

PH Childcare Child Minding

Type of inspection: Announced (short notice)
Inspection completed on: 10 December 2021

Service provided by:

Service provider number:
SP2007964944

Care service number:
CS2007149839

Introduction

Paula Henderson has been registered since 2007.

The childminder is currently registered provide a care service to a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of 16 years, of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under the age of 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family. Minded children cannot be cared for by persons other than those named on the certificate. Overnight care is not provided.

The service is provided from the childminder's home, which is located within a residential area of Perth. The main areas used to provide the service are the dining area which is dedicated to the children, the lounge and downstairs toilet. Children can also access the large garden to the rear of the property.

The childminder provided a service to 13 registered children throughout the week.

What we did during our inspection

We compiled this report following a short announced inspection, which took place on 10 December 2021. We gave feedback to the childminder at the end of the inspection.

The inspection was carried out by an Early Learning and Childcare 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 Getting it Right for Every Child: safe, healthy, achieving, nurtured, active, respected, responsible and included and are often referred to as the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators.

Views of people using the service

There were two minded children present at the time of inspection. They were too young to engage with us. We observed them to be very happy throughout the inspection.

We spoke with one parent before the inspection was concluded, they told us that they were very happy with the quality of the care provided.

Additional comments included:

'Paula provides a very welcoming and homely environment';

'It's a home from home';

'My child settled in very quickly with Paula';

'My child had made a friend at Paula's, they have left now but we continue to meet up with the family';

'Paula knows my children very well; she was quick to grasp their characters';

'Paula did lots of arts and crafts with my child';

'We get big messages and a report daily on WhatsApp and an email from Minding Kids, we also have daily discussions when I pick my child up';

'I feel very informed on my child's day';

'Paula tells me what she has been reading and how she's been updating herself on guidance';
 'Paula has loads of experience';
 'I'm happy with the service provided'.

Self assessment

The childminder was not asked for an up-to-date self assessment prior to the inspection.

What the service did well

The childminder provided a very good standard of care for the children and their families based on their individual needs. She had established strong and trusting relationships with them.

What the service could do better

The children would benefit from more natural and open-ended resources to promote imagination and curiosity in play outdoors. Older children attending her service could identify their own next steps in learning and development.

From this inspection we graded this service as:

Quality of care and support	5 - Very Good
Quality of environment	4 - Good
Quality of staffing	not assessed
Quality of management and leadership	5 - Very Good

Quality of care and support

Findings from the inspection

We made an evaluation of very good for this quality theme where major strengths supported positive outcomes for people. Particular strengths were seen in the childminder's knowledge of each child's individual needs.

Children were playing contently with toys and resources that captured their interests. They played purposefully and were very happy and content. Children confidently approached the childminder when in need of support and she acknowledged them with cuddles. She encouraged them to tell her what they needed and responded affectionally to their cues. We felt there was a very homely and relaxed atmosphere. This contributed to children feeling safe and secure. We concluded that the childminder and the children were very comfortable in each other's company.

The childminder had formed trusting relationships with families. We sampled individualised paperwork and found it contained very detailed information on each child. The childminder used daily discussions, WhatsApp and a digital app to share information. This had ensured very good communication systems

between them, which resulted in children's individual care and support needs being met and parents feeling included in their child's day.

The children contributed to individual scrapbooks recording their fun experiences. We asked the childminder to think about how she could use the SHANARRI wellbeing indicators further to improve monitoring of children's learning and development. Some children were of school age and we discussed how they could identify their own next steps. This would contribute to children feeling valued and respected further.

Medication was very well managed. Procedures for children who required on-going medication were given in a safe and effective way. Clear and concise information shared with parents ensured they were informed that medication had been administered routinely and safely.

We were satisfied that the childminder had appropriate infection control procedures in place to support a safe environment for children. For example, we were asked to remove our shoes before entering the service. We found the minded children being supported to understand the need for good hand hygiene.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 5 - very good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We made an evaluation of good for this quality theme, as several important strengths, taken together, clearly outweighed areas for improvement. Whilst some improvements were needed, the strengths identified had a significant positive impact on children's experiences.

We found the premises to be safe, well maintained and clean. The childminder routinely checked the house before the arrival of the children and the appropriate risk assessments were in place to minimise potential hazards and meet children's needs.

Children played in mainly in the lounge and connecting dining room. They had sufficient space to play with a range of age-appropriate resources and toys which were organised and accessible to them. Since the previous inspection the childminder had increased the provision of natural and open-ended resources to the indoor environment. We discussed how more resources of this type could be made readily available to the children. This would support their creativity and imagination during play further.

A large dining table was used for art and craft activities and enjoying mealtimes together. Children were provided with nutritious snacks and cooked meals, enabling children to make positive eating choices which supported them to be healthy. The childminder demonstrated a good knowledge of how to respond to a choking episode and we were confident she understood her role and responsibilities in keeping children safe

from harm.

The childminder told us how they went on outings and visited local attractions. This allowed children to explore and feel included in their local community whilst keeping healthy and being out in the fresh air. In addition to this, children benefitted from a large garden to the rear of the property. We discussed with the childminder about developing the provision of loose parts play further in the garden. By offering more open-ended resources children's curiosity, investigation and thinking skills would be better supported during their play outdoors.

Children were achieving, we saw examples of artwork displayed in the dining room. This contributed to children feeling valued and respected. The childminder told us; a child had developed an interest in playing the piano while attending the service. She fostered this interest with an online teaching app which contributed positively to the child developing their creative skills whilst building their confidence and self-esteem.

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 made an evaluation of very good for this quality theme where major strengths supported positive outcomes for people.

The childminder spoke of positive relationships made with other local childminders which she found beneficial in sharing best practice. She had accessed The Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA), 'Minding Kids' App and Care Inspectorate Hub for information on how to keep her service current and up to date.

The childminder was committed to providing children with a high standard of care. We saw that the childminder had undertaken a variety of training opportunities to ensure that she had the knowledge and skills to offer high quality care and experiences for the children. The childminder kept a learning log of training, self-directed reading and research and how she has used this to influence and improve her service. This supported her with service improvements and providing positive outcomes for children.

The childminder was very good at involving children and parents in the service. Their views and opinions were regularly sought. We saw that a child had responded with 'I love you' when asked what they thought of the childminder. The childminder used effective questioning to gather feedback. By having a range of systems in place to encourage parents and children to participate in service evaluation, the childminder demonstrated a commitment to improvement. This resulted in children and families influencing positive change and feeling involved in the service.

Children's continuity of care was enabled by the childminder's robust administrative procedures. Appropriate records were in place and parents were well informed of their children's care; Information was readily available to them. This was confirmed by a parent who told us; 'We get messages on WhatsApp and a daily report on an app, we also discuss my child's day when I pick them up'.

There were robust policies and procedures which were of high quality and reviewed annually. This ensured they reflected best practice and current guidance. For example, progress forms had been developed for the children linked to 'The Realising the Ambition' publication. These supported the childminder in delivering very good outcomes for children.

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

Please see Care Inspectorate website (www.careinspectorate.com) for details of complaints about the service which have been upheld.

Enforcement

No enforcement action has been taken against this care service since the last inspection.

Inspection and grading history

Date	Type	Gradings	
3 Feb 2020	Re-grade	Care and support	Not assessed
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	3 - Adequate
20 Mar 2019	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good
27 Jan 2015	1	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	Not assessed
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

Date	Type	Gradings	
25 Feb 2010	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	6 - Excellent
		Environment	Not assessed
		Staffing	6 - Excellent
		Management and leadership	Not assessed
14 Aug 2008	Announced (short notice)	Care and support	5 - Very good
		Environment	5 - Very good
		Staffing	4 - Good
		Management and leadership	5 - Very good

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