

Fotheringhame, Edna Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 5 July 2018

Service provided by:
Fotheringhame, Edna

Service provider number:
SP2003905028

Care service number:
CS2003009128

The service

Introduction

Edna Fotheringhame was previously registered with the Care commission and transferred to the Care Inspectorate when it was formed in 2011. She provides a care service to a maximum of 6 children at any one time under the age of 16 years, of whom no more than 3 are of an age not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than 1 is less than 12 months.

The childminder provides her service from her home located in a residential area of Kirkwall, Orkney. The property is well situated to access local schools, parks and amenities. The children have access to the living area and bathroom. There is a fully enclosed garden at the rear of the property for outdoor play.

Aims of the service include being committed, "to provide a safe, happy, healthy and homely environment which will help children to reach their full potential and reassure the parents that their children are being cared for to a high standard".

What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following an unannounced inspection, which took place on the 5 July 2018 between 11:30am and 3:00pm. The inspection was carried out by one Care Inspectorate Early Years Inspector.

During this inspection we spoke with the childminder and the minded child present. We observed the care given by the childminder and looked at a number of documents including children's records, health and safety procedures and certificates of training.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting it right for every child (also known as GIRFEC). This is 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 GIRFEC. They are: 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

One minded children aged one year was present during inspection. The child appeared settled and comfortable in the childminder's care. They played happily with the toys both indoors and outdoors and enjoyed eating their lunch.

For this inspection one parent/carer returned a completed Care Standards Questionnaire (CSQ). The responses demonstrated that parents were very happy with the quality of care their child received. They told us the childminder was very kind and they felt really confident their child was safe and well cared for.

"Edna is an excellent childminder who goes above and beyond for all the children she looks after. She genuinely loves her job and cares very much for the children. She regularly takes them to events or to lunch. She is a very kind and honest person and I fully trust her in looking after my children. My child loves going to Edna's and she is a great childminder".

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a fully completed self-assessment document from the childminder before the inspection. The childminder identified what they thought they did well, how they helped meet the needs of the children in their care and where changes had been made. The childminder told us how parents and children had taken part in the self-assessment process and how their feedback directed the development of the plans for improving the service.

What the service did well

The childminder had a warm and friendly manner which made the children and their families feel welcomed and at ease. She had established positive relationships with the families in her care who continued to use her service for a number of years. She was committed to developing her knowledge and skills in supporting children to achieve and learn and was beginning to use this in her practice.

What the service could do better

The childminder should organise her home to ensure children have safe and easy access to resources. She should ensure she regularly reviews children's personal plans with parents to ensure the information remains current and up to date. She should continue to access training and new guidance and use this to support and improve her service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - 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

The childminder had developed very positive relationships with the children and families she cared for. Parents appreciated her thoughtfulness and care, for example, she had created photo albums with pictures of the children to give as a Christmas gift. Continuity and meeting the children's needs was a priority and parents were able to share information at drop off and pick up times. She also used technology to provide them with a daily log of their children's care. This helped reassure parents that their children were safe and happy.

The childminder used the SCMA (Scottish Childminding Association), recording forms to collate information to support the children's health and welfare. However, these had not always been reviewed every six months with parents to ensure the information remained current and up to date (**see recommendation 1**).

The childminder was beginning to record the children's progress using a big book planning format. This supported the children's learning and helped ensure they took part in activities they enjoy.

In order to safeguard children, the childminder had a good understanding of child protection issues and was able to tell us the correct procedures to follow if concerned about the welfare of a child.

There were no children attending the service who required medication. However, SCMA recording forms were available to use if required.

We observed a positive, nurturing relationship between the child and the childminder. We saw the childminder cuddle and soothe the child when they wakened from a nap. The childminder chatted with the child during lunch to ensure they were happy and enjoying their food. This helped the child feel relaxed, comfortable and at ease.

The childminder provided snacks for the children and had recently introduced meals. The childminder was aware of the guidance Setting the Table and used this to ensure her menus were nutritious and healthy. Milk or water was offered to drink which supported good dental health.

To support physical and emotional health, opportunities were available for the children to play outside in the garden. Sleep patterns from home were well supported, however, the child slept in a pushchair during inspection. This practice is not supported by sleep safe Scotland and we discussed safe sleeping arrangements at home. Further information can be found at:

www.scottishcotdeathtrust.org.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. To meet children's needs as well as their wishes and choices, the childminder must ensure personal plans are in place for children and reviewed every six months or earlier with parents.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS), which state that "My personal plan (sometimes referred to as my care plan) is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices" (HSCS 1.15).

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The premises was small and homely. The environment was clean, however it would be beneficial for the childminder to organise her resources and equipment to allow the children safe and easy access. We discussed rearranging and sorting the clutter to make it more relaxing and spacious for the children to play in.

The environment supported the children to feel included and welcomed. For example, photographs of the children were displayed on the kitchen wall.

The garden was a very pleasant and nice place for the children to play. It was fully grassed at the rear providing opportunities for young children to run around safely. Some loose parts materials were stored in the play house; however these were quite tricky for the children to independently access. During inspection, the minded child used a variety of everyday objects in her imaginative play. This helped develop her inquiry and creativity skills. The children had been involved in some planting and had grown tomato plants from seed. This supported their knowledge of the world around them. The document My World Outdoors provides more inexpensive ideas for outdoor play. This can be found at: www.hub.careinspectorate.com

Basic risk assessments had been completed to help identify any potential hazards and help keep the children safe from harm. However, these had not been reviewed recently. We discussed ensuring a risk assessment was completed with the children before playing with the paddling pool. This will help prevent any accidents. A gate separated the areas accessed by the family pets and the children. This helped keep the area clean and safe for the children to play.

The childminder made good use of the local community and amenities. She regularly took the children to the local toddler group, book bugs, cafes and local parks. She was also very involved in fundraising for new equipment for the local play park. This meant children were aware of their local community, helping them grow into responsible citizens.

The children were encouraged to wash their hands before eating. However, the childminder did not follow best practice procedures and provide children with individual towels. Paper towels used in the kitchen were immediately moved into the bathroom. This will help prevent cross contamination and keep children safe and well. Disposable gloves and aprons were used when nappy changing and a changing table helped keep children safe.

In order to safeguard children, the childminder had attended first aid training and was able to describe how to deal with minor scrapes and more serious emergencies. Accidents and incidents forms were available to record any injuries.

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

The childminder provided a flexible service that was supportive and caring to the families she works with. The importance of working in partnership with the children and their families was valued. This led to positive outcomes for children using the service.

The childminder had a range of policies to support her delivering her service. However, they had not been recently updated to reflect current best practice procedures and guidance. The childminder revised and updated her policies immediately after inspection. This ensured parents had clear information to enable them to accurately evaluate the service.

The childminder had completed recent training in first aid and food hygiene to develop her skills and knowledge to help keep children safe and well. She was enrolled on child protection training to ensure her knowledge was up to date and current. This will help keep children safe from harm, neglect and abuse.

The childminder had attended local authority training to help her support and develop children's learning. As a result, she was beginning to record children's progress and use the information to plan activities the children enjoy. The childminder was aware of the documents, Building the Ambition and Getting it Right for Every Child; however she would benefit from further reading to help ensure she meets the needs of the children in her care.

The childminder had completed the Care Inspectorate self-assessment and told us where she had made improvements to her service. For example, she had introduced the provision of meals for the children. We discussed using the documents My Childminding experience and Your Childminding Journey to further support self-evaluation and improvement.

To help improve her practice the childminder issued annual questionnaires to find out parents views and opinions. As a result she had introduced an online daily diary for the parents to access. The children were able to choose toys and plan some activities. She should continue to develop ways of involving parents and children in making suggestions and comments to ensure the service fully meets their needs.

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

Recommendation 1

The childminder should ensure that all children's personal plans are reviewed every six months.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the Age of 16. Standard 6: Support and Development

This recommendation was made on 16 September 2014.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Personal plans were in place for the children. She used the SCMA (Scottish Childminding Association), recording forms to collate information to support the children's health and welfare. However, these had not always been reviewed every six months with parents to ensure the information remained current and up to date. Therefore this recommendation had not been met and is restated.

Recommendation 2

The childminder to access infection control training to ensure that her practice is up-to-date.

National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the Age of 16. Standard 12: Confidence in Staff

This recommendation was made on 16 September 2014.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had completed infection control training in November 2014. During infection she followed best practice procedures to help keep children safe and well. Therefore this recommendation had been met.

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
16 Sep 2014	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 4 - Good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 5 - Very good
22 Nov 2010	Announced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership Not assessed
7 Jul 2009	Announced	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership Not assessed
22 Jul 2008	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership 4 - Good

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