

Anderson, Kimberley Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced

Inspection completed on: 14 August 2018

Service provided by:

Anderson, Kimberley

Care service number:

CS2017358282

Service provider number:

SP2017989194



The service

Introduction

The childminder provides her childminding service from her semi-detached property in Inchture. The minded children have access to the ground floor accommodation comprising of a living room, kitchen/dining room and a toilet. Children enjoy direct access to the outdoor area at the rear of the house.

The service registered with the Care Inspectorate in August 2017 to provide a care service to a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of 16 years, of whom no more than three are of an age not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is less than 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of the children of the childminder's family.

Other conditions unique to the service state that:

- Minded children cannot be cared for by persons other than those stated on the registration certificate.
- Overnight care will not be provided.

On the day of inspection the childminder was working with one young child. We found that the childminder adheres to the conditions of her registration.

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), 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.

What we did during our inspection

We wrote this report following an unannounced inspection between 09:45 and 11:30 on 14 August 2018. We gave feedback to the childminder at the end of our inspection.

We received three completed Care Standards Questionnaires (CSQs) about this service. In addition to the information provided by parents we gathered information on the service from a range of other sources. These included:

- observation of the child during activities
- observation of the childminder and her interactions with the child in her care
- observation of the environment
- discussion with the childminder
- toys and resources
- children's all about me information
- children's personal scrapbooks
- the childminder's policies
- registration certificate.

Views of people using the service

During the inspection we saw the childminder working with one young child. We could see that she was very comfortable and happy in the care of the childminder.

The childminder showed us the areas the children used in her home and some of the toys and activities they enjoyed playing with. We saw that children would able to choose these easily from a range on offer.

The parents who responded to our Care Standards Questionnaires were very positive about the experiences for their children. They all strongly agreed that they were happy with the quality of care received by their children when using the service. We spoke briefly to a parent as he dropped his child off and he confirmed that he was very happy with the service. Some of the comments from our questionnaires included:

'I was very nervous about putting my children to a childminder, but the minute I met Kimberley, I knew it was a brilliant decision. I really couldn't recommend her highly enough. She is a truly professional childminder but more importantly a 'honary mum' to my children.'

'Kimberley is responsive to the needs of the children in her care and provides a fun and safe service. I have no hesitation in leaving my child with her and recommending her to others.'

Self assessment

The childminder had submitted a self assessment. The information contained in this was helpful during the inspection and in the writing of this report. It provided an accurate reflection of the service, as we experienced it.

What the service did well

The service provided a very warm, caring and supportive atmosphere for children. The childminder was observed to be kind, nurturing and respectful of the child within her care. She had formed close relationships with the minded children and their families and clearly enjoyed being with the children.

What the service could do better

The childminder should consider developing a means to record children's thoughts and ideas to ensure they are included in the planning and delivery of the service. These could be linked to the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

The childminder should begin to involve children and their parents in the evaluation of her service. Comments and suggestions should be collated and used to further improve her service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support5 - Very GoodQuality of environment5 - Very GoodQuality of staffingnot assessedQuality of management and leadership5 - Very Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

From the evidence gathered during the inspection we found that the service was performing to a very good standard in this area.

We discussed child protection and were satisfied with the childminder's knowledge and awareness of her role in safeguarding and protecting children. She had completed some initial training and spoke confidently about this.

We saw that the childminder had a very nurturing approach to the children in her care. She knew them very well and respected their individual needs and wishes. The child attending on the day of our inspection was very relaxed with the childminder and it was evident that they enjoyed spending time together.

The childminder spent time each day with parents as they dropped off or collected children. She promoted an open discussion where families felt confident to share their suggestions and talk through any concerns. She used 'All About Me' documents, completed by parents, to find out basic information about their individual needs, emergency contact information and their likes and dislikes. She maintained similar routines to children's own home routines as much as possible, using information provided by parents.

The childminder shared care information through a daily diary. This contained details of the children's activities and experiences as well as details about meals, snacks, sleeps and nappy changes. She also used a private social media page, Whatsapp and text messages to ensure parents were kept well-informed about their child whilst attending the service. Children had their own journals which shared photographs and descriptions of activities they had been engaged in. We suggested that children could be involved in commenting on and reviewing some of their experiences to ensure their opinions were included and their thoughts were respected.

The childminder was very aware of her role in making sure that the children were kept active. She offered daily opportunities for outdoor play.

Parents told us that the childminder provided a very good range of meals and snacks to meet the needs of children in her care. They told us:

'Kimberley takes great care to adhere to my son's allergies and provides great options for him so he never feels left out.'

'My daughter is provided with healthy nutritious snacks which vary at each session. Her lunches are always fresh and well-balanced ensuring she is provided with a nutritious healthy meal.'

The childminder had developed a clear medication policy. The records we saw had been completed appropriately and reflected her policy. We would ask her to begin to include more detail to ensure she is confident in when medications should be administered.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

From the evidence gathered during the inspection we found that the service was performing to a very good standard in this area. We concluded this after talking with the childminder and looking round the childminder's home.

From our observations we saw that the childminder's home was clean, tidy and smoke free. The play areas provided children with plenty of space and comfort to play, eat, rest, relax and explore. Children had access to a range of resources which were stored in easily accessible boxes. Children had a good awareness of the resources available to them. We discussed the inclusion of natural open-ended resources to support children's creativity, problem solving and collaborative play.

The childminder used her garden on a regular basis. It appeared to be safe and secure. The large shed contained resources to ensure that children were kept healthy and active. We saw that the childminder was aware of the need for children to have regular daily, outdoor, active play. This contributed to the health and wellbeing of the children.

The childminder made good use of the local community and its amenities. She told us about trips they had taken during the summer holidays and about regular walks, trips to the park and visits to a local toddler group. Children had been involved in #InchtureRocks which involved decorating stones and leaving them in locations throughout Inchture for others to find. We saw photographs of the fun children had decorating, hiding and discovering those left by others.

The childminder had the appropriate paper work in place to record accidents and incidents. She recorded the cause, effect and any actions she had taken and gave a signed copy to the parent whilst keeping a copy for her own records.

We did not observe a nappy change however we asked the childminder to talk us through her procedure. We suggested a small change to be made to her routine and reminded her of the importance of supporting even the youngest of children in hand washing to minimise the spread of infection.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Inspection report

Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

From the evidence gathered during the inspection we found that the service was performing to a very good standard in this area. We concluded this after talking with the childminder and looking at supporting paperwork and individual records.

This was the childminder's first inspection since registering her service in August 2017. She had completed induction training with the Perth and Kinross childcare strategy team. She had found this to be a very positive experience and continued to access the training and support which they offered. She had booked a place on a number of forthcoming courses to increase her knowledge.

We looked at some of the childminder's policies and procedures and found that they reflected best practice. These had been shared with parents and provided them with good information about the aims and objectives of her service and how she planned to deliver a safe and effective service to meet their needs.

The childminder was committed to ensuring the children in her service were well cared for and enjoyed their time with her. She had a very good knowledge of the families and asked them to complete comprehensive 'All About Me' information to ensure she had detailed information about each child as they began to use her service. As a result, parents felt respected and included by the service.

The childminder had not asked children or parents to formally evaluate her service. She told us that she intended to do this and would provide feedback on the results, making any necessary improvements to the service she offered.

The childminder had recently become a member of the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) and had begun to use their publications and website for advice and support. She informed us that she used the Care Inspectorate Hub to access up-to-date information and publications. She attended a variety of community groups with the children and enjoyed meeting and sharing her experiences with other childminders. They supported each other.

The childminder promoted openness with the families with whom she worked. A full range of policies and information was offered to parents and carers when they began to use the service.

The childminder had completed a range of risk assessments to minimise the risks for children attending her service. We suggested that the older children attending could be involved in reviewing and writing risk assessments.

We found the childminder to be enthusiastic and committed to providing the very best for the children and the families with whom she worked. We saw evidence of happy, well nurtured children who were being treated with respect and who were enjoying their play. The childminder should now act on improvements discussed at this inspection to further develop and improve her service.

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 report

Inspection and grading history

This service does not have any prior inspection history or grades.

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