

Campbell, Melanie

Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)
Inspection completed on: 8 February 2019

Service provided by:
Campbell, Melanie

Service provider number:
SP2011982697

Care service number:
CS2011299337

Introduction

The Care Inspectorate regulates care services in Scotland. Information about all care services is available on our website at www.careinspectorate.com

This service was registered with the Care Inspectorate on 12 October 2011.

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). Set up by Scottish Government, GIRFEC is a national approach to working in a consistent way with all children and young people. It is underpinned by the principles of prevention and early intervention. The approach helps services focus on what makes a positive difference for children and young people – and what they can do to improve. Getting it right for every child is being woven into all policy, practice, strategy and legislation that affect children, young people and their families.

There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child. They are safe; healthy; achieving; nurtured; active; respected; responsible; and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators, we use these indicators at inspection, to assess how services are making a positive difference for children.

Melanie Campbell is registered to provide a childminding service from the family home in an area of Bathgate, Livingston, West Lothian. The service is provided from a detached house, which is conveniently situated close to local amenities and bus links.

The lower floor is used by the minded children. This comprises of a living room, playroom, kitchen and bathroom. Two children were present at the time of the inspection; aged from two to four years old.

The service is registered to care for a maximum of six children who are under 16 years of age. Numbers are inclusive of the childminder's own family: Of those six, no more than three are not yet attending primary school and of those three, no more than one is under 12 months old.

One additional named child not yet attending primary school may be cared for from 6 December 2018 until 28 June 2019 on a Thursday, 0800 hours to 1700 hours, term time only.

Minded children cannot be cared for by persons other than those named on the certificate.

No overnight care will be provided.

A summary of the aims and objectives are as follows:

"To provide a safe and happy place for children, where they can learn, grow and have fun!
All planned activities, experiences and resources will be adapted to suit the needs of all children in the setting".

What we did during our inspection

We wrote this report following a short-announced inspection carried out by an inspector on 5 February 2019 from 10:00 hours to 12:00 hours where we met two minded children. They were two and four years of age. We gave feedback to Ms Campbell on our findings during the inspection and contacted her on 8 February 2019 to provide her with the inspection grades.

We sent questionnaires to Ms Campbell to distribute to parents/carers. One questionnaire was returned to us. The parent who made comments said that overall, they were very happy with the service.

During the inspection, we gathered evidence from a variety of sources including discussion with Ms Campbell. We engaged with the minded children and observed how the children played together. We examined some records that included information on the children and some policies; such as, child protection. We spoke about the range of activities on offer to the children. We considered the general environment and the equipment used in the provision of the childcare service.

Views of people using the service

We observed that the children played well with one another and the children had a warm, caring relationship with Ms Campbell. We spoke with both the children and they were able to tell us a little about their day. We observed that the children were very happy at the service.

Some of the comments made by a parent:

"Melanie is a fantastic childminder who my children enjoy going to which speaks volumes to me".

"She asks how they have been and if there is anything she needs to know when they are dropped off. She always caters for their needs".

"Very organised".

"There are always lots of toys and activities in the playroom. As soon as I drop them off, they disappear and play unprompted. She also has a great garden with toys for the children".

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a fully completed self-assessment from Ms Campbell. She identified what she thought she did well.

The self-assessment submitted was of a good standard and an appropriate reflection of the positive practice identified during the inspection.

What the service did well

Ms Campbell continues to develop and keep her Post Registration Training up to date. This has a very positive impact on the service provided.

The childminder has very good knowledge of the minded children's needs and how they are progressing. She uses this information to provide for their wellbeing.

Ms Campbell has built a professional, caring relationship with children and families. She involved children and parents in her service to help her improve her service.

What the service could do better

Ms Campbell should continue to develop her service with parents and children's input.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	6 - Excellent
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

The parent questionnaire returned to us clearly showed that Ms Campbell regularly obtained and encouraged the views of parents and children. She used their comments and linked this to the child's interest and routine at home. Ms Campbell provided a child led service giving children an excellent influence on the service offered. This meant that parents' and children's views were greatly valued and respected.

At the time of the inspection, Ms Campbell had seven children on her register, most were part-time. The youngest was nine months old and the oldest four years of age. Ms Campbell kept a very well documented 'personal child profile' on each child. These were based on good practice publications; such as, the Pre-Birth-3 Curriculum, Curriculum for Excellence and the eight wellbeing indicators that are at the heart of 'Getting it right for every child'. These are often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators. This helped the childminder to promote each child's needs individually linking to the SHANNARI indicators.

Photographs of the children taken showed a wide selection of activities children took part in. Ms Campbell told us that parents loved having a look at the photographs. This also helped Ms Campbell to monitor their child's development and to plan for their next step.

Ms Campbell told us she had recently encouraged children in the preparation of lunch. This has encouraged children to try new and different foods in which they may never have had before; for example, cucumber sandwiches, home-made food and various fruits. The childminder has linked her university degree in looking at the involvement that children have at home with regards to meal planning and preparation. This showed Ms Campbell's commitment to promoting children's health and wellbeing.

Parents had access to several policies and procedures. This gave them an overview of how well Ms Campbell carried out her daily work. We saw how well she kept records on the children. This was very well linked to the child's home routine.

The children were observed to engage warmly with Ms Campbell. She listened to and responded to their needs.

She helped to direct them and encourage them in their chosen play. Overall, we found the care and support provided to be excellent.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 6 – excellent

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

Children had access to a warm, cosy and homely environment. We noted how well the resources indoors and outdoors provided a very good balance of learning experiences for children.

Ms Campbell provided a well-planned and sensitively thought-out environment that helped to foster and promote the wellbeing of children. We observed how well she listened to the children in what they wanted to do and supported them in their choices. Good practice guidance, including 'My World Outdoors', supported the childminder to provide a very good environment.

Play space indoors was thoughtfully arranged to support children to move around safely, from room to room. The arrangement enabled children to make real choices; play alone or together in different areas of the home, such as, the playroom, living room, or kitchen, where children were supervised by Ms Campbell. There was an attractive enclosed child friendly garden.

We noted that children were reminded of the importance of personal hygiene, such as, washing their hands before eating and after using the toilet. There were child friendly posters in the bathroom that gently reminded children of the importance of washing their hands. This promoted children to have life-long hygiene habits that will support their health and wellbeing.

Ms Campbell told us how well the garden provided the children with various activities. She told us she had recently adapted the toys to suit the environment by obtaining recycled tyres from a local garage and various planks of timber. This has encouraged children to use their imagination and promoted problem solving skills. Parents have been included, with some parents providing timber from their workplace.

Ms Campbell told us 'Loose Parts Play' was also included in children's play and how this has enhanced children's mathematical development and numeracy. The setting provided children with a very good learning environment.

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 noted through our discussion with Ms Campbell how well she applied her childcare experience, qualification and training to her every day practice. This clearly supported her to provide a child led service.

Ms Campbell has made several improvements to her service since her last inspection and some of these are mentioned below:

Activities are better planned to use the SHANNARI indicators; for example, posters highlighting the indicators. This has helped children and parents to understand the indicators and how this linked to the child's learning.

Children are encouraged to help with planning using visual methods, such as photographs and books.

The pedagogical perspectives are at the forefront of the childminders planning. Children are encouraged to have a voice. Parents are invited to use this approach at home.

Ms Campbell recently asked that parents offer ideas on courses in which they would like her to access which would benefit their children.

To help Ms Campbell evaluate her service, she teamed up with other childminders to support one another and share ideas.

She is now in her third year undertaking a BA in Childhood Practice at Dundee University to help her continue to develop her service.

Ms Campbell received the Care Inspectorate newsletter and was aware of the Care Inspectorate 'Hub'. This supported her with new developments, publications and legislation.

We talked to the childminder about her child protection policy, which she shared with parents. We were satisfied that she understood her responsibilities in relation to the protection and wellbeing of children.

Ms Campbell continues to evaluate her service and has identified areas for future development. This clearly showed commitment to her role as a very good childminder.

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 and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
11 Mar 2015	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
20 Sep 2012	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed

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