

Linda Nisbet Childminding Child Minding

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Stewarton
Kilmarnock
KA3 5QN

Telephone: 01560 673 118

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
15 June 2022

Service provided by:
Linda Nisbet

Service provider number:
SP2020991375

Service no:
CS2020381245

About the service

Linda Nisbet has been registered with the Care Inspectorate since 3 November 2020. The childminder is registered to 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 the childminder's family.

The service is provided from the childminder's home in a residential area in Kilmarnock. Children have access to a bright playroom which is decorated with photographs and their artwork and downstairs bathroom. An enclosed back garden area is also available to allow the children regular access to outdoor play.

About the inspection

This was an unannounced inspection which took place on 9 June 2022. The inspection was carried out by one inspector from the Care Inspectorate. To prepare for the inspection we reviewed information about this service. This included previous inspection findings, registration information, information submitted by the service and intelligence gathered since the last inspection.

In making our evaluations of the service we: spoke with the childminder, one person using the service and three parents. We observed practice and daily life and reviewed documents.

Key messages

Children were able to play in a safe environment. Risk assessments had been completed to identify any potential hazards and these were reviewed regularly.

Planning approaches are child centred and responsive to children's interests and life experiences.

The childminder was warm and nurturing in her interactions with minded children.

Consultation with parents was good. Parents felt involved and included in their child's care and learning.

From this inspection we evaluated this service as:

In evaluating quality, we use a six point scale where 1 is unsatisfactory and 6 is excellent

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
How good is our leadership?	4 - Good
How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good

Further details on the particular areas inspected are provided at the end of this report.

How good is our care, play and learning?

5 - Very Good

Quality Indicator 1.1: Nurturing care and support.

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children. Therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

The childminder was warm and nurturing in her interactions with minded children. It was clear children had formed a strong relationship with the childminder, as they looked to her for comfort and reassurance. This supported children to feel safe and secure.

The childminder had gathered information about the children from parents and carers regularly. This helped to ensure that the childminder had relevant, up-to-date information to support children and meet their needs and individual interests. Required information, such as the child's health, dietary and medical needs, along with emergency contact details were recorded and reviewed every 6 months or sooner with parents/carers.

Snack time was a relaxed and unhurried experience and the childminder sat with the children and engaged with them. To support children's choice, the childminder spoke with children, asking which healthy snack they would like to have that week.

Quality Indicator 1.3: Play and learning.

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children. Therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

Children felt valued, as planning approaches were child centred and responsive to children's interests and life experiences. For example, we observed the ball pit set up with a range of different coloured balls and balloons. This linked to the personal plan of a child, who, in consultation with the child's parents had expressed an interest in becoming more familiar with colours. Each child had a journal which included photographs, artwork and individual development tracking. These were shared regularly with parents. This helped to ensure parents felt included in their child's time at the service.

Children's opportunities for play and learning were enhanced through strong connections to their own and wider communities. One parent told us "My child goes trips to the park, shops and soft play and they go out for walks."

How good is our setting?

5 - Very Good

Quality Indicator 2.2: Children experience high quality facilities.

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children. Therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

The childminder's home was bright, clean and airy. This contributed to a welcoming environment for children with ample space for children to play and relax.

The childminder provided a wide range of resources, which were accessible for children to self-select. This allowed children to have independence and choice in their play throughout the day.

The childminder was in the early stages of introducing loose parts resources for the older children in her care. We agreed that all children would benefit from access to more open ended resources as this would provide opportunities to spark children's imagination and curiosity in the indoors and outdoors. We signposted the childminder to the Loose Parts Play best practice document on the Care Inspectorate Hub.

Risk assessments had been completed and reviewed regularly to ensure any potential hazards were identified. This supported the childminder in providing a safe environment for children to play and learn.

How good is our leadership?

4 - Good

Quality Indicator 3.1: Quality assurance and improvement are led well.

We found there is a number of important strengths which, taken together, clearly outweigh areas for improvement. Therefore, we evaluated this key question as good.

Consultation with parents was good and the childminder used questionnaires to gather parents views about her service. Parents told us they felt included in their child's play and learning and their opinions valued by the childminder. We discussed with the childminder other ways to enable parents and children to help shape the improvement journey. This will support the childminder in planning achievable actions to provide positive outcomes for children and families.

The childminder was committed to improving their service. We discussed with the childminder developing a more formal system of self evaluation and quality assurance. (See Area for Improvement 1).

This would support the childminder and encourage them to reflect and evaluate the service and respond to changing needs which would impact positively on experiences and outcomes for children.

Areas for improvement

1. To support positive outcomes for children and families the childminder should develop a robust programme of self evaluation. This should include but not be limited to gathering regular, meaningful evaluations of different aspects of their service from children and families.

This is to ensure care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards which state that: 'I benefit from a culture of continuous improvement, with the organisation having robust and transparent quality assurance processes.' (HSCS 4.19)

How good is our staff team?

5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in aspects of the care provided and how these supported positive outcomes for children. Therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

The childminder kept up-to-date with guidance and legislation through Care Inspectorate provider updates and The Hub. This supported the childminder in providing the most current information and best practice for their children and families.

To enhance outcomes for children, the childminder was committed to continuing their professional development. The childminder had participated in a variety of relevant childcare courses to support her knowledge, skills and practice.

Policies were in place to support the childminder to deliver a quality service. These were shared with parents prior to the child starting the service. This helped to ensure parents were fully informed and had an understanding of the childminder's service.

Complaints

There have been no complaints upheld since the last inspection. Details of any older upheld complaints are published at www.careinspectorate.com.

Detailed evaluations

How good is our care, play and learning?	5 - Very Good
1.1 Nurturing care and support	5 - Very Good
1.3 Play and learning	5 - Very Good

How good is our setting?	5 - Very Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	5 - Very Good

How good is our leadership?	4 - Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	4 - Good

How good is our staff team?	5 - Very Good
4.1 Staff skills, knowledge and values	5 - Very Good

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