

# McGarrity, Karen Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced  
Inspection completed on: 17 November 2021

**Service provided by:**

**Service provider number:**  
SP2006962211

**Care service number:**  
CS2006138653

## Introduction

The childminder operates her childminding business from the family home which is a tenement flat located in the Craigton area of Glasgow. The living room and hallway are used at all times for childminding with occasional use of her child's bedroom. The childminder also makes good use of a communal garden at the rear of the property.

The childminder currently cares for two school aged children who attend after school two days each week and during school holidays.

## What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following an announced inspection, which took place on 5 November 2021 between 3.15pm and 4.30pm. We continued our discussions with the childminder virtually on 17 November 2021 when we also gave feedback.

During this inspection we spoke to the childminder and the children present. We observed the care given by the childminder and looked at a number of documents including health and safety records, planning tools and certificates of training.

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.

## Views of people using the service

Children present during our inspection were happy and settled in the childminder's care. They spoke enthusiastically about adventures they had been on and trips they had planned for the future. Both children told us that the childminder listened to their ideas and would follow them where possible.

## Self assessment

The childminder was not asked to submit a self-assessment in advance of the inspection.

## What the service did well

The childminder focussed her service on the interests and needs of the children she cared for. She involved the children in making plans for activities and outings.

The childminder offered a calm, relaxed environment where children could relax and feel at ease.

## What the service could do better

We asked the childminder to introduce more detailed written plans for children and to review her paperwork as she was in the process of developing her 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	3 - Adequate

## Quality of care and support

### Findings from the inspection

At the time of our inspection visit the childminder was caring for two school age child on two days each week. We met both children during the visit and found that they were very relaxed and happy in the childminder's care.

The children shared similar interests which they described during our visit. This meant they enjoyed taking part in activities together.

Both children spoke enthusiastically about visits in the local community and trips further afield during the school holidays. It was clear that they were involved in planning the outings and they offered them valuable experiences. They were already planning a trip to Edinburgh in the Spring, hoping to travel on the trams. They also enjoyed craft activities and playing games, and the childminder ensured she has resources available for them.

In response to Covid-19, the childminder had introduced new arrival and pick-up procedures, parents now met their child at the door. Children told us that they washed their hands when they arrived and at other times while in the childminder's home.

To further support infection control, the childminder encouraged children to spend as much time outdoors as possible, weather permitting. They played in her garden and local parks and again, children spoke positively about these opportunities.

The childminder held a written record on each of the children which included contact, emergency and medical information. In discussion it was evident that she knew each of the children well. She spoke of their individual personalities, interests and sensitivities. We learned the childminder worked closely with parents to ensure that the care she provided took account of their wishes and those of their child.

She had liaised closely with parents when settling the children back into her service following lockdown and continued to communicate regularly to ensure their continued reassurance.

### Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

## Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

## Quality of environment

### Findings from the inspection

The childminder's home offered a clean, safe and welcoming space for the children. We saw that they were very relaxed in her home and able to choose resources and ask for specific items. They were able to choose to rest and relax or take part in activities prepared by the childminder in discussion with them. As children only attended for a short time the childminder felt that by having activities ready, they could make the most of their time with her.

The childminder had adapted some of her procedures in response to Covid-19 including more frequent handwashing and ventilating her home. Children now spent more time outdoors including the childminder's communal garden and on visits to local parks. Children were keen to tell us how much they enjoyed active play in the fresh air but also about their extended trips during the school holidays. They spoke about visits to the seaside and journeys on public transport. They were involved in planning the outings and went to places that interested them.

The childminder confirmed that she had risk assessments in place for outings and would adapt them to take account of any particular hazards. Children told us that they felt safe when travelling on public transport with her.

## 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

The childminder was providing a limited service at the time of the inspection but planned to build her provision. She had policies and paperwork in place from when she initially began childminding,

The childminder had kept up-to-date with some changing guidance through accessing the Care Inspectorate website, receiving regular updates, and liaising with childminders in her community. She agreed to review her existing policies and procedures to take account of this new information.

The childminder understood her responsibilities in relation to safeguarding children but had not the opportunity to access formal training. She should now pursue this. (See Recommendation 1)

While the childminder had gathered essential written information on children in her care, we discussed the need for her to introduce more detailed personal plans.

The childminder had a template which she had used previously and agreed to update it in line with recent guidance on personal plans which was issued by the Care Inspectorate.

This would enable her to record her meaningful knowledge of each of the children in her care. The childminder was familiar with the documents *Getting It right for every child* and the indicators that support children's wellbeing. She agreed to incorporate them into written plans. (See Recommendation 2).

### Requirements

**Number of requirements:** 0

### Recommendations

**Number of recommendations:** 2

1.

The childminder should develop her knowledge of relevant best practice guidance documents. She should also update her training on Child Protection.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'I experience high quality care based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice.' (HSCS 4.11)

2. The childminder should develop a written personal plan for each of the children in her care.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS), which state that: '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)

**Grade:** 3 - adequate

## 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

#### Recommendation 1

The childminder should develop her knowledge of relevant best practice guidance documents. She should also update her training on Child Protection.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which state that: 'I experience high quality care based on relevant evidence, guidance and best practice.' (HSCS 4.11)

This recommendation was made on 7 February 2020.

#### Action taken on previous recommendation

Although the childminder had begun to develop her knowledge. We have continued this recommendation under management and leadership

### Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at [www.careinspectorate.com](http://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	
15 Nov 2019	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate
29 May 2015	Unannounced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	4 - Good
9 Jun 2011	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
10 Nov 2010	Announced	Care and support	4 - Good
		Environment	4 - Good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
30 Mar 2010	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	3 - Adequate
		Environment	3 - Adequate
		Staffing	3 - Adequate
		Management and leadership	Not assessed

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