

Beveridge, Julie **Child Minding**

Type of inspection: Announced
Inspection completed on: 27 June 2019

Service provided by:
Beveridge, Julie

Service provider number:
SP2012983887

Care service number:
CS2012310590

Introduction

Mrs Beveridge provides a childminding service from her own home which is located in a residential area within walking distance of local facilities, including the nursery, primary school and play parks. She does not use a car for childminding purposes.

The service may operate under the following conditions:

1. To provide a care service to a maximum of five children under the age of 16 years, at any given time, of whom no more than four are under the age of 12 years, no more than three are not yet attending primary school and no more than one is under 12 months. These numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family.
2. Overnight care may not be provided
3. Minded children cannot be cared for by persons other than those named on the certificate
4. Only the lower level of the house may be used
5. The garden area to the rear of the house may not be used for childminding purposes.

The aims of the service included the following:

- To support children emotionally, developmentally, educationally, physically and socially.
- To provide for their health and safety and aim to keep them as happy as possible.
- To treat everyone in my care equally and with respect

At the time of inspection there were five children registered to use the service, all of whom attended on a part-time basis. There were two pre-school children present during our visit.

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 2013. We carried out this inspection at short notice on Thursday 27th June 2019. We provided feedback to the childminder during the inspection.

We sent three Care Standards Questionnaires (CSQs) to the childminder to distribute to relatives and carers of people who used the service. We received one completed questionnaire.

During this inspection we gathered evidence from a number of sources. We spoke with the childminder and observed her practice and interactions with the children. We saw the areas of the home used for childminding purposes and 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 two children who were present responded well to the childminder's caring manner and were relaxed and at ease in the setting. They were able to access toys and play materials of their choice and played happily throughout our visit, choosing to involve the childminder in their play from time to time.

One parent submitted a questionnaire. This reflected satisfaction with the service and included the following comment:

"I find her easy to talk to. The children have been in her care for a number of years."

Self assessment

The childminder did not take the opportunity to submit a self assessment as part of the inspection process. The self assessment is a useful tool which can help childminders to evaluate their service and identify areas for improvement. The document can be updated as changes are made, in preparation for submission when requested.

What the service did well

Mrs Beveridge offers a caring environment in which children can feel safe and secure. She enjoys spending time with the children both at home and in the local area, enabling them to learn about the environment and make use of various facilities including parks and the library.

What the service could do better

Mrs Beveridge should extend her knowledge of childcare and childminding issues with a view to further developing children's experiences.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Quality of care and support | 4 - Good |
| Quality of environment | 3 - Adequate |
| Quality of staffing | not assessed |
| Quality of management and leadership | 3 - Adequate |

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

Mrs Beveridge felt that she had formed good working relationships with parents, some of whom were known to her before their child/children joined the service. Parents and children were able to visit the service prior to the child's start date. This allowed them to find out what was provided and helped children settle in. Daily chats with parents helped ensure continuity between home and the service.

Mrs Beveridge enjoyed spending time with the children and they responded well to her friendly, inclusive approach. Interaction was positive which helped children feel safe and secure and promoted good self-esteem. Minded children were encouraged to be caring and considerate towards one another. The service did not always operate to its registered capacity which meant that Mrs Beveridge was well placed to provide a high level of support to the children who were present. She told us that she often used her time to introduce new games and activities which supported the children's learning. One parent had told her, for example, that her child's speech was coming along very well which she attributed to the fact that the childminder talks a great deal to the children.

Daily routines included opportunities for free play within the home and garden as well as outings within the local community. Mrs Beveridge did not use a car for childminding purposes which meant that the children often experienced fresh air and exercise. Children who needed to rest could sleep in their buggy or on the sofa.

Mrs Beveridge provided snacks and meals for minded children. One of the children told us that she had a sandwich, yogurt, apple for lunch. Mrs Beveridge confirmed that she tried to ensure a healthy diet for the children and encouraged them to try new foods. A parent told us "The childminder is aware of any dislikes my children have and all meals are home cooked."

Mrs Beveridge felt that she knew the children well and enjoyed seeing them progress. She was aware of the need to maintain personal plans for minded children and gathered relevant information when they joined the service which helped her to be aware of individual needs. She was also recording monthly summaries about each child's placement and sharing these with parents. This was good practice and provided an opportunity for parents to give feedback on the service as well as to discuss any specific requests regarding their child's care.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The accommodation was comfortably furnished and smoke free. The sitting room and hall provided a base for minded children. They also had access to the kitchen where they could carry out more messy activities. Play materials were stored where they were easily accessible, so that the children could choose what they wanted to play with. Mrs Beveridge had a large selection of toys and these were rotated so that there was always something new to interest the children. There was adequate space for children to set out their toys and activities.

The front garden provided an enclosed outdoor play space. Toys and equipment were taken outside as needed. Mrs Beveridge told us that she was mindful of the concrete surface and the potential for children hurting themselves while playing. For this reason she made sure that children were well supervised at all times.

Mrs Beveridge supported children to learn about the environment. They enjoyed outings within the local area, often using their time outdoors to explore and access local facilities, including the local community centre and library. Mrs Beveridge told us that she particularly enjoyed taking the children to the nearby Lochore Meadows which provides a diverse environment for the children to explore, as well as a play park where they can extend their physical skills.

We discussed infection control practices. We saw that areas used by the children were adequately maintained. Children learned about the importance of routine hand washing and nappy changing was carried out hygienically. Parents were asked to keep children at home when they were ill. Mrs Beveridge had registered with the Food Standards Agency and had received useful guidance on the safe storage and preparation of food. These measures helped to reduce the risk of infection and should have a positive impact on children's health.

There were no obvious hazards at the time of our visit. Mrs Beveridge was aware that care needs to be taken to ensure that play areas do not become unduly cluttered as this can impact on the quality of the environment. Mrs Beveridge confirmed that there had been no significant accidents or incidents; however, she was aware of the need to record details of any occurrences and to inform parents about what had happened and any action taken. Mrs Beveridge did not hold a current first aid certificate; however, she hoped to access training, as previously recommended.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 3 – adequate

Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

Mrs Beveridge impressed as respectful of children and their parents and told us that she encouraged them to express their views. She aimed to provide support to the family as a whole, and was willing to offer a flexible service which was responsive to their changing needs.

Mrs Beveridge had several years experience as a childminder; however, she had not benefited from any formal training since the date of registration. We encourage childminders to undertake some form of learning from time to time, to enhance their skills and knowledge. This, in turn, can contribute towards improved outcomes for children. Mrs Beveridge was aware of some relevant guidance which is in place and we directed her to some further publications, all of which may be accessed via the Hub (Care Inspectorate online resource library). We recommended that she should make more use of these documents to further her understanding of childcare and childminding issues. This, in turn, could help her evaluate her service and identify ways in which she can further promote children's wellbeing and learning. Mrs Beveridge was a member of the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) which is a useful source of information, guidance and support.

Mrs Beveridge had a broad understanding of regulatory issues. She generally submitted information 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. We asked Mrs Beveridge to ensure that emergency contacts are recorded for each of the children, in addition to the parents' details.

Written information was available to parents who were considering using the service. Mrs Beveridge agreed to review and update this to ensure it was accurate. Mrs Beveridge provided details of her public liability policy. 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: 3 - adequate

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 |
|-------------|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 31 Jul 2018 | Announced | <div>Care and support</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>3 - Adequate</div> <div>3 - Adequate</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>3 - Adequate</div> |

| Date | Type | Gradings | |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 Aug 2017 | Unannounced | Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership | 3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate Not assessed 2 - Weak |
| 2 Dec 2016 | Unannounced | Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership | 3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate Not assessed 3 - Adequate |
| 2 Sep 2015 | Unannounced | Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership | 3 - Adequate 3 - Adequate Not assessed 3 - Adequate |
| 25 Aug 2014 | Announced (short notice) | Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership | 3 - Adequate 2 - Weak Not assessed 3 - Adequate |
| 11 Feb 2014 | Announced (short notice) | Care and support Environment Staffing Management and leadership | 3 - Adequate 2 - Weak 3 - Adequate Not assessed |

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