

Cruden, Lisa Child Minding

Glasgow

Type of inspection:
Unannounced

Completed on:
16 August 2022

Service provided by:

Service provider number:
SP2010980890

Service no:
CS2010279119

About the service

Lisa Cruden's childminding service is registered to provide care to seven children under the age of sixteen, of whom no more than six are under 12 years and of whom no more than three are not yet attending primary school, and of whom no more than one is under 12 months.

Care is provided from the childminders two storey home in a residential area of Cumbernauld, North Lanarkshire. Children are mostly accommodated on the ground floor of premises, where they can access the playroom, living room, kitchen/dining room, and bathroom. A secure outdoor garden is also available for use.

About the inspection

This was a short notice announced inspection which took place on 16 August 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 children using the service and four of their family members
- Spoke with the childminder
- Observed practice
- Reviewed documents.

Key messages

Children attending the service were settled, happy and secure.

Play was fun, met children's interests, and supported them to develop.

Communication with families enhanced partnership working that helped meet children's needs.

The childminder was professional, knowledgeable, and skilled to carry out her role.

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?	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.

1.1 Nurturing care and support

Children attending the service were happy, settled and secure. They had positive relationships with the childminder who was kind, caring, and responsive to their needs. One child told us "Lisa is really nice and gives us cuddles if we need them".

Friendships between children were strong, and they played well together. This helps to develop their social and emotional skills for life. Children said "I like coming to Lisa's, its nice to have other children to play with", and "I've missed my friends over the holidays".

The childminder worked with families to involve them in decisions about their child's care. Personal plans were created in partnership with parents and carers, and considered children's wellbeing and learning. The childminder and parents regularly shared information, working together to meet children's needs. One parent commented "Lisa always discusses my child's needs with me on a daily basis", and another said, "we regularly discuss my child's progress".

To ensure children's comfort, nappies were changed in response to their needs. Children were changed out of sight to ensure their dignity and privacy, and the childminder wore an apron and gloves to prevent the potential spread of infection.

Snacks and meals were nutritious and included fruit and vegetables. One child told us "we eat our veg, we know it is important to be healthy". Children were involved in food preparation, developing a positive attitude towards healthy eating. They excitedly shared their plans to make banana muffins later in the day. Water was available throughout the day to ensure children were hydrated.

1.3 Play and Learning

Children had fun as they participated in a wide variety of play experiences that were suitable to their stage of development. During our visit, children particularly enjoyed playing with sand. They demonstrated their creative skills as they made pretend cakes, models, and homes for dinosaurs.

The childminder interacted sensitively during play, making suggestions that helped to extend children's thinking. For example, encouraging children to persevere with a task, and suggesting adding different materials to extend ideas.

Children's choices were promoted during play. They independently accessed toys and materials, making decisions about what they wanted to do. For example, role play as hairdressers and doctors. This meant that play was relevant and interesting to children.

The childminder had began collecting loose parts materials to support children during play. These are natural materials that can be moved, manipulated and changed during play. We agreed that the inclusion of more of these materials would spark children's curiosity and creativity.

Outings in the community further enhanced children's learning. The children often visited parks, the library and toddlers, developing a sense of belonging within their community. One parent stated "the different activities and environments my child is exposed to whilst in Lisa's care has been instrumental in their development to date".

How good is our setting?

5 - Very Good

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.

Children received care in a comfortable, homely environment. The home was bright, spacious and well ventilated, creating a welcoming environment for children and their families.

A wide variety of good quality toys and materials were available to children at different stages of development. Children told us that they liked the toys on offer and that experiences were adapted to suit their stage of development. One child said "sometimes I do arts and crafts, but my crafts are different to the younger ones, more difficult for me because I'm older".

Children's health and wellbeing was promoted as they accessed outdoors each day. The garden was easily accessed through patio doors, and the children also walked to school. One child confirmed this saying, "we go outside quite a lot, we even go outside in the rain, I like playing with water outside".

Children were protected from harm, through a variety of safety measures. For example, good supervision, safe storage of hazardous materials and effective risk assessing. One parent commented "I feel the environment is safe and secure".

Infection control practices minimised the potential spread of infection, creating a safe environment for children. The childminder's home was clean and handwashing took place regularly. One child said "we wash our hands quite a lot, like before we eat, and when we come back from being outside, or when we come back from school".

How good is our leadership?

5 - Very Good

3.1 Quality assurance and improvement are led well

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 home from home environment, reflected the vision and aspirations of children and their families. Parents told us that they felt comfortable with the care their children received and especially liked the homely and family focused aspect of the service. One parent commented "Lisa is a credit to the profession and we look forward to being one of her families for years to come".

The views of children and their families were actively sought to inform developments of the service. Formal questionnaires and informal chats provided opportunities for children and their parents to contribute in a way that met their needs.

Successes and achievements were communicated with families, strengthening partnership working that met children's needs. For example, sharing training attended with families. Parents told us that communication was effective and led to them developing a trusting relationship with the childminder.

Self evaluation supported the childminder to deliver high quality care. The childminder had reflected on training attended to evaluate what was going well at the service, as well as what needed to improve. For example, the childminder had plans to attend loose parts training to enhance children's curiosity and creativity during play.

How good is our staff team?

5 - Very Good

4.1 Staff skills, knowledge and values

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 professional, welcoming and happy to be at work. This created a warm and welcoming environment for children and their families. Parents told us that they could talk to the childminder about any aspect of their child's care. One parent said, "we have no complaints, but we know that if there was anything at all, Lisa would strive to discuss and take this on board".

Relationships with children and their parents were positive and caring. The childminder spent time getting to know children and worked closely with parents to meet children's needs. This was reflected during interactions, and within children's personal plans.

The childminder was a member of the Scottish Childminding Association and often engaged with other childminder's. This provided opportunities for the childminder to professionally gain ideas, develop knowledge, and reflect on practice, contributing to positive outcomes for children.

Regular training and learning was embedded in the childminder's practice. The childminder had recently gained a professional early learning and childcare qualification, and kept abreast of current good practice guidance. This supported the childminder to evaluate the quality of the service, and make improvements where needed.

The childminder had a very good understanding of her professional responsibilities. She worked within her conditions of registration and ensured children's safety by gaining insurance, keeping registers, and maintaining the premises to a high standard.

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?	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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