

Leys View Childcare Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 8 December 2021

Service provided by:
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Service provider number:
SP2020013467

Care service number:
CS2020378930

Introduction

Leys View Childminding is a partnership which operates from their detached home in a quiet residential area of Inverness, close to local parks and amenities. They use a large open plan kitchen and family/playroom with direct access to an enclosed garden for the service. Children also have access to a designated bedroom and bathroom facilities on the ground floor.

The service registered with the Care Inspectorate in May 2020. It provides a care service to a maximum of eight children at any one time, age 0 to 16 years, of whom no more than one is less than one years of age and of whom no more than five are under school age. Numbers are inclusive of the childminder's own children.

What we did during our inspection

We wrote this report following an unannounced inspection. This was carried out on 8 November 2021. Feedback was given to the childminders on 8 December 2021. During this inspection we gathered evidence from various sources, including inspection of premises, policies and other documents.

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 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 Getting it Right for Every Child: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included. They are often referred to as the SHANNARRI wellbeing indicators.

Views of people using the service

We provided the service with an online questionnaire to share with parents and carers using the service. Three parents responded with all parents saying they were very happy with the quality of care and support their child received. Some of the comments made were:

"I am so happy with child service my boy is always happy to go there and they are so lovely, and we fell our child is safe there is no childminder like them, I am super satisfied."

"Our child settled in very well at the childminders and from day one I knew that they were the perfect match for us."

"I love getting updates about how her day has gone. Elisabeth has been absolutely wonderful asking any 'first time mum' queries and questions I have."

"My child loves going there and takes part in a wide array of activities - often coming home singing a new song that they have learnt or with something they have made."

"My child has got experiences that has helped her progress so much in every aspect of her child development."

"Jim and Elizabeth are just outstanding, they are like family for us! I wouldn't want my child anywhere else!"

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self-assessment in advance of the inspection.

What the service did well

The childminders had developed strong relationships with minded children and their families which allowed for good sharing of information.

They accessed relevant training to develop their knowledge and understanding and used this to support the children in their care.

What the service could do better

The childminders discussed developing floor books to share children's play and learning with the children in their care and their families.

The childminders should develop their self-evaluation procedures to consider the views of parents and use this to further develop their service.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	4 - Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	4 - Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

We evaluated quality of care and support as good where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

The childminders were warm and caring towards the children in their care. We saw that children were happy and settled. They were confident in their environment and in their interactions with the childminders.

The childminders knew the children in their care well and discussed each child's interests and personal care routine with the inspectors. Personal plans were kept up to date with information shared by parents. Children's needs and wishes were met with compassionate care.

Children were confident in independently accessing toys and resources which were stored within their reach. We saw the childminders support them when needed, asking questions appropriate to the child's stage of development. Children were sensitively supported to problem solve and make their own decisions about their play and learning.

Children's experiences were shared with parents effectively. The childminders shared the children's activities and progress with parents via the 'Baby Days' app. We discussed the use of floor books within the home which would allow children to look back on what they had been doing and reflect on their achievements and successes.

The childminder's home was warm and welcoming, providing a real home from home environment for the minded children. Meals and snacks were eaten together at a dining table in the family room area. The children's experience was calm and nurturing as the childminders were able to support them with their developing skills and table manners.

The childminders were aware of their duty to protect children from harm and showed a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if they had any concerns. A child protection policy was in place, and this had been shared with parents. Children were supported to keep themselves safe in the home and when on outings with the childminders.

We were satisfied that the childminders were following guidance to reduce the risk of infection within their home and provide a safe environment for children and their families. Children were encouraged and supported to wash their hands regularly to keep them safe from the spread of infection.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We evaluated quality of environment as good where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

The childminder's home was bright, clean and comfortable. We were satisfied that they had mitigations in place to keep children and families safe. Doorstep drop off and collection was in place to reduce the risk of infection spreading. We discussed with the childminders developing a display area at the front door to ensure parent's had easy access to any relevant information.

The childminders told us they maximised the use of outdoors. Children had direct access to a secure garden at the rear of the property through large patio doors from the family room. The garden was completely visible from the family room which benefited from windows all around. Children were able to make their own choices about where they wanted to play and develop their natural curiosity in a natural environment.

A cosy bedroom was available for children who needed to sleep. Individual bedding was provided, and

children were able to have their own comforters and blankets if wanted. We discussed sharing safe sleep guidance with parents, so they were aware of best practice. Children benefited from sleep and care routines which met their current preferences.

The childminders made good use of local attractions and a variety of parks and woodlands. They used a large people carrier to safely transport children on outings or to individual classes such as gymnastics. Children were able to explore the world around them safely.

Accidents and incidents were recorded and shared with parents. There were risk assessments in place which the childminders were developing to include outings and individual children. Children were kept safe from any potential harm.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of staffing

This quality theme was not assessed.

Quality of management and leadership

Findings from the inspection

We evaluated quality of management and leadership as good where several strengths impacted positively on outcomes for children and clearly outweighed areas for improvement.

Children experienced high quality care and support based on relevant guidance and best practice. The childminders kept up to date with current guidance and best practice through their membership of the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) and the Care Inspectorate hub. They told us they spoke with other childminders within the local area and had attended local playgroups, sharing experiences and information.

The childminders were very aware of the importance of developing their skills, knowledge and understanding to ensure children received the support they needed. They had attended training specific to the needs of the children in their care and reflected on the positive impact this had for the lives of children. The childminders had identified training to support individual children's needs. Children were supported to reach their full potential by childminders who were enthusiastic about their own learning and who demonstrated a strong capacity to deliver positive outcomes.

Self-evaluation was being developed through conversations with parents and older children. The

childminders should adopt more formal ways to gather the views of others. We discussed using best practice guidance such as 'Realising the Ambition' and the 'Early Years' Framework to support their evaluation of the service they were providing. This would ensure that children and parents were involved in shaping the future of the service.

Please see links below:

<https://education.gov.scot/media/3bjpr3wa/realisingtheambition.pdf>

<https://hub.careinspectorate.com/media/4465/a-quality-framework-for-daycare-of-children-childminding-and-school-aged-childcare.pdf>

Strong relationships with other agencies had been developed. The childminders told us they were advocates for the children in their care and sought support when needed, in partnership with parents. Children's human rights were protected, and they received care and support from childminders who were passionate about their work.

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

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

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