

Butler, Michelle and Stephen Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 12 December 2018

Service provided by:
Butler, Michelle & Stephen

Service provider number:
SP2003905856

Care service number:
CS2003011986

Introduction

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Prior to 1 April 2011, this function was carried out by the Care Commission. Information in relation to all care services is available on our website at www.careinspectorate.com.

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

We are 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 is 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.' Information relating to this can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright>

Michelle and Stephen Butler provide a large childminding service from their family home, which is situated on a modern estate in Mid Calder. Minded children have access to the sitting room/dining room and a quiet room, kitchen and bathroom on the ground floor. There is a back garden which is equipped with a large range of outdoor equipment and they sometimes play outside with the childminder on an area free from traffic.

Michelle is a qualified nursery nurse who is highly experienced in childcare and has approximately 16 years experience as a childminder.

Stephen works full time outwith the childminding service but due to his shift pattern is often at home and is registered as a childminder so can play an active part in the life of the childminding service.

The childminders are registered to provide a care service to a maximum of eight children under the age of 16 years, of whom a maximum of six will be under 12 of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under 12 months of age. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.

Overnight care may not be provided.

The childminder operates her service from the family home which is a ground floor flat in a residential area of Mid Calder, West Lothian where she lives close to local shops and amenities, and has access to public transport.

The aims of the service include;

To provide a happy safe environment for children.

To provide a selection of toys and activities to stimulate and encourage all aspects of children's development.

Treat children as individuals.

Healthy eating will be encouraged as well as good practice such as hand washing.

What we did during our inspection

We carried out an unannounced inspection on Wednesday 12 December 2018 between 12:15 and 14:15.

During this inspection process we looked around the areas of the childminder's home used by minded children and gathered evidence from:

- The annual return which was submitted before the inspection.
- Children's information folders and daily diaries.
- Policies including medication, child protection, complaints, accidents and incidents and infection control.
- Certificate of registration.
- Public liability insurance.
- Photographs of children participating in activities.
- Observation of practice.
- Training

Views of people using the service

Two pre-school children were present during the inspection. Although too young to share their views we saw that they were comfortable and happy in the care of the childminder. As she knew the children well, the resources available catered for their interests which meant they could choose what they wanted to do. Children engaged in a range of activities with the childminder such as singing, reading stories and playing with the dolls and buggies.

We received one parent questionnaire before the inspection. They were happy with the service provided. They told us that they regularly discussed their child's needs with the childminder. They were happy that the childminder catered for their likes and dislikes as well as encouraging them to try new things. The parents told us the childminder's routine supported their child's needs. They were satisfied with the range of activities and outings they could be involved in.

Self assessment

We did not receive a self assessment before the inspection.

What the service did well

The childminder interacted with the children in a positive way throughout the inspection. As she knew them well she provided resources that supported their play.

What the service could do better

The childminder should further develop children's personal plans to ensure that six monthly reviews are included to show children's progress and next steps.

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	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

At the start of their placement the childminder gathered appropriate information about children and used it to plan their care which ensured they experienced a consistent approach to their routines. Throughout the inspection, the childminder's positive interactions with children meant they had fun and enjoyed their time there. Because she knew the children well, the childminder had a consistent approach when supporting them. This meant that they were learning to share which was helping them develop friendships and play together. As they were praised and encouraged in what they were doing, children had positive play experiences as they were supported to use their imagination and develop their activities.

The childminder had an understanding of the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators and described how they were used in everyday practice to support children's development. For example we saw that activities available were suitable for children's learning, they had opportunities for active play and were encouraged to learn social skills. Daily diaries were used to share this information with parents and noted children's achievements which were linked to their current developmental needs. It was clear where strategies parents used were implemented by the childminder. One area the childminder needs to further develop is the six monthly review. We saw the format she has in place, but this was not completed for all children. This document should be completed so there is a record of children's progress and agreed next steps for their continued development.

Children's health and wellbeing was well supported as they had regular opportunities to play outdoors, walking to the school on a daily basis, eating healthy snacks and were encouraged in good habits, such as hand washing. The childminder followed children's routines and prepared them for what was happening next. For example reading a story and singing before they were going for a sleep. She was also responsive to children's needs and got children up when it was apparent they were not settling to sleep.

The childminder recorded when medication was administered to children. We asked the childminder to get a copy of Management of medication in daycare of children and childminding services as this outlines all the information that needs to be recorded. She should review and update her policy to reflect this.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The childminder provided a homely environment for children which was welcoming and friendly. Her home was very well maintained and organised for the children. The childminder described the established systems she had in place to ensure the environment was clean, risk assessed and safe for children. We were satisfied the childminder had a very good understanding of current infection control and safety procedures which she implemented to ensure that children could play safely in and outdoors.

The childminder told us how she planned activities and outings for children, dependent on who was attending. This meant that children could experience a range of activities such as imaginative play, go to the park and attend toddler group. Toys were rotated so that they were suitable for the children who were attending and ensured they had a variety of play experiences to promote their development.

Children mainly played in the lounge, where resources and toys were readily available to them. They were in a good state of repair and suitable for the children to use. They played with toys that supported imaginative play, read stories with the childminder and enjoyed action songs. The garden was fully enclosed and a safe area for children to play.

Parents told us that very good use was made of community resources as the childminder took children to the park, library, music and book groups and sots play. Appropriate permission for children's outings was in place.

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 experienced childminder had built up her skills and knowledge over a number of years. She had a range of policies and procedures in place to support her practice which she shared with parents. She had established good systems that showed how she supported children and operated her service. These were shared with parents so they were aware of what to expect from the service and know how their children were well cared for.

The childminder and parents told us about the positive relationships they had developed which helped them share information and ensure children's needs were met by the child centred approach.

To keep up-to-date with current practice and promote her professional development, the childminder used best practice guidance, publications from the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA), the Care Inspectorate Hub and internet. Since her last inspection the childminder had undertaken counselling training and talked about how this has helped develop how she communicated with parents. We asked the childminder to note what training, research or best practice guidance she completed or used and show how it had helped develop her service.

We talked to the childminder about the new Health and Social Care Standards which will be used at inspection to assess care service. She should become familiar with this document and begin to use it when evaluating her service.

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
7 Feb 2017	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 5 - Very good
26 Feb 2015	Unannounced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 5 - Very good
20 Dec 2012	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 6 - Excellent Environment 5 - Very good Staffing 6 - Excellent Management and leadership Not assessed

Date	Type	Gradings	
16 Jun 2009	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	6 - Excellent
		Staffing	6 - Excellent
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
23 Apr 2008	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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