

## **Simpson, Kirsty** **Child Minding**

Type of inspection: Unannounced  
Inspection completed on: 14 June 2018

**Service provided by:**  
Simpson, Kirsty

**Service provider number:**  
SP2003900368

**Care service number:**  
CS2003001613

## The service

### Introduction

Kirsty Simpson is registered as a childminding service to provide care to children in a home environment. The service has been registered since 1 April 2011.

Current registration is 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. An exception being that between the hours of 8:00 - 9:00 and 15:00- 16:30 when seven named children under 16 years may be cared for, 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 part of the premises not to be used is the first floor of the property. Overnight care will not be provided.

The childminder provided her service from her home in Bridge of Don. The childminder's home was within access to the local schools and amenities such as the community centre and various parks and woods. Children had access to a good sized playroom which is separate to the childminder's living room. There was also an enclosed back garden for the children to play in.

Aims of the childminding service included:

- to provide quality childcare in a friendly, safe and caring environment
- to provide learning and development opportunities using a range of play activities and equipment
- to encourage children to be independent.

### What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following an unannounced inspection which took place between 10:30 and 12:30 on 16 June 2018. The inspection was carried out by a Care Inspectorate inspector.

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

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 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 SHANNARI wellbeing indicators.

### Views of people using the service

There was one young child present at the time of inspection. They were observed to be very happy and engaged in their play and during snack time.

We received three parent questionnaires before the inspection. All contained very positive feedback. Comments from the parents included:

"Kirsty is an excellent childminder. My children love going to Kirsty's and also ask to go when it's not their days. She provides a very safe, fun and lovely home away from home."

"Kirsty has been our childminder for six years. We have always been delighted with the level of care she has given our children. They love going and we couldn't ask for a kinder, more attentive and thoughtful childminder. We have used other childminder's in the past and Kirsty is by far the best."

"Kirsty is very flexible. Our child runs straight in and always looks forward to going."

## Self assessment

The childminder completed a self assessment. It detailed how she gained information from children and parents and areas for improvement.

## What the service did well

The childminder had very good interactions with the child. She had a very good knowledge on safety within her home to ensure the children were kept safe at all times. She also kept very detailed assessments on the children to allow her to plan for suitable activities supporting them to develop.

## What the service could do better

The childminder provided a professional, high quality learning experience for the children in her care. She should review her medication policy so that it is in line with current guidance. No children were on any medications during the inspection.

## 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 observed very good interaction between the childminder and child present. She engaged with the child during activities, snack time and assisted in potty training giving the child lots of praise and encouragement. This helped to make the child feel settled and secure whilst at the service.

The childminder knew the children very well. She kept very detailed care plans in place for the children that were current to the children's specific needs. They included additional information surrounding children's allergies. She used this information and her knowledge to keep children safe.

Children's medical records contained relevant information such as signs and symptoms of allergies. No children were on long-term medication. The childminder should update her medication policy for short term medication. We signposted her to the medication policy – management of medication in daycare of children and childminding services, this can be found at: [www.hub.careinspectorate.com](http://www.hub.careinspectorate.com).

The childminder tracked children's development daily to a high standard and identified next steps in their learning and the action to be taken. Each child had observations linking to the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators. Pictures were also used to evidence children's progress. She also had very good knowledge on child development and used this to provide activities to support children to progress and achieve. Parents could access these files to see where their child was at in their learning.

Effective arrangements were in place to safeguard children. The comprehensive child protection policy provided clear guidance to follow in the event of any concerns. The childminder had attended child protection training and had very good knowledge of potential signs and symptoms and the procedures to follow to help keep children safe.

Children were provided with nutritious food, supporting them to be healthy and towards good dental hygiene. 'Setting the Table' (the national document with information on healthy food and drink options) was used along with children's ideas for snack. The child and childminder sat together at the table making snack a sociable experience helping to develop the child's language skills supporting them to achieve.

Communication with parents was very good. There was a parents' information area that included pictures of the children doing activities on the SHANARRI wheel. This enabled parents to see how the childminder was supporting all aspects of their child's development.

## Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

## Recommendations

**Number of recommendations:** 0

**Grade:** 5 – very good

## Quality of environment

### Findings from the inspection

The children were cared for in a safe, very clean and secure environment that offered the children a home from home experience.

Children had access to the playroom and the outdoor garden. They had access to a wide range of resources and

experiences that were age and stage appropriate to support their development. The child present could choose from playing with the wooden toy kitchen, book area, choice boxes at child's level and texture baskets. The activities were nicely presented and looked exciting to the child. During the inspection the child was engaged in the indoor loose parts tray that contained many exciting items. This supported children's investigation and creative skills.

Children could develop their creativity, problem solving skills and imagination through the activities and experiences provided by the childminder. The garden contained many exciting activities such as a tuff tray, mud kitchen, loose parts, chalk board and an electric cable wheel used as a table which featured locks and padlocks, a tap and a wheel for children to explore. The childminder had built these fun items herself.

Children's achievement's were celebrated. Their work and experiences were displayed on the walls for parents to see.

The children benefitted from exploring a natural environment with regular access to fresh air and opportunities to be kept active. They visited local woods and parks and local walks. Pictures of this were displayed in children's files and on the walls.

Older children benefited from the lego table and magnetix construction. They were also learning about the World Cup as a project. Football games and results were displayed on the wall in a table along with a world map with information on the various countries. The younger children were part of this too if they wanted to.

We signposted the childminder to 'Our Creative Journey' to further extend the activities she provides to the children.

<http://hub.careinspectorate.com/media/603624/our-creative-journey-aug-17-master-combined.pdf>

The childminder was aware of safety within her home and kept risk assessments that reflected how she ensured children were kept safe whilst in her care. Accident and incident records were kept correctly and shared with parents. Correct infection control procedures were followed regarding handwashing and toileting reducing the risk of spreading infection.

Children's achievements were celebrated. Their work and experiences were displayed on the walls for parents to see.

## 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

We found the quality of management and leadership of the service to be a very good standard. The childminder was professional, enthusiastic and was keen to improve her service and always looking for new ideas.

The childminder was an active participant in a local childminding group. She discussed how this supported her to keep up to date with current best practice, including the sharing of information on policies and procedures as well as the recording of information. The childminder also used other resources to keep abreast of current practice such as the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) magazine, the Care Inspectorate magazine and various online websites and social media sites. We also suggested the use of the Care Inspectorate Hub to seek new ideas and find best practice guidance to further provide the best outcomes for children.

The childminder had a valid registration certificate, insurance and training certificates for parents and carers to see. This assured parents that the childminder was registered with the appropriate agencies and held the correct insurance to care for children.

Core training was kept up to date to support to keep children safe and meet their health needs. In addition, the child minder had done recent online training such as 'Loose Parts'. We could see how she had used this training to provide fantastic resources for the children to use. She was looking to do more formal training in the future in area she was interested in the enhance children's learning.

The childminder sought children's and parents' views regularly and in a variety of ways. The children and parents completed a questionnaire about what they liked about the service and any improvements that could be made to develop the service. As a result of this feedback, the children are provided with different types of healthy snacks. Regular verbal discussions took place between children, families and the childminder, which encouraged their involvement and inclusion. There was a comments book situated at the front door for parents and children to use. Small notelets were regularly given to the children to gain their ideas and suggestions. Younger children could help choose from picture books with available toys.

The childminder evaluated her service against current frameworks such as 'Building the Ambition'. This was also evidenced through observation of her practice.

### 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](http://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
26 Jun 2014	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>5 - Very good</div>

Date	Type	Gradings	
28 Jun 2010	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	6 - Excellent
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
19 Feb 2009	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	6 - Excellent
		Staffing	6 - Excellent
		Management and leadership	Not assessed

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