Laing, Janette
Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)
Inspection completed on: 6 February 2020

Service provided by: Laing, Mrs Janette
Service provider number: SP2003906267

Care service number: CS2003012545
Introduction

Janette Laing, referred to as the childminder in this report is registered with the Care Inspectorate to provide a care service to The childminder is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of eight children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom a maximum of six will be under 12, 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 children of the childminder’s family.

The childminding service is provided from the childminder’s home in the Corstorphine area of Edinburgh. The semi detached home provided children with flexible space to include a playroom, area for snack, meals and craft activities. There was also access to a large garden to the rear of the home.

The aims of the service are to:
- ‘Value each child as an individual, treating them fairly and equitable in an environment which supports diversity and challenges discrimination
- Promote mutual respect, trust and openness with parents and children
- Provide a caring and a safe setting in which children can play, learn and develop
- Engage with children in a balanced range of activities and support their individual and collective needs
- Support a lifestyle based on well-being, health, nutrition and safety
- Continue to pursue professional self development in support of these aims.’

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.

What we did during our inspection

The inspection was carried out by an inspector from the Care Inspectorate. The unannounced inspection took place on 06 February 2020.

As part of the inspection process we asked the childminder to issue care standard questionnaires to parents using the service.

During the inspection we gathered evidence from various sources including talking to the childminder, talking to children, looking at key information kept to ensure that children’s needs were met.

We assessed the suitability of the environment and equipment used for childminding.

Views of people using the service

There was one minded child present during our visit. The child was very settled and relaxed in the childminders care. Interactions between the childminder and the minded child evidenced a warm nurturing approach by the childminder to support confidence and security in the minded child.

We issued three care standard questionnaires to parents who use the service. All strongly agreed that they were happy with the quality of care their child received in the service. Additional comments included:
‘The childminder is very trustworthy and keeps matters in the strictest confidence. She is a positive influence in our child’s life and we really appreciate all her efforts to support our child and us as a family.’

‘I have been extremely happy with the service and would highly recommend her. She is professional, caring and experienced. Most importantly my child is very happy in her care.’

‘The childminder provides a very loving environment and gives our child opportunities for play and learning and mixing with other children which is very important to us.’

Self assessment

The childminder had completed the self assessment fully identifying how her service provided children with positive outcomes. Areas of strengths were identified as well as some areas where she wished to develop her practice through information from good practice documents.

What the service did well

The childminder provided a very good home from home experience for minded children. She had a warm and nurturing approach and could demonstrate that she knew children in her care very well. This knowledge was used to provide individualised care for each child.

What the service could do better

The childminder should continue to develop her very good service in line with current good practice advice. For example documents and advice on outdoor play and the use of real life and loose part resources would help develop the service further.

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 had further developed the range of information that she collected about children to enable her to offer them individualised care. Very good use was made of the wellbeing indicators to help the childminder assess how each child was progressing and if there was any further support they needed. Parents commented positively about the way the childminder offered them information about their child and took account of their views and suggestions. This helped the childminder provide a consistent approach to a child’s care.
The childminder had a very good understanding of how to promote children’s health and welfare. The garden was used in drier weather for outdoor play and good use was made of parks and local walks to promote physical exercise and access to fresh air. To enhance her childcare knowledge and experience the childminder had attended child protection training. To inform parents of her legal obligations a child protection procedure had been developed. Procedures for the administration of medication and recording of accidents and incidents further supported children’s wellbeing.

Parents provided lunches for their children, but the childminder provided a healthy and substantial snack. Through our discussion the childminder evidenced a very good understanding of childhood nutrition and how to encourage children to eat a wide range of foods. Lunches and snacks were eaten at a table which provided children with a meaningful social experience. Appropriate manners were promoted, and children were encouraged to eat well and have enough to drink throughout their day.

There were a wide range of resources for children to use. These could be chosen freely and were enhanced by opportunities for drawing, painting and other craft activities. During our visit children played contentedly and were having fun with a range of resources they chose for themselves. The childminder had a childcare qualification and an understanding how to develop children’s learning through their play. Parents commented that there was a good range of activities and a balance between planned activities and free play.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The spacious semi-detached home provided children with a very good home from home environment. Areas used by children were kept to a very high standard providing a clean, bright and warm place for children to play. Older children could access the bathroom independently and children could be easily supervised in their play while offering them a feeling of independence.

To ensure that parents were aware of how the childminder kept their children safe a number of policies and procedures had been developed and shared with them. These included infection control procedures and information on procedures followed when children were unwell.

On the day of our visit the home and garden provided a safe place for children to use. The childminder walked to school to deliver and collect children. The local area was busy and the childminder described the safety measures she took and promoted with children. This helped children form an understanding of being responsible and keeping themselves safe.
The childminder described the community resources she used to enhance the experiences that children had while in her care. She attended a local toddler group with younger children to familiarise them with group care settings. She often went on outings further afield using the train or going to the beach. These were used to broaden children’s experiences and provide interesting and fun days out.

**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 very clear objectives for her service and what she was trying to achieve for the children and families who used her service. She had shared these objectives and discussed them with parents when they enquired about a placement with her. This helped to ensure that there was a joint understanding of the ethos and values held in the service.

The childminder enjoyed her role and wanted to ensure that outcomes for the children in her care were positive. To achieve this she had developed very good relationships with parents and used their comments and suggestions to make improvements and changes to her service. Through our discussions with her, the childminder evidenced that she was very reflective of her practice and the service she provided.

The childminder had completed a childcare qualification and had used this, along with additional core training, effectively in the development and provision of her service. We talked to her about the development of childcare practice and need to have a working knowledge of the Health and Social Care Standards and childcare practice documents. This would help further develop the very good service provided.

The range of information about children and the service was meaningful and effective. The childminder was organised. Documents were kept up to date and reviewed regularly. Information needed to meet statutory requirements such as displaying of registration certificate, public liability insurance, regular maintenance of heating systems and car insurance were in place.

**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 write personal plans for each child to formalise the information and knowledge she has about each child. National Care Standards for Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 3 - Health and Wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 19 May 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

The childminder had developed the range of information that she collected about children to enable her to develop a personal plan. This recommendation had been met.

Recommendation 2

The childminder should ensure that she includes the most up to date contact information of whom she would contact should she have a concern about a child’s welfare. National Care Standards Early Education and Childcare up to the age of 16. Standard 3 - Health and wellbeing.

This recommendation was made on 19 May 2017.

Action taken on previous recommendation

Current contact details for Social Care Direct were included in the child protection procedure. This recommendation was 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

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