

Peace, Aileen Child Minding

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

Service provided by:
Peace, Aileen

Service provider number:
SP2013984896

Care service number:
CS2013317340

The service

Introduction

Aileen Peace is registered as a childminding service to provide care to children in a home environment. The service has been registered since 25 July 2013.

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. From 8 November 2017 to 29 June 2018, at the times stated below*, the care service may be provided to a maximum of seven 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. Overnight care will not be provided.

*School term times- Wednesdays 3pm to 4pm.

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 living room in which to play. There was also an enclosed back garden.

Aims of the childminding service included:

- to provide a warm and friendly environment to children and parents
- to make children feel safe, secure and happy in their learning and play.

What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following an unannounced inspection which took place between 10:00 and 12:00 on 14 June 2018. The inspection was carried out by a Care Inspectorate inspector.

During this inspection we spoke to the childminder and children present. We observed the care given by the child minder 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.

Views of people using the service

There were two children present at the time of inspection. They were observed to be very happy and engaged in their play during the inspection. Comments from the children included:

"We still have to do the farmer and the dog."

"Look at the lizard."

"I like the babies."

"This is my favourite book."

"Look at my pet."

"Here is a jewel."

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

"Aileen is accommodating and we discuss my child's needs as appropriate."

"They visit play parks, go for walks, trips to the shops etc."

Self assessment

The self assessment contained detailed information regarding what the childminder had been doing with her service since the last inspection. The self assessment should be more evaluative and focused on children's outcomes.

What the service did well

The childminder had good interactions with the children. She is working towards SVQ 3 and was knowledgeable in how to provide good outcomes for children. The childminder knew the children and families very well and made sure home routines were being followed to meet the needs of the children.

What the service could do better

Children's care plans needed to be formally updated to keep within best practice guidance for keeping children safe. The childminder was in the process of updating children's care plans and reviewing her policies.

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

We observed good interaction between the childminder and children. She was caring towards them making them feel secure and also allowed them to have choice over their play.

The childminder provided nutritious food and drink to help keep children healthy. Snack time was a sociable experience with the children and childminder chatting, developing children's language development.

To further develop children's literacy and numeracy skills, the childminder read stories enthusiastically to the children. They also looked at a book with numbers and the children were encouraged to count, supporting them to achieve.

Children's art work was celebrated and on display on the window for parents and children to see. The children had been learning about farms and were excited to speak to us about what they had been learning.

The childminder had detailed care plans in place for the children and knew the children and families very well. She used this information to meet children's individual needs. Children's care plans needed to be formally updated to keep within best practice guidance. The childminder was in the process of updating children's care plans and reviewing her policies. She should ensure children's care plans are formally reviewed every six months or when required due to the changing needs of the children. **(See recommendation 1.)**

The childminder kept a more informal note in her diary of the current changing needs of the children.

The childminder discussed her plans to include observations of children and linking them with the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators to track where children are at in their learning and development. Currently, pictures of children playing and learning new experiences were used to evidence children's development.

Effective arrangements were in place to safeguard children. The child protection policy was detailed and provided clear guidance for the childminder to follow in the event of any concerns. The childminder had attended child protection training and had good knowledge of potential signs and symptoms and the procedures to follow to help keep children safe. The childminder was aware of the importance of children's wellbeing and the use of chronologies and we saw how these were being used in her service.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 1

1. Children's care plans need to be formally updated to keep within best practice guidance for keeping children safe. The childminder should ensure children's care plans are formally reviewed every six months or when required due to the changing needs of the children.

This ensures that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, which states that "My personal plan (sometimes referred to as a 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 children were cared for in a safe, clean and secure environment that offered the children a home from home experience.

The childminder was aware of safety within her home and kept risk assessments that reflected how the childminder ensured children were kept safe whilst in her care. We saw risk assessments for indoors, outdoors and trips taken with the children. She also kept a record of accidents and incidents that occurred which were signed by parents once informed. To further support children's safety the childminder conducted weekly maintenance checks of her home.

Children had access to a range of resources that were age and stage appropriate to support their development. They could also sit and play or eat at child's sized table and chairs within the play area. The children could choose from dolls, prams, lego, construction, books, puzzles and games to develop their imaginative play and problem solving skills. The children were also being creative and decorated their own keyring. Children's play could be extended through the use of more open ended natural resources.

The childminder enjoyed craft and baking activities with the children. We signposted her to the document Our Creative Journey to explore this area further with the children.

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

Children's knives and chopping boards had been purchased so that they could help with preparing snack and lunch. This will provide the children with another opportunity to be independent.

The children had regular access to fresh air and opportunities to be kept active. There was a large garden that was well maintained. Parents' feedback was that they agreed and strongly agreed the childminder makes good use of the community with the children. The children visited the local parks, woods and went for walks regularly. We signposted the childminder to the document 'My World Outdoors' to further extend the children's outdoor learning.

http://www.careinspectorate.com/images/documents/3091/My_world_outdoors_-_early_years_good_practice_2016.pdf

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 found the quality of management and leadership to be of a good standard. The childminder was professional, enthusiastic and keen to improve her service.

The childminder was working towards a childcare qualification at SVQ level 3 and was a member of the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA). Studying for this qualification and childcare experience provided her with deeper knowledge on how to provide the best outcomes on caring for children supporting them to achieve and be kept safe.

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.

In addition, the childminder was involved in setting up a local childminding group. The group of childminders met up with children to play, share new experiences with each other and to support each other in their childminding businesses. She also gained ideas on messy play activities from The Creation Station to encourage children's exploration and creativity.

The childminder had looked at ways to develop her service she provided for the children and their families. She had sent out a yearly questionnaire to parents to gain their views on improving the service. Also, she was to be reviewing the document 'My Childminding Experience' and had received visits from the childcare development officer. The childminder planned to provide more 'Loose Parts' play for the children to develop their investigation skills. She had asked parents to donate items.

The childminder had developed positive relationships with the children and families. The parents' feedback was that they would feel comfortable addressing any issue they had with the childminder. There was a yearly parents' night where the childminder and parents got together to view a slideshow and celebration of the children's learning.

We discussed how to source information from the Care Inspectorate website, www.careinspectorate.com, including accessing 'The Hub', an online knowledge resource for Scotland's care and social work professionals.

The complaints policy needs to include the Care Inspectorate's updated address.

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
27 May 2014	Announced (short notice)	<div>Care and support</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>4 - Good</div> <div>4 - Good</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>4 - Good</div>

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