

Sonya's Little Legs Daycare Child Minding

Leven

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
22 June 2021

Service provided by:
Sonya Rowan

Service provider number:
SP2019990634

Service no:
CS2019375914

About the service

This serviced registered with the Care Inspectorate on 30 August 2019.

We carried out an unannounced inspection of the service on Friday 18 June 2021 and feedback was given on Tuesday 22 June 2021.

The childminding service is located in Methil, Fife and is situated close to local amenities including parks and the local nursery and primary school. The children have access to the living room, kitchen, and toilet facilities. There is a large enclosed back garden suitable for outdoor play.

The childminding service is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 6 children at any one 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 childminders statement of aims and objectives for the service included:

- Recognise your child as an individual and provide opportunities for your child to develop their own personal interests.
- Encourage and develop language and communication through one to one interaction alongside a range of play, storytelling and other activities.
- Be a positive role model and promote social skills, encouraging courteous behaviour and respect for others.

A full statement of aims and objectives are available from the service on request.

This was a focused 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. This inspection was carried out by inspectors from the Care Inspectorate.

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 of 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 Getting it Right for Every Child: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included.

What people told us

We spoke with two children present during the visit and observed their play both indoors and outdoors. The following comments were made by children:

"Can we do some painting".

"Come and watch me play outside".

"I love everything here".

We asked the childminder to provide our contact details to the parents to request feedback. We briefly spoke with one parent during the visit and then again over the phone. One parent responded over email. Overall, parents were happy with the quality of care and support provided and the variety of experiences on offer to their children. We have included some comments below which represent parents views:

"Sonya is very attentive and our child loves going there".

"We are so glad we have found her".

"I was so grateful for how easy Sonya made the settling in, it was just right for us".

"Sonya offers a home from home environment".

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?	3 - Adequate
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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?

3 - Adequate

Quality indicator 5.1: Children's health and wellbeing are supported and safeguarded during COVID-19.

- Children are nurtured and supported throughout their changed experience in their early learning and childcare setting.
- Effective communication with families enables responsive care to support children through changing circumstances.

The childminder provided a caring and nurturing environment. Children were greeted warmly when they were collected from school which showed they were valued. The childminder spoke with the children on their walk home from school about their day and seemed to know them well. This helped children feel respected.

Most children had personal plans in place and information about their day was shared verbally with parents at pick up times. This meant families felt informed about their child's day. We asked the childminder to ensure all children have a personal plan in place which records their needs, rights and choices. Through discussion the childminder demonstrated they knew the children well and what they needed support with. This information should now be included within personal plans and be used to further promote positive outcomes for children. Their progress and next steps should be recorded and linked to the national wellbeing indicators. This will support the childminder to plan and deliver appropriate experiences for children which would enable them to further achieve. **See area for improvement one.**

We advised the childminder they should ensure children are consulted and involved in planning the activities and experiences whilst in the service. They had started thinking of ways to gather children's views and these ideas should now be developed. This would support children to feel included and allow them to contribute and shape their experience and time in the service.

Sensitive settling in procedures had been introduced. One parent told us how much they had appreciated being able to meet outdoors at a local park to have the opportunity to discuss the childminding service. Short visits in the home allowed children to settle at their own pace and get to know the childminder and the new surroundings. The childminder had created a video recording of their home to share with parents as they cannot enter the home due to COVID-19 restrictions. This allowed parents to feel included and fully informed in their decision to use the service to care for their children.

Children were keen to show us the outdoor garden space with the mud kitchen and their home-grown vegetables. The garden was being developed to support a more safe and secure play space. To promote good experiences for children accessing the outdoor space, the childminder should ensure the garden is maintained in line with their risk assessments.

Quality indicator 5.2: Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff.

- Children are protected as staff take all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of infection.

The childminder's home offered a clean and safe environment for children. They spoke confidently about the regular cleaning carried out every day in the home. Additional measures had been introduced to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19, such as enhanced cleaning of the toys and resources after use.

The childminder had a good awareness of COVID-19 guidance regarding infection, prevention, and control. Appropriate policies, procedures and risk assessments had been introduced to support them to continue to provide a safe and healthy environment during the pandemic. Steps had been taken to ensure physical distance was maintained with other adults and parents. This helped keep children and families safe and reduced the potential risk of the spread of COVID-19.

A clear understanding of the symptoms of COVID-19 was shown through discussion and this information had been shared with parents.

Children were observed to wash their hands at appropriate times, for example when they arrived at the setting and before they had snack. The childminder explained individual hand towels were used by children to dry their hands which would be washed daily, however these were not available on the day of the inspection. We asked the childminder to consider ways children could be further supported to understand the need to wash their hands effectively. This would increase children's understanding and support them to develop good habits.

We observed children to have a healthy and balanced snack which they told us they enjoyed. They sat at the kitchen dining table which was cleaned effectively before and after use. This supported the children to eat in a clean and hygienic environment.

The childminder understood the need for ventilation to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19. There was adequate natural ventilation in the home as the windows were open, and the children told us they were spending more time playing outdoors.

Areas for improvement

1. The childminder should ensure all children have a personal care plan which reflects the specific needs, wishes and choices of children and their families. These plans should be developed to show children's progress and achievements in line with the wellbeing indicators, (safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included). These plans should include identified next steps to support children's success and updates on their likes, dislikes and current interests.

These should be updated at least once in every six months or sooner if there is a significant change in children's care, wellbeing or circumstances.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state, "My personal plan (sometimes referred to as a care plan) is right for me because it sets out how my needs will be met, as well as my wishes and choices". (HSCS 1.15).

Detailed evaluations

How good is our care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic?	3 - Adequate
5.1 Children's health and well being are supported and safeguarded during COVID-19	3 - Adequate
5.2 Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff	3 - Adequate
5.3 Staffing arrangements are responsive to the changing needs of children during COVID-19	3 - Adequate

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