

Findlay, Donna **Child Minding**

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 11 November 2019

Service provided by:
Findlay, Donna

Service provider number:
SP2014986044

Care service number:
CS2014327479

Introduction

This service registered with the Care Inspectorate on 22 July 2014. She 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 the childminder's family.

The childminder operates from her terraced family home in a residential area of Kirkwall. The rooms used for childminding are on the ground floor of the house and there is also a large, enclosed garden for the children.

She aims to provide a safe, clean, non-smoking environment where children aged 0 - 12 years will be cared for. She aims to enable the child to have fun, develop and learn through play, and will work with the parents for the good of the child.

The Care Inspectorate 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 services that can help them. There are eight wellbeing indicators at the heart of Getting it right for every child: safe; healthy; achieving; nurtured; active; respected; responsible; and included.

What we did during our inspection

We wrote this report following an unannounced inspection carried out by one inspector. The inspection took place on 11 November 2019 between 10:30 am and 1:30 pm. During the inspection we observed the childminder working with the children present and evaluated the quality of care, environment and management and leadership. We looked at relevant documents including individual records, personal plans, policies and photographs.

Views of people using the service

There were two children present at the time of the inspection, one child is two years old, one child was one year old. We observed the children and saw that they enjoyed their time with the childminder. They had formed a positive friendship and played together well. We talked to the children during their play and they enjoyed showing us their toys and setting a 'tea picnic'.

Three parents returned completed questionnaires to us before the inspection. All told us that they were very happy with the service provided.

Some comments included:

"My child has a good routine with play, snacks / lunch and naps. My child is happy and stimulated. There are ample age-appropriated toys for my child to play with. The space is safe"

"My child is very fond of Donna, who is a warm and caring person. I have no doubt that my child is being well-looked after while in her care"

"If the weather is suitable, they play outside in her play house which my child loves. When inside, there are lots of toys and books to choose from"

"Donna has plenty of age appropriate toys and books"

Self assessment

The Care Inspectorate received a fully complete self-assessment from the childminder. The Childminder identified what she did well and gave examples of how she worked closely with children and parents to ensure that she met the care needs of every child. However, areas of improvement were not highlighted and we suggested that making links to the Health and Social Care standards and the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators might support her through this process.

What the service did well

The childminder knew children in her care well, interactions were warm kind and respectful. She gathered information from parents to ensure she met the needs of children in her care. The childminder supported children to be independent in ways that was appropriate for their age.

What the service could do better

The childminder should use learning from any professional learning to improve the experiences for children. Using resources such as the Care Inspectorate Hub and My Childminding Journey will support the childminder to be up to date with quality practice.

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 was caring and nurturing in her interactions with the minded children present. These positive interactions supported children to be relaxed and happy in her care.

During discussions the childminder demonstrated a good knowledge of the needs of each child. Through 'all about be' sheets and enrolment forms she gathered and recorded information about children's needs, preferences, routines and health details. This helped the childminder get to know each child and provide care and support that met each child's individual needs. The childminder now needs to ensure information is consistently reviewed and updated for each child at least every six months or sooner when needed with parents.

We discussed examples of where more detailed information was needed to show children's progress and

development within their personal plans. The childminder should incorporate learning from observation, assessment and planning training into her daily work with the children.

The childminder was aware of how to keep children safe and protected and the steps to take following the correct guidance and procedures. This created a safe and secure place for children to learn and develop. We suggested that the childminder become more familiar with chronologies and the principles of getting it right for every child and how to use this when caring for children.

Parents supplied their child with a packed lunch. The childminder worked with parents if needed to ensure this included healthy options. The childminder ensured children drank plenty of water throughout the day. Lunch time was a relaxed sociable time for the children present. The childminder used this time to support and encourage self helps skills and supervised children well.

The children present were of similar age, they played together well, enjoyed each other's company and had formed a friendship. They were happy to show us some of their toys and have us join in with their 'tea picnic' on the floor.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The childminder's house provided a secure, clean and homely environment for children to play. Space for children included, soft furnishings to relax, a floor area to play and a dining table for meal times, board games and a variety of arts and crafts. This helped create a warm and relaxed atmosphere which contributed to children being happy confident.

Certificates and information were displayed for parents. The childminder had recently added new black board where daily activities were recorded. Parents had commented how this helped them to know what activities their child had been doing if they were ever in a hurry.

The childminder took children on outings and walks to explore the local community. Through parents' comments, discussions and photographs we could see that children visited places including local parks, nature walks, bus trips and the library. This provided opportunities for children to be involved in their local community and to develop an awareness of nature.

Children were involved in choosing new toys for the outdoor and indoor spaces. The childminder had gathered children's ideas through questionnaires. New equipment such as football goals, board games, card games, dolls, kitchen play, jig saw puzzles and a sand pit had been bought. This helped children feel included and respected.

There was a range of toys and games available for the children to choose from that were age and stage appropriate. The childminder was in the early stages of incorporating loose parts and natural play equipment into her resources for children. This type of play supports children's natural curiosity and develops their creativity. We discussed how the childminder should continue to build on this.

Guidance can be found at <http://hub.careinspectorate.com/media/405223/loose-parts-play-toolkit.pdf>

A travel cot was used in the hall way for a child to take an afternoon nap. On the day of inspection, the hall was too cold to be a comfortable and safe temperature for sleep. Whilst the childminder provided an extra blanket the childminder should ensure that rooms are of suitable temperature and have the means to check this for children.

Guidance can be found here: <https://scottishcotdeathtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/early-years-safe-sleep-guide.pdf>

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 a valid registration certificate, insurance and training certificates for parents to view. This assured parents that the childminder was registered with the appropriate agencies and held the correct insurance to care for children.

The childminder had developed positive relationships with parents and worked in partnership. Daily face to face discussions, communication apps, and texts support the exchange of information. This supported the childminder to meet children's care needs on a daily basis.

Parents and children were involved in evaluating some aspects of the service through questionnaires. The childminder used his information to develop her service such as adding a blackboard as an extra communication tool, adding to toys and equipment and asking parents to provide wellies for their children so children could play outdoors in all weathers

The childminder was a member of Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) which helped her keep up to date with best practice. We discussed ways in which she could use the Care Inspectorate Hub and Your Childminding Journey online resources as a way of accessing guidance and practice documents to support the ongoing improvement of her service.

Guidance can be found here:

<https://hub.careinspectorate.com/resources/children-and-young-people/childminding/>

<http://www.childmindingjourney.scot/>

The childminder was up to date with core training such as child protection, food hygiene, infection control and first aid. She also had completed courses included observation, assessment and planning, the role of play in children's learning and outdoor play. The childminder should revisit learning from training and reflect on how this had benefited her practice to ensure positive outcomes for children.

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

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	
3 Jul 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	4 - Good

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