

McClymont, Anne

Child Minding

Girvan

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
29 January 2021

Service provided by:
Anne McClymont

Service provider number:
SP2003903072

Service no:
CS2003005263

About the service

Anne McClymont is registered to provide a childminding service to a maximum of 6 children at any time under the age of 16, 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.

The childminding service is provided from the childminders home in a residential area in the town of Girvan, South Ayrshire. There is direct access to a large enclosed back garden.

This was a focussed inspection to evaluate how well children were being supported during the Covid-19 pandemic. We evaluated the service based on key areas that are vital to the support and wellbeing of children experiencing care during the pandemic.

We carried out an announced virtual inspection on 17 November 2020. Due to identified areas of concern we were unable to conclude our virtual inspection and arranged to complete an onsite visit to the service. This took place on 9 December 2020. Following this inspection we issued a letter of concern to the provider on the 21 December 2020 detailing the main areas of concern that the childminder must address. We followed this up with an additional letter requesting further information on 27 January 2021. We have included these areas within this report.

What people told us

We spoke with two parents by telephone. The parents spoken with were happy with the service provided.

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?	2 - Weak
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Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?

2 - Weak

5.1 Children's health and well-being are supported and safeguarded during COVID-19 Evaluation

After receiving the childminders self-evaluation document we focussed our discussions on key areas to gain further information from the childminder about how children's health and wellbeing was being supported during the Covid-19 pandemic. During discussions the childminder demonstrated knowledge of the children and their general needs. However, she was unable to produce personal plans for children that would identify how their individual needs would be supported. As a result we could not establish if children's needs were being met. This was identified as a requirement at the previous inspection and was not addressed. The childminder must implement personal plans for children in her care within 28 days of starting at the service and these should be reviewed with parents every six months or earlier if needed. (See requirement 1).

The childminder told us that she had not undertaken any training or professional learning since her previous inspection. In addition the childminder was unable to demonstrate a good understanding of her role and responsibilities in relation to child protection. She had not attended any recent training and was unable to give a clear account of the actions she would take if she had concerns about a child. This compromised children's safety and wellbeing. (See requirement 2).

During discussions the childminder was unable to demonstrate that she had sufficient knowledge of current early learning and childcare best practice, including Covid-19 guidance. As a result, we were unsure that she was taking the necessary steps to support children's health and wellbeing during the pandemic. This was identified as a requirement at the previous inspection and was not addressed. (See requirement 3).

Although we did not see children accessing outdoors, the childminder told us she regularly took them outside for fresh air and physical play. This helped reduce the risk of infection and supported children's emotional wellbeing.

5.2 Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff Evaluation

During our inspection, the childminder did not demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the infection prevention and control measures that were required to reduce the risks of infection relating to Covid-19. This created an additional risk for children and their families. For example the childminder was inconsistent in how she applied hand washing procedures and she was unaware of the need for her and parents to wear a face covering whilst dropping off and collecting children.

The childminder did not have written risk assessments in place, that would help her keep children safe and help her identify and reduce potential risks. We recommended that the childminder develop risk assessments during the previous two inspections and found that this had not been addressed. (See requirement 4).

During our inspection we spoke with the childminder about the previous requirement asking her to ensure that safe sleeping practices are followed. The childminder told us that children currently attending her service did not need to sleep. However, the childminder was unable to demonstrate that she had

considered current good practice guidance from the Lullaby Trust, 'Safer sleep for babies' and 'The Scottish Cot Death Trust to develop a safe sleep procedure if a child needed to sleep whilst in her care. (See requirement 5).

Requirements

1. By 26 February 2021 the childminder must develop personal plans for each child in her care ensuring that their health, safety and welfare needs are taken into account and planned for. This should also include how you plan to meet each child's needs during the Covid-19 pandemic. The plans should be agreed and discussed with parents. The plans must be reviewed and updated at least once in every six month period or sooner if required.

This is to ensure care and support complies with the Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011, Regulation 210:5(1): Personal plans.

2. By 26 February 2021 the childminder must improve her knowledge skills and practice through accessing professional learning and training. This must include updating her child protection and safe guarding knowledge and skills in line with national and local child protection guidelines including how using the national Getting it Right for Every Child (GIRFEC) approach supports children's health, safety and wellbeing.

This is in order to comply with: The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Scottish Statutory instrument 2011/210 4(1)(a) Welfare of users.

3. By 26 February 2021 the childminder should provide high quality care and support to children, based on early learning and childcare guidance and best practice. The childminder must be able to demonstrate her understanding and application of best practice guidance and in particular her role in keeping children safe during the Covid-19 pandemic.

This is in order to comply with: The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Scottish Statutory instrument 2011/210 4(1)(a) Welfare of users.

4. By 26 February 2021 in order to keep minded children safe from harm and to ensure a safe and secure environment. The childminder must complete written risk assessments for her service, this should include the actions she has taken to minimise risks due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

This is to comply with: The Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Scottish statutory instrument 2011/210 4(1) (a) Welfare of service users.

(a) make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of service users; and SSI 2011/210 3 Principles. A provider of a care service shall provide the service in a manner which promotes quality and safety.

5. By the 26 February 2021 the childminder must ensure safe sleeping practices are followed.

This is to ensure care and support complies with the Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011, Regulation 210:4 Welfare of users 4.-(1) A provider must:
(a) make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of service users;
(b) provide services in a manner which respects the privacy and dignity of service users

This is to ensure care is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My Life My Support:

3.14 I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes.

Areas for improvement

1. In order to provide minded children with appropriately rich and stimulating play experiences, the childminder should improve the way play opportunities are offered to children. These should be carefully planned to meet their developmental stage and interests.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My Support, My Life.

1.30 As a child, I have fun as I develop my skills in understanding, thinking, investigation and problem solving, including through imaginative play and storytelling.

1.31 As a child, my social and physical skills, confidence, self-esteem and creativity are developed through a balance of organised and freely chosen extended play, including using open-ended and natural materials.

2. In order to provide minded children with the highest level of quality play, the childminder should develop a planned approach to delivering interesting, age appropriate and developmentally correct toys, activities and experiences.

This is in order to ensure care is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My support, My Life.

1.32 As a child, I play outdoors every day and regularly explore a natural environment.

2.27 As a child, I can direct my own play and activities in the way that I choose, and freely access a wide range of experiences and resources suitable for my age and stage, which stimulate my natural curiosity, learning and creativity.

5.20 I have enough physical space to meet my needs and wishes.

What the service has done to meet any requirements we made at or since the last inspection

Requirements

Requirement 1

The childminder must develop effective, detailed and outcome focused personal plans for each child in her care. These plans must include the health, safety and wellbeing needs of children and how these needs will be met. The childminder must:

- agree and discuss the content of these with parents
- plans must be reviewed and updated at least once in every six month period or sooner if required in consultation with parents.

This is to ensure care and support complies with the Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011, Regulation 210:5(1): Personal plans.

This is to ensure that the quality of care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My Support, My Life.

1.15 My personal plan is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices and 1.19 My care and support meets my needs and is right for me.

This requirement was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken on previous requirement

During inspection the childminder was unable to show us personal plans for the children who used her service. We have repeated this requirement within this report

Not met

Requirement 2

The childminder must ensure safe sleeping practices are followed and that she has appropriate knowledge of childcare matters.

This is to ensure care and support complies with the Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland (Requirements for Care Services) Regulations 2011, Regulation 210:4 Welfare of users 4.-(1) A provider must:

- (a) make proper provision for the health, welfare and safety of service users;
- (b) provide services in a manner which respects the privacy and dignity of service users.

Timescale for completion: By 27 May 2019.

This is to ensure care is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My Life My Support:

3.14 I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes.

This requirement was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken on previous requirement

The childminder told us that she did not have any service users who slept whilst attending her service. However the childminder could not confirm that she had developed a safe sleeping procedure inline with the best practice guidance should a child in her care require a sleep. We have repeated this requirement within this report.

Not met

Requirement 3

The childminder must comply with the conditions of registration at all times. Appropriate records must be held to demonstrate this.

This is in order to comply with Regulation 4(1)(a) of the Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland Regulations 2011. Welfare of Service Users.

Timescale for completion: By 13 May 2019.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My Life: My Support: which states:

4.14 My care and support is provided in a planned and safe way, including if there is an emergency or unexpected event.

This requirement was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken on previous requirement

The childminder confirmed that she had adhered to her conditions of registration. This included being able to provide written evidence of days of children's attendance.

Met - within timescales

Requirement 4

The childminder must seek training which is clearly identified following self assessment of her service. This training should be planned and reflect the needs of the service and service users. Learning from training should be implemented in the service.

This is in order to comply with Regulation 4(1)(a) of the Social Care and Social Work Improvement Scotland Regulations 2011. Welfare of Service Users.

Timescale for completion: By 26 July 2019.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My support: My life which states that:

3.14. I have confidence in people because they are trained, competent and skilled, are able to reflect on their practice and follow their professional and organisational codes.

This requirement was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken on previous requirement

The childminder was unable to demonstrate that she undertaken any assessment of her training needs and she had not undertaken any training or professional learning to support her practice. We have repeated this requirement within this report.

Not met

What the service has done to meet any areas for improvement we made at or since the last inspection

Areas for improvement

Previous area for improvement 1

In order to provide minded children with appropriately rich and stimulating play experiences, the childminder should improve the way play opportunities are offered to children. These should be carefully planned to meet their developmental stage and interests.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My Support, My Life.

1.30 As a child, I have fun as I develop my skills in understanding, thinking, investigation and problem solving, including through imaginative play and storytelling.

1.31 As a child, my social and physical skills, confidence, self-esteem and creativity are developed through a balance of organised and freely chosen extended play, including using open-ended and natural materials.

This area for improvement was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken since then

We did not assess this recommendation during this inspection. We have carried this forward within the body of this report.

Previous area for improvement 2

In order to provide minded children with the highest level of quality play, the childminder should develop a planned approach to delivering interesting, age appropriate and developmentally correct toys, activities and experiences.

This is in order to ensure care is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My support, My Life.

1.32 As a child, I play outdoors every day and regularly explore a natural environment.

2.27 As a child, I can direct my own play and activities in the way that I choose, and freely access a wide range of experiences and resources suitable for my age and stage, which stimulate my natural curiosity, learning and creativity.

5.20 I have enough physical space to meet my needs and wishes.

This area for improvement was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken since then

We did not assess this recommendation during this inspection. We have carried this forward within the body of this report.

Previous area for improvement 3

In order to ensure minded children are offered the highest quality play and learning experiences, the childminder should provide written risk assessments for her service. This should include individual children's needs, where appropriate and involve parents and carers.

This is in order to ensure care is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards, My support, My Life.

5.17 My environment is secure and safe.

5.20 I have enough physical space to meet my needs and wishes.

This area for improvement was made on 29 April 2019.

Action taken since then

The childminder did not have written risk assessments in place that would help her to identify and reduce potential risks. We have made requirement within the body of this report.

Detailed evaluations

How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?	2 - Weak
5.1 Children's health and well being are supported and safeguarded during COVID-19	2 - Weak
5.2 Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff	2 - Weak

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