

Morrison, Isabel **Child Minding**

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 23 July 2019

Service provided by:
Isobel Morrison

Service provider number:
SP2003905607

Care service number:
CS2003011297

Introduction

This service has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since 01 April 2002.

Isabel Morrison, referred to as the childminder throughout this report, provides a small childminding service. The care service may be provided to a maximum of 6 children at any one time up to age 16 years, of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than 1 is under 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family. Other conditions of registration: Minded children cannot be cared for by persons other than those stated on this certificate. Overnight care will not be provided.

The childminder provides her childminding service from her home in Falkirk. She uses the areas available in her home to provide a range of age appropriate activities and to meet children's individual needs. During the inspection the child present enjoyed following the instructions to build lego models in the lounge and had a snack sitting at the table. The garden and the local community provided opportunities for children to be active and achieve through visits to museums and local parks.

The main aims of the service included:

"to provide a service in a friendly, caring, warm and safe home from home environment for children to have fun; for parents to be happy with the service and to provide a good variety of toys and activities both indoor and outdoor." A full statement of aims and objectives is available from the service on request.

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. Information on SHANARRI can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/Young-People/gettingitright>

What we did during our inspection

We wrote this report following a short notice inspection. This was carried out by one early learning and childcare inspector on Tuesday 23 July 2019. We visited between 09:30 and 11:30. We provided feedback to the childminder at the end of the inspection process.

As part of the inspection, we took account of the annual return and the self-assessment that we asked the childminder to complete and submit to us. We sent three care standard questionnaires asking the childminder to distribute them to parents. We did not receive any completed questionnaires.

During the inspection we gathered evidence from several sources, including the following:

We spoke with:

- the child present
- the childminder.

We observed and viewed:

- the environment
- the childminder's practice and interactions with the child
- the child playing.

We looked at the following evidence:

- children's records.
- a sample of policies and procedures
- administration of medication recording format
- photographs of children's experiences
- accident incident recording format
- registration certificate
- Public liability certificate.

We took account of the above information when we evaluated the service and wrote this report. Please note that parents and carers will be referred to as parents throughout the report.

Views of people using the service

The child present during our visit was relaxed and confident in the service. He told the childminder about his holiday and showed her his scrap book of holiday photographs. He made choices about the activities he wanted to be involved in including building 'lego' models and told us about some of the other experiences he enjoyed in the service including a trip on the train to the National Museum of Scotland, completing homework topics including the Human Body and the Romans and playing cricket. The childminder responded well to the needs of the child using warmth, kindness and compassion.

Self assessment

Every year childminders must complete a 'self-assessment' form telling us how their service is performing. We check to make sure this assessment is accurate.

What the service did well

Children were becoming emotionally resilient and were developing a strong sense of identity and wellbeing. For example, they showed kindness and compassion towards the childminder and her family following the death of the pet dog. Risky activities including preparing snack and cooking activities supported children to develop life skills and to stay safe. They were developing confidence and self-esteem as a result. Regularly accessing the Care Inspectorate Hub meant that the childminder was aware of current practice. For example, she had recently reflected on the benefits of open-ended play experiences including loose parts and the use of natural resources.

What the service could do better

We discussed ways that the childminder could develop self-evaluation in the service and sign posted her to good practice that will support this process. The children currently attending the service were at primary school and

attended mainly during term time. The childminder recognised that she would need to evaluate and develop her practice should she register young children in the service.

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 in partnership with parents to agree the care and support that met children's individual needs. Effective communication ensured parents and children felt valued and included in the service. For instance, they had opportunities to make suggestions and give their views about the quality of the service. Following a process of consultation, children had chosen to buy new pens and ingredients to make slime resulting in the activities being planned around their interests and preferences.

Children were supported to achieve through their enjoyment of a range of age appropriate activities. The childminder told us that, even though children only attended for short periods before and after school, she ensured that they all had opportunities to be included in the range of activities provided. They enjoyed playing with the Frisbee or the bats and balls at the park, playing board games or helping to prepare snack. A favourite activity was to make slime. The child present told us that he had been able to explore topics as part of his homework assignments including the human body and Egypt. A recent trip in the train to the National Museum of Scotland had meant he had a photograph standing next to an Egyptian Mummy. Walking to and from school each day and having healthy snacks and drinks supported children to make healthy lifestyle choices. Helping with cooking activities meant that they were developing life skills and learning to stay safe. Following the death of the childminders pet dog, children had been supported to talk about how they felt having been involved in walking the pet dog. Children had decided to decorate pots and plant flowers in memory of the dog. They were becoming emotionally resilient and developing a strong sense of identity and wellbeing as a result.

The childminder took steps to protect the children in her care meeting their health, welfare and safety needs. She demonstrated a knowledge and understanding of child protection, appropriately recorded accidents and incidents and had formats in place to record the administration of medication.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

Children were cared for in a homely environment that supported them to relax and to have fun when taking part in a range of age appropriate activities. Children were achieving and building confidence when being supported to try more challenging activities including for example, following the instructions when building 'lego' and 'mecano' models. The childminder recognised that providing open-ended play activities including loose parts supported children to develop skills in early science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). These activities stimulated children's natural curiosity, learning and creativity. Children felt safe and secure through having a sense of belonging in the family home and opportunities to achieve and develop a variety of skills as a result of their experiences.

A variety of opportunities that enabled children to freely explore the outdoor environment and access the local community supported them to develop confidence and resilience. When children attended in the school holiday's they enjoyed outings including trips on the train and visits to museums. One child told us about making music and having a photo beside an Egyptian 'Mummy'. The childminder was aware of the benefits of children having access to the natural environment and open-ended play experiences. She encouraged children to develop social and physical skills, confidence, self-esteem and creativity as a result.

The childminder managed her environment well to promote children's safety and wellbeing. For example, she carried out risk assessments and put measures in place to reduce hazards. She was aware of good practice in infection control and promoted appropriate hand hygiene practices. We saw that resources were clean, safe and suitable for the different stages and interests of children attending the service. This contributed to children's health and wellbeing.

The childminder was aware of good practice guidance that supports evaluation and development of the environment and experiences for children. We have referenced some of the guidance she was aware of and used in practice:

My World Outdoors - available at www.hub.careinspectorate.com

Loose Parts Play - available at www.inspiringscotland.org.uk

Our creative journey available at www.hub.careinspectorate.com

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 had a nurturing approach towards children and a very good knowledge and understanding of child development. She was sensitive to the individual needs of children and worked closely with parents to agree how best to support them to achieve. She demonstrated a kind, caring and compassionate approach with the child present who felt valued and included in the service as a result.

The childminder had a professional attitude to managing her service. She continued to develop her knowledge and understanding of childcare issues through access to training and research of current practice guidance. For example, regularly accessing refresher training in child protection and paediatric first aid ensured that she was familiar with current practice keeping children safe and healthy. She had reflected on current best practice including how she could provide open-ended experiences using loose parts and natural resources stimulating children's natural curiosity, learning and creativity. She had discussed this with children who agreed that cooking and baking activities, scientific experiments including making slime and access to the outdoor environment supported this development. Awareness of legislation and current standards and maintaining and reviewing records and personal plans to a very good standard, reassured families and gave them confidence that the service was managed well, and children's wellbeing was supported. The childminder had maintained her record of continuous development to show what she was learning and how this was used in practice to benefit outcomes for children.

The childminder included parents and children when reviewing and developing the quality of the service. They felt valued and had a sense of belonging as a result. This meant that outcomes for children were improving and they were benefitting from quality experiences. Parents had commented positively about the service when asked for feedback. On-going consultation regarding the changing needs of children resulted in improved care and support. Children were involved in suggesting activities and evaluating their experiences. The use of the wellbeing indicators supported children to chat about how they were being supported to be safe, healthy, active, nurtured, respected, responsible and included. We discussed ways that self-evaluation could be further developed in the service and sign posted the childminder to good practice guidance that will support this process:

Your Childminding Journey available at www.childmindingjourney.scot
My Childminding Experience available at www.hub.careinspectorate.com
National Health and Social Care Standards - available at www.scot.gov.uk

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
13 May 2015	3	<div>Care and support</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>5 - Very good</div>

Date	Type	Gradings	
10 May 2013	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
15 Apr 2010	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	6 - Excellent
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
24 Apr 2008	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	6 - Excellent
		Staffing	6 - Excellent
		Management and leadership	6 - Excellent

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