

Bradshaw, Hilary Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 5 November 2021

Service provided by:

Service provider number:
SP2003904849

Care service number:
CS2003008850

Introduction

The service was registered with the Care Inspectorate on 1 April 2011.

Mrs Bradshaw is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of 6 children at any one time up to 16 years of age of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than 1 is under 12 months of age. Numbers are inclusive of the childminder's family.

The childminder's home is situated in a residential area of a town within walking distance of local amenities, play park and a primary school.

The aims and objectives of the service include:

- I offer home based childcare
- I ensure the safety of the children in my care
- I provide activities that enable the children to gain rich experiences and learning opportunities for individual children dependant on their developmental needs.

What we did during our inspection

We compiled the report following an unannounced site visit to the service on 28 October 2021. The childminder was providing an out of school care service to children of primary school age. During this inspection we spoke with the childminder and observed the care given by the childminder. We completed the inspection using e-mail and telephone to seek the views of parents, and viewed written documentation, including health and wellbeing records, electronically. The inspection was carried out by one inspector.

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 (also known as SHANARRI).

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.

Views of people using the service

Parents told us that they were very satisfied with the ways that the childminder communicated with them and shared information. They had been able to share their views openly and always felt listened to by the childminder. The childminder knew the children really well and was skilled at helping children to feel safe and secure and responding to their needs and feelings in a nurturing and calm manner. Children had always had a healthy balance of indoor and outdoor play with a wide choice of activities that supported their health, social and emotional development.

The primary school age child attending the service appeared happy and confident. They told us that they liked being at Hilary's house and how it was fun, especially playing active games on the computer or playing at the park.

Self assessment

Not requested.

What the service did well

The childminder provided a stimulating, warm, nurturing service; they knew the children well and provided experiences that supported children's individual needs and development.

The childminder had established positive relationships with parents. Communication was open and meaningful so that families shared in their child's care and development.

What the service could do better

The childminder continues to consolidate a system of review that includes parents/carers and children (where possible), so that information held remains up to date and reflects each child's needs and interests.

We suggested that the childminder recorded changes to the service as they occurred to support continuous improvement. The use of a simple improvement plan would be beneficial for the purposes of evaluation.

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	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

The childminder's caring and nurturing approach was helping children to form secure relationships with them and feel safe. We saw that the minded child was happy, relaxed and assured in the presence of the childminder.

The childminder had gathered detailed information about the child for the personal plan; their needs had been clearly recorded. Parents and children had been involved in updating the information such as health and emotional needs, likes/dislikes and interests which helped to support consistency of care. The childminder had a good understanding of Getting It Right For Every Child (GIRFEC) and used the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators to record and monitor children's individual needs and progress. Parents told us that they were very happy with the level of information shared; verbal communication, phone/text messages and newsletters helped them to be engaged in their child's care. The childminder provided nurturing care and knew the personalities of the children well, they quickly picked up on their mood, such as offering a comfort hug when upset. Children had been able to learn respect through learning about the care of the animals in the household and supporting children to overcome any fears.

The childminder listened respectfully to the school age child and supported their needs and emotions well. We saw that the child had formed a positive relationship with the childminder and conversations happened with ease. When the child was a little frustrated they were quickly reassured by the childminder's calm and kind approach. The childminder offered play experiences that accommodated the interests of the child, they chose to play interactive sports games on the computer which they really liked. The child told us that usually they had other friends there from school and they liked playing together.

The childminder promoted outdoor and active play in the fresh air at the service and in the wider community that helped health and wellbeing. Suitable arrangements were in place for snacks, children sat at the large table in the kitchen/diner that promoted good eating habits. The childminder provided snacks that promoted good health and had completed food hygiene training to support safe practice.

We were satisfied that the service had appropriate infection control procedures in place to support a safe environment for children. Such as, children being supported to wash their hands well, clean premises and equipment.

The childminder had an understanding of child protection. To help ensure that their knowledge remained up to date to safeguard children they had attend local authority training. We suggested that agency contact details were updated in the child protection policy and referred the childminder to the local authority child protection website for guidance.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

Children benefited from being cared for in a safe, clean and homely environment. The childminder had completed first aid training that had provided knowledge of how to respond should an accident occur. Suitable personal protective equipment (PPE) was also readily available for contact with bodily fluid. The childminder had a suitable format for recording accidents/incidents to ensure that correct information was held and exchanged with parents/carers. The childminder kept the premises and activities under regular review to assess risk.

Children were being cared for in a suitable and comfortable environment that contributed to their confidence and wellbeing. A designated playroom was equipped with a walled storage unit that had open shelving. This enabled children to select and choose from toys and a computer/tv was available for interactive games such as sports, music and dancing. The table in the kitchen/diner was used for meals/snacks and also for craft/table top activities. Furniture had been arranged so that there was plenty of space for floor play and a large sofa enabled children to relax/rest in comfort.

The childminder recognised the benefits of outdoor play in the fresh air to support children's health, wellbeing and development. The garden enabled children to have easy access to outdoor play in the fresh air where they could be active. The minded child told us that sometimes they liked to jump on the trampoline or just run around in the school grounds after school. Parents told us that the childminder provided a good balance of indoor and outdoor activities that took account of the children needing to expel energy or needing down time.

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

Information from the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA), the Care Inspectorate and the local authority, supported the childminder to keep up to date with new initiatives.

The childminder had completed a Scottish Vocational Qualification (SVQ) to support their knowledge and understanding of early learning and childcare. They had also undertaken courses and webinars related to early years to inform and enhance their practice. The childminder had completed food hygiene training, child protection refresher and first aid training, to help safeguard children's wellbeing.

We suggested that the childminder used a simple improvement plan to record changes as they occurred to support a continuous approach to evaluation. This could be as a result of seeking the views of parents and/or children, the impact of training or reading best practice guidance. Good practice guidance documents and the Care Inspectorate early years improvement programme, would also support reflection of practice, with a view to enhancing outcomes for children - hub.careinspectorate.com

The childminder had substantial experience of working as a childminder. They were able to demonstrate how their knowledge and skills had been beneficial in the development of the service. Records were well organised and readily accessible. The childminder had developed relevant policies that supported her in running the service and provided a basis for evaluation. These were shared with parents so that they knew what to expect from the service.

The childminder provided a service that met the needs of families well. Parents told us how the childminder was open, listened to and responded to their views and how they felt involved in their child's care and development. Overall they were happy with all aspects of their child's care and how the nurturing approach of the childminder made a difference to their child's wellbeing.

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
30 Mar 2017	Unannounced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>5 - Very good</div>
8 Aug 2012	Announced (short notice)	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>4 - Good</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>4 - Good</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>Not assessed</div>
17 Nov 2009	Announced	<div>Care and support</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Environment</div> <div>Not assessed</div> <div>Staffing</div> <div>5 - Very good</div> <div>Management and leadership</div> <div>Not assessed</div>

Date	Type	Gradings	
25 Mar 2009	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	5 - Very good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed

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