

## Paterson, Kerry Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)  
Inspection completed on: 1 May 2019

**Service provided by:**

**Service provider number:**  
SP2005947191

**Care service number:**  
CS2005096905

## Introduction

The service was registered with the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

The childminding service is operated by Kerry Paterson, who is referred to as 'the childminder' in this report and is registered 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. Numbers are inclusive of children in the childminder's family. The care service may operate Monday to Friday, between the hours of 7.00am and 7.00pm. The parts of the premises not to be used are the bedrooms on the first floor.

The service is provided from the childminder's home within a residential area on the outskirts of town. Local facilities include school, nursery, community centre, church, library, shops, woods and play park which can be accessed on foot or by car. The areas of the accommodation to be used for childminding are the lounge, kitchen/diner, bathroom and rear garden.

We completed this inspection over two days. There were four minded children present during the inspection on the first day, aged six, eleven and two ten year olds. On the second day there were two children aged three and five years.

## What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following a short notice announced inspection, which took place over two days between 15:15 and 16:00 on 29 April 2019 and between 10:10 and 11:05 on 1 May 2019. The inspection was carried out by an early years inspector.

During this inspection we gathered evidence from various sources:

We spoke to:

- the childminder
- the minded children present.

We looked at:

- observations of the childminder and her interaction with the children
- observations of the children at play
- a sample of children's records of learning
- a sample of other documentation relevant to this inspection
- equipment, resources and the environment
- Certificate of Registration.

We check services are meeting the principles of Getting It Right For Every Child (also known as GIRFEC). This is 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. They are: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. They are often referred to as the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

## Views of people using the service

Children happily spoke to the inspector about their experiences and preferences at the service. They all appeared happy, relaxed and at home. A sample of comments is shown below;

"We like going outside."

"Playing outside and board games, like Connect 4 and Snakes and Ladders and Ludo."

"I like playing with friends at Kerry's."

"We like playing football."

"We went outside this morning but it started raining."

"We came in and went to the toilet and washed our hands and had snack."

We issued three Care Standards Questionnaires to the childminder to hand out to the parents of the children who used her service. All three completed questionnaires were returned to us. These comments were shared with the childminder and a sample of these is shown below;

"I am sending my child to Kerry who I trust and have developed a great relationship with myself. She is kind and caring and provides the nurture which my child has needed and continues to need as she grows and develops. Kerry is developing a bond with all of the children in her care and has supported each one to form strong attachments with her."

"Kerry is an amazing childminder. She has minded my children for several years and they love her so much. I feel my children are in safe hands and I can talk to Kerry about everything."

"Kerry regularly asks us what our child is interested in and then continues that theme into her daily activities. My child's folder is always available to look through and there are plenty of opportunities for us to comment on our child's care. A recently introduced childminding app is another avenue to share our views and comments. Meals and snacks are extremely healthy and well balanced and our child likes to help make home made soup. There are regular visits to the local park, woods, library and plenty of opportunities for outdoor play with mud kitchen, loose parts and wheeled toys."

## Self assessment

The childminder submitted a detailed and fully completed self assessment to us before the inspection took place. We were satisfied with the information provided which included areas of strength and areas for further development.

## What the service did well

The childminder provides a home from home experience for children, who are relaxed and happy in her care. Positive attachments to the childminder enhanced children's feelings of belonging. Regular opportunities to be active continued to be effectively promoted and children's individual needs were met in a responsive way to promote continuity of care and children's achievements. The childminder had also met the recommendations made at the previous inspection.

## What the service could do better

We made no recommendations or requirements within this report for best practice. The childminder should continue to deliver the quality of care seen during inspection and quality assurance her service to support continuous improvement.

## 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

The childminder worked very well to develop relationships and understand each child by working with parents to sensitively support children's individual needs. She shared an example of her approach with a child and how this supported their development. This demonstrated that children were respected and supported as individuals to succeed and achieve in her care.

Effective links with routines from the family home were in place, such as ensuring children maintained access to their karate classes and other activities they wished to try. This meant children were provided with continuity because the childminder tried to maintain their normal home routines and children continued with their personal hobbies and interests.

The nutritional needs of children were met through the provision of healthy snacks and meals in line with current guidance. Children were encouraged to try new foods to develop their tastes and were kept hydrated, ensuring they remained healthy. Food intolerance and allergies were carefully planned for and discussed with parents which ensured children's continued wellbeing.

The childminder ensured each child experienced and chose from a balanced range of activities. This was confirmed through photographs seen, resources and children's positive comments. Children were included in planning their experiences and activities and, as a result, were happy and enjoying themselves.

Children were independent and confident as the childminder actively encouraged them to attend to their own personal needs and make decision, such as when choosing to play outside in the rain. She provided guidance and support when needed allowing children to have more control over their play. Older children were also actively encouraged to identify their own next steps within their own journals, providing them with further control and influence over their time in the service.

Children's behaviour was managed effectively and positively within the service. The childminder confirmed they had discussions about any issue and would be encouraged to do a 'chill out' activity such as helping to make the snack. This allowed children to learn how to manage their emotions and self regulate.

We discussed how the childminder could develop experiences to promote children's resilience. We advised of further information available on 'resilience' and 'adverse childhood experiences' to support her continuing professional development. This would allow the childminder to further enhance positive emotional development in the children in her care.

## Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

## Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

## Quality of environment

### Findings from the inspection

The home and equipment were welcoming, clean and tidy with appropriate systems in place for regular cleaning. All resources seen were safe and appropriate for purpose. This reduced the risk of cross infection and contributed to keeping children safe and healthy.

Children enjoyed their play as there was a wide choice of toys and resources to choose from both indoors and outdoors to support all aspects of their development. The childminder had made a very good start to introducing 'loose parts' play materials both inside and outside the home. These materials supported children's curiosity and creative play experiences by providing further variety and adding to their learning and enjoyment.

The childminder took positive steps to reduce risks to children. These included completing detailed risk assessments, regular fire drills, testing smoke alarms, use of relevant safety equipment and no access to the internet. These measures supported children to remain safe whilst in the childminder's care.

The childminder told us about the procedures she would follow if she had a child protection concern and held a good understanding of the process and signs of abuse. She had a written child protection statement which she shared with parents to ensure they were aware of the steps she would take if she had a concern. This contributed to children's continued safety.

Children were familiar with their local community as the childminder ensured regular use of resources within it and the extended area. This included library visits, activities at the local church, toddler groups and frequent use of the local woodland. These opportunities enhanced children's social connections, physical wellbeing and helped them to construct their own identities within their community.

## 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 childminder ensured that parents and children were given regular formal and informal opportunities to comment on her service. They included chats when children were dropped off and picked up and questionnaires with open ended questions. This allowed children and parents to influence the service received.

The childminder was committed to furthering her own personal and professional development and current studies provided further understanding about children's health. This learning had impacted on supporting children in her care and developing her service.

Professional best practice guidance documents were effectively used to develop the service. The childminder discussed a range of these including the most recently produced documents and their impact, such as the development of loose parts play for children. She actively accessed online resources and relevant websites including the Care Inspectorate 'hub' and had recently refreshed child protection and first aid training. This active learning ensured that practice reflected current guidance and legislation, contributing to children's overall positive experiences and enjoyment.

The childminder had reflected positively on her previous inspection and addressed all recommendations made. She maintained effective communication and was aware of the notifications procedures to the Care Inspectorate.

The Certificate of Registration was displayed during minded hours, ensuring parents could identify that she was complying with the terms contained within it.

Personal plans were in place with a system for reviewing these every six months. This ensured that children's information was up to date to support continuity of their care.

The childminder was not registered with the Information Commissioner's Office for data protection. We reminded her of the criteria for this which she confirmed she would address. Children's data was currently protected through appropriate storage and policies held on confidentiality and GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation).

## 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

### Recommendation 1

The childminder should develop children's journals to ensure she is recording children's development and next steps. This would demonstrate children's progress and support the childminder to continue to support and meet children's current needs.

This recommendation was made on 7 May 2015.

## Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had now developed journals for older children as well as the younger children and was identifying relevant next steps. Older children were highly involved in their own journal. This recommendation is now met.

## Recommendation 2

The childminder should review and update risk assessments on the home, garden and outings. These should demonstrate the hazard and the control measures. These should be reviewed annually or sooner if there is any new risk identified or any changes to the environment. This would enhance the continued safety of children.

**This recommendation was made on 7 May 2015.**

## Action taken on previous recommendation

Risk assessments had been completed and visual checks continued to be carried out. This recommendation is now met.

## Recommendation 3

The childminder should review and update the policy and system for recording administration of medicines to include; triggers leading to the need for long term medication, time last dosage was given, signed confirmation the parent has given the first dose and confirmation of no adverse reactions. Guidance on the 'management of medication in day care of children and childminding services' can be found on our website [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com). The aim is to ensure the continued health and wellbeing of the child.

**This recommendation was made on 7 May 2015.**

## Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had reviewed systems to ensure they were in line with current best practice guidance. This recommendation is now met.

## Recommendation 4

The childminder should review all personal care plan information when the provider is requested to do so by the service user or if there is any significant change to a child's health, welfare or safety needs and at least once in every six month period. These should be dated to support regular review.

**This recommendation was made on 7 May 2015.**

## Action taken on previous recommendation

Evidence demonstrated that children's information was being reviewed every six months. This recommendation has now been met.

## 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
7 May 2015	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment 5 - Very good Staffing Not assessed Management and leadership 5 - Very good
13 May 2011	Announced	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership Not assessed
25 Jan 2010	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 5 - Very good Environment Not assessed Staffing 5 - Very good Management and leadership Not assessed
17 Feb 2009	Announced (short notice)	Care and support 4 - Good Environment 4 - Good Staffing 4 - Good Management and leadership Not assessed

## To find out more

This inspection report is published by the Care Inspectorate. You can download this report and others from our website.

Care services in Scotland cannot operate unless they are registered with the Care Inspectorate. We inspect, award grades and help services to improve. We also investigate complaints about care services and can take action when things aren't good enough.

Please get in touch with us if you would like more information or have any concerns about a care service.

You can also read more about our work online at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://www.careinspectorate.com)

## Contact us

Care Inspectorate  
Compass House  
11 Riverside Drive  
Dundee  
DD1 4NY

[enquiries@careinspectorate.com](mailto:enquiries@careinspectorate.com)

0345 600 9527

Find us on Facebook

Twitter: @careinspect

## Other languages and formats

This report is available in other languages and formats on request.

Tha am foillseachadh seo ri fhaighinn ann an cruthannan is cànan eile ma nithear iartras.

অনুরোধসাপেক্ষে এই প্রকাশনাটি অন্য ফরম্যাট এবং অন্যান্য ভাষায় পাওয়া যায়।

یہ اشاعت درخواست کرنے پر دیگر شکلوں اور دیگر زبانوں میں فراہم کی جاسکتی ہے۔

ਬੇਨਤੀ 'ਤੇ ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰਨਾਂ ਭਾਸ਼ਾਵਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹੈ।

هذه الوثيقة متوفرة بلغات ونماذج أخرى عند الطلب

本出版品有其他格式和其他語言備索。

Na życzenie niniejsza publikacja dostępna jest także w innych formatach oraz językach.