

Cleo Childminding Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 22 September 2021

Service provided by:
Cecile Recio

Service provider number:
SP2019990426

Care service number:
CS2019373681

Introduction

Cleo Childminding registered with the Care Inspectorate on 30 May 2019.

The childminding service is located in Bo'Ness. The service is situated close to local amenities including parks, woods and the local nursery and primary school. The children have access to the living room, kitchen, playroom and toilet facilities. There is an enclosed back garden area suitable for outdoor play.

The service is provided by Cecile Recio and 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 own family.

There is a temporary condition that states one additional named child not yet attending primary school may be cared for on a Wednesday between 9:00 to 16:00 term time only. Should any child leave the service or no longer requires care before 23 December 2021 this element of the condition will cease with immediate effect.

The aims and objectives for the service include:

- To provide a wide variety of activities taking your child's interests into account
- To listen to your child, their interests and feelings
- To be a positive role model and promote social skills, encouraging courteous behaviour and respect for others
- To develop moral values that promote consideration for individual cultural differences.

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

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 we did during our inspection

We carried out an unannounced inspection of Cleo Childminding on Monday 20 September 2021. Feedback was given on Wednesday 22 September 2021. The inspection was carried out by an inspector from the Care Inspectorate.

As part of this inspection, we took into consideration Key Question 5 - Operating an early learning and childcare setting (including out of school care and childminders) during Covid-19 with a specific focus on Quality indicator 5.2: Infection prevention and control practices support a safe environment for children and staff. We will report on the overall performance of this indicator in Theme 1 Quality Care and Support.

We sent an email via the childminder to families using the service asking them to provide us with feedback about their experience of using the service. One family responded to our request.

During the onsite visit we gathered evidence from several sources including the following:

We spoke with:

- children present
- the childminder.

We observed and viewed:

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

We looked at the following evidence:

- children's personal plans
- policies and procedures
- documents relating to administration of medication, accidents and incidents and child protection
- the service's self evaluation
- registration certificate
- public liability and car insurance certificate.

Views of people using the service

There were two minded children present at the time of the inspection. We observed children enjoying their play and they were happy and confident in the service. The children were proud of their achievements and enjoyed showing us some of their creations.

One family responded to our email request for feedback. They were very happy with the service and felt the childminder went above and beyond their expectations.

When children were asked by their parents what they enjoyed about the service they said:

- "I like making fires to cook marshmallows and going on walks".
- "Cecile is good at making things and drawing, and teaching us French songs".
- "I like drawing pictures and baking".

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We looked at their own improvement plan which demonstrated their priorities for development. This included sourcing training courses focussed on language development and to continue to expand opportunities for outdoor play and learning.

What the service did well

The childminder provided a very good standard of care through loving and responsive relationships with children. Their knowledge and understanding of child development, allowed the children to benefit from a variety of resources and experiences. Activities, play, and learning were child-led which enabled children to develop their natural curiosity, creativity, imagination and social skills.

Children's learning was documented using Floorbooks which allowed the childminder to listen to children's interests and plan experiences they would enjoy. This enabled children to be in control of their own learning.

The use of the outdoor environment was maximised, both in the garden and by regularly accessing the local environment. Children benefitted from fresh air and exercise daily.

What the service could do better

The childminder should continue to reflect on their service and find new and innovative ways to involve parents and children in this process.

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 knew the children well and offered responsive, loving and nurturing care. They had formed positive relationships with the childminder and their family, which showed they felt safe and secure in the childminder's home. Children were happy and confident in the childminder's care and we could see they had developed trusting relationships. Children confidently approached the childminder and asked for support when needed. Responsive care provided reassurance for children in a caring manner, due to the attachments and trusting relationships they had formed. This contributed to the development of children's confidence, self-esteem and resilience.

Personal plans for children were detailed and provided parents with information about their child's development. Individual learning folders contained observations and photographs demonstrating the wide variety of outcomes experienced by children. Observations were linked to the wellbeing indicators (SHANARRI) which enabled parents to identify achievements and progress. The childminder valued partnership working and had effective systems in place to encourage trusting and respectful relationships. Important information about children's current needs were reviewed with parents every six months or sooner if there were changes. A private Facebook page used to share information, was a great way of allowing parents to feel involved in their children's day.

The childminder used Floor Books to record information and photographs about experiences provided. This allowed children to have a high level of involvement in their own learning as they reflected on experiences. The childminder listened to, and observed children, to plan experiences that would interest them and promote development of children's natural curiosity and imagination. This allowed children to be fully involved in planning their own learning. Children enjoyed showing us the floorbooks and reflecting on their experiences.

The childminder was confident about their role and responsibilities for protecting children and keeping them safe. They spoke confidently of their role and the action that would be taken if there were any concerns about a child's health or welfare. This ensured children were kept safe and would allow the childminder to respond to any concerns in a timely and sensitive manner.

We were satisfied that the service had appropriate infection control procedures in place to support a safe environment for children. For example we observed children being supported to understand the need for good hygiene and effective hand washing. To further control the risk of infection, the childminder had increased the time spent learning and having fun outdoors.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

The childminder's home was warm and welcoming. Indoor areas used were well ventilated and very good standards of cleanliness were visible throughout the home.

The homely environment offered an extensive variety of open ended resources. Loose parts indoors and outdoors, allowed children to develop their natural curiosity and creativity. Children benefitted from free flow, self-directed play. The childminder communicated in a way that supported co-operative play and helped children to develop problem solving and negotiation skills.

Outdoor play and learning was a priority for the service and they made great use of the garden. Development of the garden had been carefully considered to support children to benefit from a rich learning experience full of challenge, fun and exploration. There were areas of the garden where children could relax if they chose. All areas were well maintained and offered variety, for example, a mud area, digging area, water play, swing, tool bench, creative station and seating area. Children were free to choose where they played and all children were engaged in activities and having fun throughout our visit. Outdoor waterproof clothing had been purchased to ensure all children could continue to enjoy outdoor experiences in all weather.

Local green spaces and woodland areas were used to ensure children had the freedom to play and investigate in a natural environment. They had recently enjoyed a visit to the woods where they created drawings from charcoal they had made. The focus on outdoor play supported children's health and wellbeing, promoted their natural curiosity and creativity and allowed children to benefit daily from exercise and fresh air.

Risk assessments were in place which showed how the childminder kept children safe. These showed high importance was placed on maintaining a safe and well organised environment.

An improvement plan was in place which clearly detailed areas the childminder aimed to focus on to continue to develop the service. Best practice documents that would be used to support areas of development had been detailed, such as Setting the Table to involve all children in identifying healthy recipes.

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 was dedicated to developing their practice and the service. They had started to use the Quality Framework for Daycare of Children and Childminding settings, to evaluate and reflect on the service. The self-evaluation process allowed the childminder to identify action points with an embedded culture of continuous improvement.

Regular feedback was requested from the parents, and children were given ways to contribute to the development of the service, for example by planning experiences and contributing to the menu planning.

Children's rights were embedded in practice and the self assessment showed how children's rights were being promoted, for example by ensuring the best interests of the child were priority and by respecting children's views.

The childminder regularly reflected on children's play experiences and learning themes which had been developed and extended. This provided them with the opportunity to evaluate how these could be enhanced to support further learning and development and improve outcomes for children.

Policies and procedures were regularly reviewed and shared with parents. This supported parents to understand what they should expect from the service.

The Infection Prevention and Control in Childcare Setting document had been used to develop a hygiene policy and a Covid-19 policy. This helped keep the childminder, their family, children and parents as safe as possible during the pandemic and supported parents to understand the changes in the setting.

The childminders dedication to accessing a wide range of learning and development opportunities, ensured their knowledge and practice was kept up to date. They regularly accessed websites such as the Care Inspectorate Hub, the Scottish Childminding Association and they were a member of Mindstretchers. They had taken part in podcasts to share best practice and had shared their floorbooks with other practitioners through virtual groups that had been formed to support development of practice.

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

This service does not have any prior inspection history or grades.

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