

Violet's Childminding Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 21 June 2019

Service provided by:
Rennie, Violet

Service provider number:
SP2013985172

Care service number:
CS2013319266

Introduction

Violet Rennie, referred to as 'the childminder' in this report, is registered to provide a service to a maximum of six children 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 the childminder's family.

The service is provided from the childminder's home in a residential area in Sighthill in Edinburgh. The service is near local schools, shops and libraries. The children have access to the living room, kitchen and bathroom within the home and the back garden is used for outdoor play.

The aims and objectives of the service include:

- To develop the social skills necessary to help build friendships.
- To learn to work in harmony alongside their peers.
- To develop their social skills, mental and physical skills and knowledge of the world around them to help prepare for the transition to school and the life challenges ahead.
- Each child will be treated as an individual.
- I aim to offer a balanced curriculum, in a home environment of stimulating and constructive play and activities to develop creativity and imagination.

What we did during our inspection

We carried out an unannounced inspection on 21 June 2019.

On the day of inspection there was one minded child present. Three of the childminder's own grandchildren were visiting during the inspection.

During the inspection we observed the interactions between the childminder and the minded child. We spoke to the childminder about the service she provided and observed the child in their play. We walked around all areas of the home used by the minded children. We looked at resources available and the use of space. We looked at relevant paperwork and documents related to the service and the children who used it. We discussed the childminder's policies and procedures, as well as looking at any quality assurance information.

Views of people using the service

The minded child present was happy and relaxed throughout the inspection and was actively engaged in a range of opportunities available throughout.

We received two Care Standard Questionnaire (CSQ's) comments included were:

"The childminder and I chat a lot about (childs) routines, likes and dislikes"

"The childminder provides a healthy snack"

"The childminder is very approachable"

"My child loves spending time at Violets house and they have a great bond"

"The childminder is very accommodating and flexible"

"The childminder regularly asks if any information needs to be updated"

"The childminder's house is suitable for my child she provides lots of different toys. Her home is lovely and spacious for (child) to play."

"The childminder is fantastic and I could not fault her for anything. She is so good and my child loves going. She is really welcoming, friendly and an excellent childminder."

Self assessment

The childminder had completed a self assessment prior to the inspection. This identified both strengths of the service and areas of improvement.

What the service did well

Children benefitted from the warm and responsive approach provided by the childminder. This supported children to feel included and respected. Children were provided with a range of opportunities that supported and developed imaginative skills and creativity.

What the service could do better

Children would benefit from more opportunities to explore open-ended play. This would develop their natural curiosity and enquiry skills.

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

Children presented as happy, relaxed and confident in the childminders care. The warm and responsive approach offered meant that children were supported to feel nurtured and secure.

The childminder knew the children well and had all relevant information for them in personal plans which informed of how to meet their needs and interests. The information was gathered prior to children starting and provided a continuity of care from home. This supported parents to feel included in their child's care and build positive and trusting relationships with the childminder. Since the last inspection the childminder had updated her knowledge of Getting It Right for Every Child (GIRFEC). She had developed the plans to incorporate the wellbeing indicators. This supported children's health and wellbeing. The plans were reviewed regularly with parents to keep the information current and relevant.

Children benefitted from the positive relationships that had been built with the childminder. We saw that the minded child present was relaxed and comfortable in the childminders care. They were treated respectfully, and their views and ideas valued. Parents were positive in their comments of the childminders relationship with children and one commented "My child loves spending time at (childminders) house and they have a great bond."

There were a range of opportunities and experiences to meet children's interests and needs. We saw the minded child having fun and the freedom to explore a range of materials and activities. The childminder demonstrated her knowledge of children's developmental stages. She identified small goals that were set of children which were identified through observation, discussion with children or at the request of parents. One example was in building a child's confidence in learning to ride a bike. Children's achievements were valued, recognised and praised. This helped to build children's self-esteem and confidence. We discussed with the childminder ways to identify and record children's progress and next steps. This would extend children's learning and promote positive outcomes for children.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

Children experienced a warm and welcoming environment which was safe and well maintained. It offered a homely feel that supported children to feel relaxed and settled.

Children had access to a range of materials and resources that met their individual needs and interests. Indoors there were open play boxes that included construction toys, creative art boxes and opportunities for imaginative play and role play. Further resources were available in the outdoor storage area that children could easily access. The secure rear garden was accessible from the kitchen and offered daily opportunities for children to be active and energetic. The free flow approach between the house and garden meant children could move independently and choose where and what they wanted to play with. This supported their development in choice and decision-making skills.

We saw the minded child enjoying playing in the garden and having fun with the childminders grandchildren. They were playing cooperatively with each other and laughing and joking as they took turns on the chute. We could see that the minded child had developed clear friendships with the childminders grandchildren and was included in a homely environment. The garden was in the process of being developed and the fixed trampoline had been recently removed. The children were encouraged to give their views and ideas of further additions to the garden which supported the development of the service.

To support children's natural learning through curiosity and enquiry we discussed with the childminder that she could introduce open-ended materials and natural resources. Open ended materials can be used in multiple ways. They can empower children's imagination and creativity as well as encouraging them to explore and manage risk.

Children were active and included in the local community as the childminder made good use of community resources to support and extend children's experiences. They had opportunities to go to the local park, the playpark and walks along "the quarry" which had resident swans. This allowed for children to learn about the natural world around them.

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

The childminder had relevant policies and procedures in place to promote the effective delivery of the service and to support children's wellbeing. We discussed it would be good practice to review them regularly with parents to ensure they continued to be relevant and current.

As a member of the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) the childminder had access to best practice guidance and legislation through their website and publications. The childminder had access to the Care Inspectorate Hub and we discussed accessing it regularly to keep updated on current best practice documents. This would enhance her skills and promote continued positive outcomes for children.

Children were safe and healthy as the childminder had recently completed child protection training. She was clear in her role in keeping children safe and was confident in identifying and reporting any concerns. She had a good understanding of her regulatory responsibilities and was aware of the notifications which should be made to the Care Inspectorate. She had also completed food hygiene training. She was awaiting a first aid course which was to be accessed through the local community group of the Scottish Childminding Association.

Children benefitted from the childminder continuing in her own development. She had accessed online training webinars including outdoor play for children. We discussed ways that the childminder could record and reflect on the positive impact of training as part of her self evaluation of the service.

Parents feedback of the service was done both verbally and through regular questionnaires. Parents were positive about the childminder and commented that the "childminder is fantastic and I could not fault her for anything. She is so good and my child loves going."

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

Recommendation 1

We recommend the childminder familiarise herself with GIRFEC and the children's named person for information sharing across agencies. She should use the SHANARRI (Safe, Healthy, Active, Nurtured, Achieving, Responsible, Respected and Included) to complement her assessment of individual children. This will ensure the service adheres to new legislation surrounding the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act (2014) available at URL: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2014/8/contents/enacted> and help to keep children safe.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that "I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice" (HSCS 4.11).

This recommendation was made on 17 September 2018.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had familiarised herself with GIRFEC and had begun to further develop personal plans by incorporating the wellbeing indicators in supporting children's health and wellbeing.

This recommendation has now been met.

Recommendation 2

The childminder should further familiarise herself with legislation, best practice and guidance documents that are relevant to her service. She should also enhance her knowledge and skills in relevant training including (yet not limited to) child protection, first aid, food hygiene and building the ambition. Doing this would allow her to consider improvements that could be made in order to keep up to date with best practice and consider her own strengths and areas for development.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that "I experience high quality care and support based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice" (4.11).

This recommendation was made on 17 September 2018.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder was able to demonstrate her knowledge of legislation, best practice and guidance documents. She had completed child protection training in June 2019 and was awaiting an available place for first Aid training arranged through the local childminding group. She had carried out online webinar training which included outdoor play. She planned to continue to access further online training.

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.

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
2 Aug 2018	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate
24 Nov 2014	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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