

## Weddell, Angela Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)  
Inspection completed on: 12 March 2019

**Service provided by:**  
Weddell, Angela

**Service provider number:**  
SP2008970044

**Care service number:**  
CS2008177397

## Introduction

Angela Weddell provides a childminding service from her home which is located in a residential area of the town. Various local facilities are within walking distance. Aims of the service include the following:

- To provide for the health, safety and happiness of the children
- To work in partnership with parents
- To offer a range of activities and experiences

The service may operate under the following conditions:

- To provide a care service to a maximum of six children under 12 years of age 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
- The parts of the premises not to be used are the right and middle back bedrooms

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 GIRFEC: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible, and included (often referred to as the SHANARRI indicators).

## What we did during our inspection

The service was registered by the Care Inspectorate in 2011. This inspection took place on Tuesday 12th March 2019 and was carried out by one inspector. We visited at short notice and provided feedback to the childminder on the same day.

We sent three Care Standards Questionnaires (CSQs) to the childminder to distribute to relatives and carers of people who used the service. We received two completed questionnaires and have taken account of the feedback provided.

During this inspection we gathered evidence from a number of sources, including the following: We spoke with the childminder and the minded child who was present. We observed the childminder's practice and interactions with the child and inspected the areas used by minded children. We also looked at childminding records.

We took account of all of the above information when we evaluated this service.

## Views of people using the service

The child who was present was happy and settled in the childminder's care. She enjoyed choosing what she wanted to play with from a selection of toys which were easily accessible. She later sat on the childminder's lap where she was cuddled to sleep before being placed on the sofa to continue with her nap.

## Self assessment

The childminder did not complete a self assessment prior to our inspection. The self assessment can be a helpful tool which can be used to reflect on the service being provided and to consider whether any improvements are needed. We advised the childminder that the self assessment can be updated at any time, in line with any developments in the service. This would allow her to record changes as these take place, in preparation for submitting the self assessment when asked to do so.

## What the service did well

Ms Weddell accommodates the needs of both parents and children. She offers a caring environment where minded children can feel safe and secure.

## What the service could do better

Children's plans should be further developed in partnership with parents. A better understanding of good practice guidance could help Ms Weddell to maintain and improve the quality of care.

## 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

The childminder had formed good working relationships with parents and children. Settling in visits were offered to help children and their parents to familiarise themselves with the service and the childminder used a range of methods to communicate on an on-going basis. This helped ensure continuity between home and the service and contributed towards children's needs being understood and met. Parents confirmed that they were consulted and we saw that parents' consent had been sought for some activities. We recommended that written consent be obtained when appropriate, to avoid the risk of any misunderstandings.

The childminder interacted well with the child who was present, encouraging her to express herself and make choices. She responded well to this warm, nurturing approach and was clearly at ease in the setting. She was encouraged to choose what she wanted to play with and confidently accessed play materials. Ms Weddell sat close to the child, readily involving herself in her play when appropriate. She recognised when the child was becoming tired and cuddled her on her lap until she fell asleep.

Through discussion, we concluded that the childminder knew the children well and was aware of individual needs. We previously discussed the need for a personal plan for each child which reflects progress and

achievements and shows how individual needs are being met in consultation with parents. Ms Weddell had introduced a care plan organiser to help her with her record keeping. She had begun to make some brief recordings; however she needed to extend these to provide more information. A brief review from time to time would provide an opportunity for discussion about each child's progress and could encourage parents to provide their input. This would support the childminder in ensuring that children's plans remain appropriate to their needs and reflect parents' views.

See recommendation 1

Ms Weddell explained that she was providing a part-time service and time restrictions limited the range of activities she was able to offer. She told us that she talked to the children about what they would like to do. She used local facilities including parks, and toddlers groups. Children walked to and from local facilities which meant that they had daily fresh air and exercise. They were able to learn about keeping themselves safe during their daily activities.

Ms Weddell liaised with parents regarding children's health and any dietary requirements. She told us that she supplied breakfast, if needed, and lunches which included home cooked foods and yogurt. The childminder confirmed that fruit was usually available although the children who attended after school often chose crisps for their snack.

Ms Weddell told us that the children were encouraged to be caring and considerate towards one another and that they generally enjoyed spending time together. There had been no issues regarding behaviour. A parent told us "My child is very happy and settled. She has positive relationships with the childminder and the children in her care".

We discussed what the childminder would do in the event of any child protection issues and found that she was aware of her obligation to act on any concerns. She had not had any recent training in this area. Further learning could extend her skills and knowledge of child protection issues and contribute towards children being safe and well protected.

## Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

## Recommendations

**Number of recommendations:** 1

1. The childminder should develop a personal plan for each of the children in her care, in consultation with parents. These should reflect ways in which the service meets individual needs and include details of any significant discussions with parents.

(ii) Personal plans must be reviewed no less than every 6 months and updated as required.

Reference: Health and Social Care Standards, standard 1: I experience high quality care and support that is right for me

1.15 My personal plan is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices

**Grade:** 4 - good

## Quality of environment

### Findings from the inspection

The property is located in a residential area. The accommodation was well maintained and appropriately furnished and equipped for childminding purposes. The sitting room provided a base for the children's activities and the storage of play materials. The kitchen was adjacent and could be used at mealtimes. The toilet was upstairs and older children could access this themselves, which helped promote their independence.

Children had access to a range of age-appropriate resources, some of which were easily accessible so that they could select what they wanted to play with. Play materials were rotated, depending on the ages and interests of the children present. There was adequate space where children could set out their toys and activities. Daily routines involved time for free play at home as well as visits to toddlers groups and local parks. The enclosed garden provided a safe space for outdoor activities. This was overseen from the patio door in the sitting room which made it easy for the childminder to supervise the children at all times. The children had some supervised contact with the family's small dog.

Ms Weddell had a good awareness of safety issues and carried out visual inspections of the areas used by children on an on-going basis. There had been no significant accidents or incidents affecting minded children; however, the childminder was aware of the need to record details of any occurrences and to inform parents about what had happened and any action taken.

We discussed infection control practices. Ms Weddell told us that she encouraged routine hand washing. She was not yet registered with the environmental health service as a food provider and we asked her to follow this up.

Nappy changing was understood to be carried out hygienically. Parents generally kept their children at home if they were unwell. These measures minimised the risk of the spread of infection.

### 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

Ms Weddell was providing a part-time service at the time of inspection. She told us that she welcomed feedback from parents and took account of their views so that they could remain fully involved in their child's care.

Ms Weddell had some contact with other childminders and took part in occasional joint activities. She was a member of the Scottish Childminding Association and knew where to access relevant information about childcare and childminding issues. Ms Weddell sometimes used the Hub, for example (Care Inspectorate online resource library), and was aware of some relevant guidance which is in place to help ensure good outcomes for children. We made her aware of some further recent publications which are in place to support improvement and encouraged her to make more use of good practice guidance to help her evaluate her service and develop children's experiences.

Ms Weddell had some understanding of regulatory issues. She had submitted an annual return to the Care Inspectorate when asked to do so and was aware of the need to make formal notifications, in certain circumstances. Record keeping was satisfactory overall. A Disclosure Scotland check was outstanding in relation to a member of the household and we are working with Ms Waddell to address this.

Ms Weddell provided confirmation of public liability insurance. This may provide a degree of protection to herself and to families in the event of any incidents arising.

## 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

### Requirement 1

Children's information must include a written plan on how the service users health, welfare and safety needs are being met. This information along with registration information must be reviewed easily accessible and reviewed at least once every six months.

This is in order to comply with The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) regulations 2011, SSI 2011/210 Regulation 5(1) and (2) (b) (i), (ii), and (iii) and take account of National Care Standard 3 Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16 - Health and Wellbeing

Timescale for implementation: 4 weeks from receipt of this report.

**This requirement was made on 4 November 2014.**

## Action taken on previous requirement

The childminder had obtained relevant documentation from the Scottish Childminding Association to support her in developing children's plans. Records needed to be further developed (a recommendation is made).

**Met - outwith timescales**

## 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
4 Nov 2014	Unannounced	Care and support Environment
		5 - Very good 5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
		Staffing Management and leadership	Not assessed 4 - Good
26 Nov 2010	Announced (short notice)	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good Not assessed Not assessed Not assessed
9 Nov 2009	Announced	Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership	4 - Good 4 - Good 4 - Good Not assessed



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