

Kinnaird Kids Child Minding

Type of inspection: Unannounced
Inspection completed on: 18 May 2022

Service provided by:
Tracy Davidson

Service provider number:
SP2020991086

Care service number:
CS2020378982

Introduction

Kinnaird Kids, provided by Tracey Davidson, registered with the Care Inspectorate on 28 April 2020.

The service is provided from the family home in Larbert and is registered so that the childminder may care for a maximum of 6 children at any one time up to 16 years of age of whom no more than 3 are not yet of an age to attend primary school and of whom no more than 1 is under 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family. A variation request dated September 2021, supported an increase in the number of children so that the childminder can care for a maximum of 7 children at any one time on particular days and at particular times.

The service is close to the local primary school and nursery and other local amenities. Childminding mainly takes place on the ground floor with children having access to a playroom, lounge, kitchen area and toilet. Children have access to an enclosed rear garden and the childminder uses outdoor spaces in the local community.

What we did during our inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on Thursday 12 May 2022 between 13:30 and 16:30. We continued the inspection through email exchanges then provided feedback on Wednesday 18 May 2022. One inspector carried out the inspection.

To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about the service. To inform our evaluation we:

- observed children's play and interactions with the childminder
- accompanied the childminder to the local nursery and school to collect children
- spoke with four children in the service
- spoke with the childminder
- looked around the areas of the home used for childminding
- reviewed emailed feedback from families and spoke with one parent via telephone.
- reviewed documents and records.

Views of people using the service

There were four children present during the inspection visit. They chatted with the childminder on the way home from nursery and school and confidently made choices about how they spent their time in the service. They told us they liked to dance, to play board games, to bake, and take part in craft activities.

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. Three families responded to our request. Parents were very satisfied with the quality of care and support provided to children.

Self assessment

The service had not been asked to complete a self assessment in advance of the inspection. We discussed their own planned areas for improvement. They included working with families to extend the range of healthy snack options and to access child protection training.

What the service did well

The childminder provided a warm and welcoming environment and ensured children and families were placed at the centre of the service. They had developed open, honest, and trusting relationships with children and families, which allowed for individual and responsive care and support to be given.

What the service could do better

The childminder should develop personal plans to include a record of the ways that children's individual health, welfare and safety needs are met. Children and families should be fully included in the development of the personal plans identifying achievements and agreeing next steps in children's learning and development. The childminder should further develop their self evaluation procedures to help plan for improvement and understand what is working well.

The service should review and develop policy and procedure so they reflect practice and inform families about what they should expect from the 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 made an evaluation of good for this 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 the children's experiences.

Children felt valued, loved and secure because of their nurturing and responsive childcare experience. A chat on the way home from school gave children an opportunity to talk about how their day had been and how they were feeling. The childminder placed a strong emphasis on supporting children's emotional wellbeing.

Children's wellbeing was supported through the development of personal plans. Information highlighted children's individual needs and the childminder explained they met individual needs to keep children safe and healthy. For instance they talked through the asthma plan in place for one child. The next step to improve and develop personal plans should be to have a written care plan and risk assessment for each child giving consideration to their individual needs. This should include children and families in the process identifying achievements and agreeing next steps in children's learning and development.

We saw a WhatsApp account that was updated regularly with photographs of children's fun experiences and information relevant to the service. Parents commented positively about communication with one parent saying "Communication is ideal, with Tracy keeping us updated with what the kids are up to and if there are any issues." This supported parents to feel part of their child's day and kept them informed of important

information and events.

Snack time was relaxed, unhurried and sociable. The children were able to choose a snack and sat together in the kitchen. They chose to make cookies during our visit and one child told us they had learned to make macaroni cheese. These experiences helped children to develop life skills including an understanding of measuring and weighing. The childminder was working with children and families to extend the range of healthy snack options available that children enjoyed promoting a healthy lifestyle.

We were satisfied that the service had appropriate infection control procedures in place to support a safe environment for children and families. Children told us they washed hands when they got back from school and before and after snack. The childminder encouraged and reinforced the need for good hygiene to keep children safe and healthy.

Requirements

Number of requirements: 0

Recommendations

Number of recommendations: 0

Grade: 4 - good

Quality of environment

Findings from the inspection

We made an evaluation of good for this 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 the children's experiences.

The childminder's home was warm and welcoming. Children used the space well including for instance, the kitchen for baking and cooking, the lounge for quiet games and the playroom for art activities and dancing. Children proudly showed us their dance moves and told us about their favourite board games. Being cared for in a nurturing homely environment supported children to relax, have fun and develop a variety of life skills.

Children were cared for in a safe environment. Risk assessment both indoors and outdoors supported the safety of children. Conversations about risk meant children were becoming responsible. For example, a conversation with children about a fire evacuation at school and the impact on children's safety at pick up time meant children were provided with reassurance. It was agreed that the childminder would follow the instructions from the school and collect children from the identified muster points instead of the agreed collection point used on a normal day if this happened again. Agreeing boundaries when at the park and talking about feeling safe when climbing helped children to be aware of risks in a supported way and play safely. Indoor areas used were well ventilated and good standards of cleanliness were visible throughout the home. This helped support children's health and wellbeing.

Outdoor play was a priority for the service and great use was made of the local community. Children told us

they went to favourite parks after school. This ensured they had fresh air and exercise daily. We saw photographs of children having fun at various parks and exploring the natural environment. Parents said that children enjoyed being outdoors visiting local parks after school. Children felt a sense of belonging and inclusion in the local community.

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 good for this 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 the children's experiences.

The childminder's friendly and open approach supported trusting relationships to be developed with children and their families. A parent said, "Tracey is very friendly and approachable and I can contact her directly by call/text message if I need to ask any questions or make changes to (child's) care." Parents commented positively about the quality of communication with the childminder sharing information and informing them about children's experiences.

The childminder had a professional approach to their service. They had developed policies and procedures recognising the need to review them as the service developed. These had been shared with families so they knew what to expect from the service and to make informed choices about their children's care. The childminder had kept the required records including accident and incident records and a daily attendance register. This supported the childminder to meet the legislative and regulatory requirements of operating a registered childminding service and to keep children safe.

The childminder had an awareness of the quality framework and recognised an area for improvement was the need to develop self-evaluation in a structured way. Including the views of children and families as part of the self-evaluation process will support them to feel included in making decisions about the development of the service. This would ensure children benefit from a culture of continuous improvement.

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. An area for improvement identified by the childminder was to access child protection training to develop their knowledge and understanding of how they safeguard the safety and wellbeing of the children in their care.

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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