

Children could choose from a vast range of activities, both indoors and outdoors. They used the large breakfast bar in the kitchen for messy play, arts and crafts, baking and as a quiet place to complete homework.

The childminder's home was very clean, safe and tidy for children using the service. The childminder was familiar with current infection control guidance and had provided parents with a copy of this. She promoted very good handwashing practice. It was evident that her practice was in accordance with the guidance.

The childminder had completed a food hygiene course and first aid course. She conducted and recorded risk assessments relating to her premises and trips and outings.

Children we spoke with told us that they enjoyed coming to Lynn's and the outings and activities. It was evident that the childminder adopted a child-centred approach to caring for children. Older children were encouraged to take ownership of their setting and plan and select activities. They told us that they enjoyed making decisions about their day at the childminder's.

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 was committed to her own personal development and continued to develop her skills in caring for children. She was familiar with the principles of GIRFEC and incorporated this in practice.

The childminder kept up to date with current best practice and legislation by visiting the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA), Care Inspectorate and Scottish Government websites.

She had a very strong relationship with the family she provided childcare for and this meant that both children and parents could easily comment on the quality of the service she provided.

Children informally evaluated activities and resources that they had played with or been involved in. The childminder used this feedback to plan future activities and resources for the children.

Feedback we received from parents, which is recorded within this report, was very positive. Children we spoke with during the inspection were very happy and busy. They told us they enjoyed being at Lynn's house and that there was always lots to do.

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	
6 May 2014	Unannounced	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	6 - Excellent
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	6 - Excellent
4 Jun 2010	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
18 Jun 2008	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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