

Joanne's Busy Bairnz Child Minding

Falkirk

Type of inspection:

Announced (short notice)

Completed on:

22 August 2022

Service provided by:

Joanne McNeill trading as Joanne's
Busy Bairnz Joanne McNeill trading as
Joanne's Busy Bairnz

Service provider number:

SP2006957678

Service no:

CS2006117127

About the service

Joanne McNeil trading as Joanne's Busy Bairnz, provides a childminding service from the family home in Carronshore, Falkirk. The service is located near schools, nurseries, parks, and other community facilities and can be accessed by transport links.

Joanne's Busy Bairnz is registered to provide a care service to a maximum of six children at any one time under the age of 16, of whom a maximum of 6 will be under 12, of whom no more than 3 are not yet attending primary school and of whom no more than one is under 12 months. Numbers are inclusive of children of the childminder's family

About the inspection

This was an short announced inspection which took place on 22 August 2022 between 14:30 and 16:45. 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:

- Observed 1 child using the service and 3 families provided feedback via email
- spoke with the manger
- observed practice and daily life
- reviewed documents.

Key messages

- Children had daily learning and fun opportunities in the wider community.
- Children experienced positive, nurturing interactions.
- Strong attachments had been built between the children and the childminder.
- Children benefitted from the service working in partnership with families and agencies.
- Parents and carers were asked about their views of the service.
- The childminder was committed to continuous professional 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?	4 - Good
How good is our leadership?	5 - Very 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

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.

Quality indicator 1.1 - Nurturing care and support

The childminder had created a welcoming, warm, and nurturing setting for children and families. Children benefitted from the childminder's calm approach and positive interactions. We saw loving relationships between the childminder and children as they were cuddled and reassured. The childminder's high quality practice was consistent throughout our visit. As a result, children felt valued and safe in the service.

The childminder had a very good understanding of the importance of developing secure relationships and we could see there were strong attachments between them and children.

The childminder's approach contributed to an ethos of respect and inclusion that nurtured children. From our observations and discussions with the childminder, it was evident that they knew children in their care very well which ensured they responded to their individual care needs.

Children had detailed personal plans and observations of them enjoying a wide range of activities. The information gathered ensured that the childminder was able to meet children's individual needs and plan for their next steps in learning. The childminder shared children's plans regularly with parents and carers to ensure information was up to date. These were routinely reviewed to ensure that they continued to meet the changing needs of the children. This meant children received care and support that was right for them.

Children were safe as the childminder had a clear understanding of their role in safeguarding. They worked closely with families and other agencies to deliver a service to meet individual needs. For example, the childminder had been acknowledged by Aberlour for their commitment to partnership working to provide flexible care and support to children and families. One carer told us, I am so grateful for the care and support we receive. This ensured continuity of care and supported positive outcomes for children.

The childminder recognised the importance of building strong and trusting relationships with parents and carers. They had created a What's App group to share information about individual children and the service. All parents and carers told us they liked receiving regular communication, keeping them up to date on how their child had spent their day and how their care routines were managed. This supported parents and carers to feel included in their child's day.

Quality indicator 1.3- Play and learning

Children were supported to learn and develop through play. On the day of inspection, there was one child in the service. The child had fun playing with the childminder and the child led their play, supported by positive interactions and reassurance from the childminder. Resources had been carefully arranged due to the age of the child. This provided the space they needed to explore and investigate. For example, the child had an interest in the balance bike. The childminder provided this resource and supported them to balance and manoeuvre, praising their achievements. This supported children to feel safe and develop their confidence.

Children experienced a wide range of fun and learning activities. Photographs in their journals highlighted the wide range of play that children had taken part in. For example, outdoor play in the forest, parks, and nature walks. The childminder along with other childminders in the community had been successful in securing funding to create an allotment. Children were involved in setting this up, planting and growing fruits and vegetables which they then enjoyed during meal times. Having the opportunity to look after the allotment was a weekly experience. This supported children to develop an understanding about foods and how they grow and encouraged them to connect with nature.

Children also had opportunities to take part in creative play, visits local landmarks, enjoy trips to soft play and community groups. This meant that children benefitted from exploring and feeling included in their community which supported learning and wellbeing.

The childminder supported children to develop language and communication skills through meaningful interactions. For example, one child communicated by making sounds, the childminder repeated the sounds back to the child with the word to represent what they were saying. As a result, children were supported to develop language skills at a pace that met their needs.

During the inspection we saw warm and supportive interactions between the childminder and the child as they took part in play experiences. As a result, the child was happy and settled throughout the inspection. The childminder also used positive language and meaningful praise when acknowledging the child's achievements which helped build their confidence and self-esteem.

How good is our setting?

4 - Good

We evaluated this key question as good where strengths supported positive outcomes for children.

Quality indicator 2.2 -Children experience high quality facilities

The childminding service took place on the ground floor of the childminders home. Children had access to the lounge, kitchen, hallway, toilet facilities and large enclosed back garden. The childminder had created homely, welcoming, and inviting play spaces for children. All areas were maintained to a high standard to ensure children's wellbeing.

The environment benefitted from natural light and ventilation. Children could independently access toys, resources, and books in the living room and a wide selection of outdoor toys supported their physical development in the garden area. This encouraged children to lead their own play and follow their interests. Children also benefitted from daily outdoor experiences in the wider community. For example, children were supported to explore the woods and engage in activities that included den building, fire pit cooking and creating their ideas from natural materials. This promoted them to be imaginative, creative and learn important life skills from risky play. Parents and carers told us they were happy that the childminder accessed a wide range of activities in the community with children.

Children were secure in the service. We could see the childminder had measures in place to minimise risks. The garden area benefitted from high, secure fencing and a gate. We advised the childminder to secure a safety gate at the stairs in the hallway. This would minimise the risk of children accessing the stairs when moving through the hall area. (See area for improvement 1).

Children's health and wellbeing was promoted through appropriate infection control procedures in the service as the childminder had kept up to date with relevant guidance and training. For example, children were supported to wash their hands at appropriate times.

Children were able to rest and relax in the childminders home. This promoted their overall wellbeing. The childminder had followed individual care routines and preferences as advised by parents and carers. The childminder told us that children routinely slept in a buggy. We advised that this was not best practice and signposted the childminder to the safer sleeping guidance from the Scottish Cot Death Trust.

Areas for improvement

1. To ensure children are safe and can access areas independently the childminder should install a safety gate at the staircase in the hall.

This is to ensure that care and support is consistent with the Health and Social Care Standards (HSCS) which states that: 'I can independently access parts of the premises I use and the environment has been designed to promote this' (HSCS 5.11).

How good is our leadership?

5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in the leadership within the service and how these supported positive outcomes for children, therefore we evaluated this key question as very good.

Quality indicator 3.1 -Quality assurance and improvements are well led

Well-developed quality assurance and improvement systems were in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children. The childminder had developed extensive policies and risk assessments that supported the delivery of the service. This ensured positive outcomes for children through well planned activities.

The childminder had evaluated the service through the use of questionnaires in consultation with children, parents and carers. They used the quality framework evaluations. This helped parents and carers understand the work and ethos of the childminding service and supported the childminder to continue to develop a service to meet children and families needs.

Parents and carers told us they receive regular updates from the childminder at drop off, pick up and throughout the day. This included updates on care routines, activities, and achievements. This supported parents and carers to feel included in the service. As a result, children felt valued as parents and carers were able to talk to them about their day and children were able to share their learning.

The childminder demonstrated a very good understanding of their role as a registered childminder. They were organised and professional in their approach. This supported the delivery of very good care for children. The service was complying with the details of registration. They had relevant insurance in place for the safety and protection of children.

The childminder had established trusting and professional relationships with families and other agencies. This allowed for open communication and sharing of information to support smooth transitions for children.

How good is our staff team?

5 - Very Good

We found significant strengths in the childminder's skills, knowledge, and values and how they supported positive outcomes for children. Therefore, we evaluated this key question as very good.

Quality indicator 4.1 -Staff skills, knowledge, and values

The childminder was experienced, dedicated and confident in their practice. They were professional and committed to providing a quality service for children and families. As a result, children experienced a warm and welcoming environment where they could learn and grow.

The childminder understood the importance of building strong, trusting relationships that promoted continuity of care for children through partnership working. As a result, children experienced a consistent approach through kind and caring interactions which helped them feel safe and secure. The childminder was committed to ensuring positive outcomes for children and families.

Children benefitted from a culture where they were supported to thrive and flourish because of the childminder's commitment to continuous professional learning. The childminder had a clear understanding of how children develop and learn and they made very good use of professional development that supported children to reach their full potential.

Since the last inspection, the childminder had completed a relevant qualification in childcare to become a funded provider with the local authority. They have also progressed onto further studies that included working towards a Childhood Practice degree. The childminder told us that engaging in further studies, professional reading and using current practice guidance had supported them in operating a quality service. This ensured children experienced a wide variety of fun and learning opportunities that promoted their rights.

Children's safety and wellbeing was promoted through the childminder's knowledge and experience of safeguarding and their role in protecting children. The childminder had worked closely with other agencies and had engaged in safeguarding training. They responded sensitively and timely when required to ensure children's wellbeing was protected.

The childminder was a member of the Scottish Childminding Association (SCMA) and had used their regular updates and resources to support the continuous delivery of the service. They also linked with local childminders to share best practice guidance to improve outcomes for all children.

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?	4 - Good
2.2 Children experience high quality facilities	4 - Good

How good is our leadership?	5 - Very Good
3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well	5 - Very Good

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

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